

MCHENRY COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING
APRIL 7, 2011

Chairman of the Board – Kenneth D. Koehler (District 2)

District 1
Robert Bless
Anna May Miller
Marc Munaretto
Robert Nowak

District 2
J.S. "Scott" Breeden
James Heisler
Kenneth 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 Hill
John P Jung Jr.
Virginia Peschke
Paula Yensen

District 6
Randall Donley
Diane Evertsen
Mary McCann
Ersel C Schuster

The Honorable County Board of McHenry County, Illinois met in Regular Session on Thursday, April 7, 2011.

Chairman Koehler and Vice Chairman Jung are both out of town; Chairman of the Finance Committee, Scott Breeden will be running the meeting today.

Mr. Breeden called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by County Clerk Katherine Schultz with Members of the Board, department heads and visitors participating.

Ms. Donner gave the invocation/personal remarks.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by County Clerk Katherine Schultz. The following members responded: Hill, Kurtz, McCann, Munaretto, Nowak, Peschke, Provenzano, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Hammerand and Heisler. Absent: Jung, Merkel, Miller, Salgado, Donley and Koehler. Parliamentarian Jamie Rein was present. Acting Chairman Breeden declared a quorum present with eighteen (18) members responding.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Acting Chairman Breeden said Mr. Koehler is on vacation and will be back for the next meeting and also that Mr. Jung is home and doing well after surgery and should be back soon.

MINUTES

Minutes of County Board Regular Session meeting of March 15th, 2011 and COW meeting of March 15th, 2011

Ms. Donner made a motion seconded by Ms. Yensen to approve the above-named minutes.

Acting Chairman Breeden asked if there were any changes/corrections to the minutes, there were none. Noting no changes, he asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, he declared the motion to approve the above-named minutes has passed.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION/REPORTS

None

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

8.1 County Financial Update – Peter Austin and Ralph Sarbaugh

Mr. Austin and Mr. Sarbaugh gave this presentation using a power point slide display. A paper copy of these slides is in the board file in the County Clerk's office. They talked about how the County finished out 2010, the first quarter of 2011 and some of the discussion that took place at the Strategic Plan meeting. Mr. Sarbaugh went over the budget process and talked about the history of revenues and expenses of the County from year to year. It was suggested that in the future a graph might be done to show some of these figures to see the ups and downs graphically. It was duly noted for future use. Mr. Austin pointed out throughout the presentation we don't know how or if funds are going to be received from the Federal and/or State government. As always the County will continue to be conservative in their planning and projection processes. Ms. Yensen pointed out that property tax revenues could go down with many people having their assessed values reduced on their homes. Mr. Austin said taxes would not necessarily go down. The value of the home determines the burden of the taxes that are levied, the rates would go up. Ms.

Peschke said many people don't read or do and don't understand their tax bills and assessments because many think because they pay the County they don't see the taxing bodies. She said there have been "experts" on the news and in the papers who are confusing assessment and taxes and giving people false information. It is the governing bodies who determine the amounts and rates; it is based on what they levy. She feels that people need to be more educated on who is taxing them and what it means when your assessment goes down.

