

MCHENRY COUNTY BOARD  
MINUTES OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
DECEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010

The Honorable County Board of McHenry County, Illinois met in Organizational Session on Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

County Clerk Katherine C. Schultz called the McHenry County Board Organizational meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Deputy Clerk Linda FitzGerald, with members of the Board, department heads and visitors participating. The invocation/personal remarks were given by Ms. Salgado

Honorable Michael J Sullivan was present and administered the oath of office to the recently elected board members. County Clerk Schultz asked that the Board Members being sworn in remember to sign their oaths of office before leaving this morning.

**District 1**

Robert Bless  
Anna May Miller\*  
Marc Munaretto  
Robert Nowak\*

**District 2**

J.S. "Scott" Breeden  
James L. Heisler  
Kenneth D. Koehler\*  
Donna Kurtz\*

**District 3**

Mary L. Donner  
Nick Provenzano\*  
Kathleen Bergan Schmidt  
Barbara Wheeler\*

**District 4**

Sue Draffkorn  
John Hammerand  
Pete Merkel\*  
Sandra Fay Salgado\*

**District 5**

Tina R. Hill\*  
John P Jung Jr.\*  
Virginia Peschke  
Paula Yensen

**District 6**

Randall Donley  
Diane Evertsen\*  
Mary T McCann\*  
Ersel C Schuster

ROLL CALL

The roll being called the following members responded aye: Bless, Breeden, Donley, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Koehler, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen. Absent: Peschke. A quorum was present with twenty-three (23) responding. Parliamentarian Tom Carroll was present.

SELECTION OF CHAIRMAN PRO-TEM

County Clerk Katherine C Schultz asked for selection of a temporary Chairman.

Ms. Donner made a motion seconded by Mr. Heisler to nominate Ms. Hill as temporary Chairman.

There being no further nominations, County Clerk Schultz asked for a motion to close nominations for temporary Chairman.

Ms. Miller made a motion seconded by Ms. Donner to close nominations for temporary Chairman. County Clerk Schultz asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, she declared the motion to close nominations passed.

County Clerk Schultz asked for a voice vote on the motion to select Ms. Hill as Temporary Chairman, the ayes having it, she declared the motion to select Ms. Hill as temporary Chairman has passed. Ms. Hill took over the meeting at this point.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Temporary Chairman Hill asked for nominations for Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Donley made a motion seconded by Ms. Kurtz (although a second is not necessary) to nominate Marc Munaretto for County Board Chairman.

Mr. Donley said he has spoken to many of the board members about the Chairman position and one of the questions he asked everybody was about term limits for a Chairman of the Board. All of the board members agreed there should be a term limit and the general consensus was that we needed to keep the board fresh.

Mr. Breeden made a motion seconded by Ms. Yensen (although a second is not necessary) to nominate Ken Koehler for County Board Chairman.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Heisler made a motion seconded by Ms. Miller to close the nominations for Board Chairman.

Ms. Kurtz asked if other comments could be made. Parliamentarian Tom Carroll said a motion would be needed to re-open nominations to do this.

Ms. Kurtz made a motion seconded by Ms. Wheeler to re-open nominations for County Board Chairman for discussion purposes. Ms. Hill asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, she declared the motion passed.

Ms. Kurtz commented on the accomplishments of Mr. Munaretto over his years on the board and encouraged board members to support his nomination as Chairman. Mr. Donley asked what the procedure is if neither candidate gets the necessary votes. Ms. Hill said voting would continue until enough votes were received by one of the candidates, or a new motion could be made for other nominations. Mr. Hammerand and Ms. Wheeler also commented on their choices for Chairman, Mr. Hammerand in support of Mr. Koehler and Ms. Wheeler in support of Mr. Munaretto.

Noting no other discussion, Mr. Heisler made a motion seconded by Mr. Provenzano to close nominations and end discussion for Chairman of the Board.

Temporary Chairman Hill asked for a roll call vote. She said that when a members name is called they will give the name of the individual they are voting for. The following members voted for Mr. Munaretto: Donley, Draffkorn, Kurtz, Munaretto, Nowak, Salgado, Schmidt and Wheeler. The following members voted for Mr. Koehler: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Evertsen, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Koehler, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Provenzano, Schuster and Yensen. Absent: Peschke. The vote being eight (8) votes for Mr. Munaretto and fifteen (15) votes for Mr. Koehler, temporary Chairman Hill declared Ken Koehler as County Board Chairman.

#### NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr. Hammerand made a motion seconded by Mr. Breeden to nominate Mr. Heisler for County Board Vice Chairman.

Ms. Miller made a motion seconded by Mr. Merkel to nominate Mr. Jung for County Board Vice Chairman.

Ms. Wheeler made a motion seconded by Ms. Yensen to nominate Ms. Salgado for County Board Vice Chairman.

Temporary Chairman Hill asked for any discussion. Mr. Hammerand, Ms. Miller and Ms. Wheeler commented on their individual nominees and their qualifications. Ms. Kurtz asked if the nominees wished to provide some perspective on what they might bring to the job.

Ms. Salgado said she would like to see from the Vice Chairman position more involvement with the leadership decisions and bringing more involvement of the other board members to the table. She has been very involved in leadership positions with other committees in the last ten years and if given this opportunity she hoped that the next year of this position would be considerate of what is going on in the community and internally with staff.

Mr. Jung talked about his previous accomplishments as Vice Chairman and his interaction with board members, municipalities, townships and staff.

Mr. Heisler said he feels consistency is important along with transparency and what you see is what you get. He's not involved with anything else in county government and he's here for the good of the greatest amount of people in the county.

Mr. Donley said he's talked to many people and asked Chairman Koehler if he had an opinion as to who he would like to work with as Vice Chairman. Chairman Koehler said he would have the ability to work with any of the three nominees as they are all great County Board members over the years.

Mr. Provenzano encouraged support for Mr. Jung and Ms. Yensen encouraged support for Ms. Salgado.

There being no further nominations or discussion, Ms. Miller made a motion seconded by Ms. McCann to close the nominations.

Temporary Chairman Hill asked for a voice vote to close nominations and discussion for Vice Chairman, the ayes having it, nominations were closed.

Temporary Chairman Hill asked for a roll call vote for Vice Chairman. The following members voted for Mr. Heisler: Breeden, Hammerand, Heisler, Koehler, Nowak and Schuster. The following members voted for Mr. Jung: Donner, Evertsen, Hill, Jung, Merkel and Miller. The following members voted for Ms. Salgado: Bless, Draffkorn, Kurtz, McCann, Salgado, Schmidt, Wheeler and Yensen. Voting Present: Donley and Munaretto. Absent: Peschke. The vote being six (6) votes for Mr. Heisler, seven (7) votes for Mr. Jung and eight (8) votes for Ms. Salgado noting two (2) Present votes and one (1) absent. Temporary Chairman Hill said according to our Parliamentarian Mr. Carroll we must take another vote for all three nominees as the winner must have majority of votes of members present, which would be 12 today. A nominee can remove themselves if they choose or new nominees can be named.

Temporary Chairman Hill asked for a second roll call vote for Vice Chairman. The following members voted for Mr. Heisler: Hammerand and Heisler. The following members voted for Mr. Jung: Breeden, Donner, Evertsen, Hill, Jung, Koehler, Merkel, Miller, Nowak, Provenzano and Schuster. The following members voted for Salgado: Bless, Draffkorn, Kurtz, McCann, Salgado, Schmidt, Wheeler and Yensen. Voting Present: Donley and Munaretto. Absent: Peschke. The vote being two (2) votes for Mr. Heisler, eleven (11) votes for Mr. Jung and eight (8) votes for Ms. Salgado noting two (2) Present votes and one (1) absent, Temporary Chairman Hill said another vote would be needed unless there were any changes.

At this time Ms. Salgado asked to withdraw herself as a candidate for Vice Chairman. She thanked everyone who supported her.

Temporary Chairman asked for a third roll call vote for Vice Chairman for the two remaining nominees. The following members voted for Mr. Heisler: Hammerand and Salgado. The following members voted for Mr. Jung: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Koehler, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Nowak, Provenzano, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler and Yensen. Voting Present: Donley and Munaretto. Absent: Peschke. The vote being two (2) votes for Mr. Heisler and nineteen (19) votes for Mr. Jung noting two (2) Present votes and one (1) absent, Temporary Chairman Hill declared Mr. Jung the new Vice Chairman.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

Honorable Michael J. Sullivan administered the oath of office to Ken Koehler as County Board Chairman and John Jung Jr. as County Board Vice Chairman.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Koehler along with Vice Chairman Jung thanked the board for their support. Chairman Koehler said there are a lot of challenges in front of us and he intends to work hard with the full board to face these challenges. Due to laryngitis, Chairman Koehler said that Mr. Jung will run the rest of the meeting today.

TEMPORARY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Vice Chairman Jung stated that there are several new board members and the following committee appointments are being made: District 1, Mr. Nowak will be on Natural and Environmental Resources, Law & Justice and Management Services. District 2, Ms. Kurtz will be on Finance and Audit, Management Services, Planning & Development and Public Health and Human Services. District 3, Mr. Provenzano will be on Human Resources, Management Services, Valley Hi and Veterans Assistance Commission. District 5, Mr. Jung will be on Law & Justice, Liquor and License Commission, Valley Hi, CDBG and EMA. District 6, Ms. Evertsen will be on Building Projects, Finance & Audit, Transportation and Senior Service Grant Commission.

Law & Justice Committee – Ms. Draffkorn is Chair and Mr. Bless is Vice Chair  
Public Health – Ms. Donner is Chair and Ms. Peschke is Vice Chair

APPOINTMENT OF THE COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Vice Chairman Jung said the following members will be on Committee on Committees. District 1, Ms. Miller, District 2, Mr. Breeden, District 3, Ms. Donner, District 4, Ms. Draffkorn, District 5, Ms. Hill and from District 6, Ms. McCann. Backup members will be Ms. Schuster and Mr. Merkel.

RESEATING OF COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS

Vice Chairman Jung stated that the Board Rules allow members to switch seats based on seniority and that no two members from the same district can sit next to each other. He asked if there were any members that wished to change their seats. Ms. Wheeler asked to change her seat to the back row, far right side. Ms. Evertsen was moved down to Ms. Wheeler's former seat.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Mr. Austin congratulated the new board members. Orientation for members will be tomorrow from 9 to noon. We will gather here and then proceed to the Regional Office of Education conference room down stairs. He told the board that he has been working on evaluations of appointed department heads for the last week or so. They work on these throughout the year checking in on the work plans but the yearend is where we recap all the work that has gone into the work plan over the last twelve months and then build a new work plan for the next year.

Mr. Austin said tomorrow will be the first of 7 employee forums. There will be three this week, three next week and then one in January. This will be an opportunity for employees to ask questions either openly or anonymously about county government. Lastly, the MCCOG holiday dinner is on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at the McHenry Country Club.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following person came forward to speak:

Patricia Kennedy of Harvard regarding the future and County Board service to the county

Noting no others wishing to speak, public comment was closed.

#### MEMBERS COMMENTS

Ms. Donner said she hoped that some of the comments made today would be taken to heart and acted on in the next two years as Ms. Salgado has some good ideas on participation and involvement. Ms. Donner also reminded everyone that tomorrow is the anniversary of Pearl Harbor, never to be forgotten.

Mr. Munaretto thanked those who supported him for his bid as Chairman and commented on his conversations with other board members. He said he will continue to work hard for his constituents who are relying on his continued good judgment to keep the county fiscally sound. Mr. Munaretto congratulated Chairman Koehler on his election as County Board Chairman.

Ms. Schmidt said on June 1<sup>st</sup> the board voted to not increase the salaries of County Board members coming into office. A number of existing board members wished to forego their increases as well but state law makes that difficult, so based upon an opinion from the State's Attorney's office, she has given a donation to the McHenry County Cooperative Dental Clinic of what will be her increase of salary. She hoped this would inspire other board members to do the same.

Ms. Salgado said at the last board meeting she talked about a race she was participating in to raise money for returning soldiers who needed extra medical care. She was able to run half of the race and all together, with this being something that happens in several different states, this group raised \$700,000. They are the second largest contributor to the United States Military. Secondly, she asked about the Christmas dinner. Mr. Jung responded that information is forthcoming! She congratulated Mr. Jung and Mr. Koehler on their elections.

Ms. Yensen congratulated Mr. Jung and Mr. Koehler on their elections. She said she will also be donating her salary increase to two charities, the Grafton Township food pantry and to Turning Point. Ms. Yensen commented on a trip that she, Ms. Hill, Ms. McCann and Ms. Schmidt took down to Springfield to the County Board Member Association to discuss and learn about healthcare reform issues and how it was going to impact county government. She shared a brochure and binder of information with Mr. Austin and Mr. Ivetic and brought back extra copies of the brochure for members to look at. They all came back with a lot of information and they had a great time.

Mr. Hammerand welcomed the new board members and thanked everyone who vied for election as Chair and Vice Chair. Mr. Hammerand commented on an article he read in CFO magazine for November 2010 in which it says that the only country in the world that charges more taxes on corporations than us is Japan. On a local level he said we should still work on reducing taxes and regulation. Also in this article it says that 91% of the small business owners claim that their credit needs are already being met, so he thinks we should examine whether we really need to be offering credit the way we are trying to. Lastly, he wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Ms. Hill spoke regarding Ms. Yensen's comments and said it was a good meeting and a good time. Also, she said while they were there they nominated Ms. McCann to serve on the Legislative Committee of the IL Association of County Board Members and she has accepted.

Ms. Draffkorn said tomorrow the Housing commission is putting on an educational seminar that she hopes many will be able to attend.

Mr. Jung told board members that the board Christmas party will be hosted by the men of the board on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 5 p.m. Also, he reminded newly sworn in board members to sign their oaths before they leave here this morning.

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ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Miller made a motion seconded by Ms. Yensen to adjourn at 10:05 a.m. Vice Chairman Jung asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, the motion to adjourn has passed.

Dated and approved at Woodstock, Illinois this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2010.

s/ Kenneth D Koehler  
Kenneth D Koehler, Chairman  
McHenry County Board

ATTEST:

s/ Katherine C Schultz  
Katherine C. Schultz, County Clerk