Mr. Sarbaugh said in regard to the first quarter of 2011, December 1st through February 28th, we are running on track for this time of year. Many of our revenues are seasonal and will kick in more in the summer and also noting that property taxes are not collected until we go into the third quarter of the fiscal year. Mr. Sarbaugh said we are on track with expenditures as well pointing out that the Capital Outlay figure is overstated in a way because the County entered into two new leases this year; one to replace the laptops and one to replace the phone switches and that should be amortized over a 12-month period, but it's all reported in the month of January. Also the Transfer Out number, our debt service payments and principals are due on January 15th so that's a huge hit in the first quarter. Mr. Sarbaugh continued to go over the slides on revenues and expenditures. Ms. Kurtz asked what the profit is on the jail noting how high the expenses are. Mr. Austin said it is difficult to project this however \$10.5 million has been budgeted. There is a lot of revenue coming in and a lot of expenses tied to it. It was felt there should be some kind of measurement of cost per unit for housing of each prisoner. Mr. Austin did say decisions would have to be made if money stops coming in from the federal and state government. Mr. Austin said there have been other benefits associated with the jail noting the third floor build out. She asked if there was any chance the County would lose money. Mr. Austin said it's a difficult answer because some things can't be measured, such as the jail being completed. Mr. Hammerand said we should be looking at what the rate of depreciation is and that should be in keeping with what commercial jail facilities charge. Mr. Austin said we have 4 ½ years left on the contract with the federal government and will be thoughtful of this contract ending. Mr. Sarbaugh talked about which areas of County government would be most affected if federal funds were to decline or stop, namely the Sheriff – Jail Program, the Health Department programs, EMA, Court Services and grants within the Sheriff's Department totaling around \$13.4 million dollars. Mr. Austin said aside from the Jail Program and Health Department, the impact on the General Fund wouldn't be too significant. He said it's similar with the state money. If everything stops in Springfield, the areas affected in our General Fund would again be the Health Department, Court Administration and County Clerk-Elections as well as salary reimbursements in Court Services, State's Attorney, Public Defender and Assessments. By far the toughest decisions would have to be made in the Health Department. Ms. Hill said if positions were paid from grant monies that go away, those positions would be eliminated? Mr. Austin said the decisions will be focused program by program, position by position; they won't be across the board if these monies dry up. He said the County Board could consider eliminating positions tied to federal and state funding, it's been done in the past. The Health Department and salary reimbursements by the state would be affected as well. In ending fiscal year 2010 the General Fund ended with a surplus of over \$3,200,000. It was pointed out that what contributed to the County ending up with a surplus was teamwork and communication; a double tax sale in fiscal year 2010 (2008 in December 2009 and 2009 in October 2010); and a change in recording of major revenues in 2010 (which will be a one-time occurrence). Of note was that the budget was balanced with no reduction in services, no raises and no lay-offs. Mr. Austin said the surplus enhanced the Contingency Fund by \$250,000; \$150,000 was set aside to address fuel prices going up; the IMRF Fund balance was enhanced by \$1 million dollars; and they are addressing the need for a new financial software package and permitting software package. Mr. Austin said it is a great accomplishment to finish a year in the black with the economy the way it is.

Mr. Sarbaugh explained that in 2008 the chart shows a deficit and that it because that year there was no tax sale so we were down that revenue. Also, we purchased the Klehm property and the Cardinal Savings building in which we borrowed from ourselves from the General Fund and then paid it back in December. Mr. Sarbaugh and Mr. Austin responded to comments and questions on the power point. Acting Chairman Breeden said we must continue to keep as informed as we can and thanked Mr. Austin and Mr. Sarbaugh for their presentation today.

8.2 *McHenry County Bicycle Advocates – Eberhard Veit*

Mr. Veit came forward and gave a power point presentation for the board to follow with. He said he is here today with many friends in support of biking as a recreation as well as a means of transportation. He said they are here today to ask the County Board to prepare a Resolution to benefit bicyclists by asking that when a road project is done that it will not be made worse for any user upon its rebuild; and to ask the McHenry County DOT to update the McHenry County Bicycle Plan; and that the DOT prepare a report comparing their current bicycle and pedestrian policies with neighboring counties' policies. Board members asked where the numbers came from on their statistics being presented. They were told they were national statistics not solely based on McHenry County. Some board members said it would be more useful if a survey was done and the numbers being presented were based on McHenry County constituent's responses. Mr. Young of the DOT talked about some of the bike paths that are in place and the costs associated with them and every project must be evaluated individually. He also noted that the County Bicycle Plan in

place done in 1996 was done by the Council of Mayors. He said they invited the Council of Mayors to revisit that Bicycle Plan a couple of years ago and at that time the municipalities as part of the County of Mayors declined to reopen that. He said that this is something they could look at in the 2040 Plan. Acting Chairman Breeden thanked Mr. Veit for his presentation today.

PLATS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Acting Chairman Breeden explained the rules of Public Comment. The following person(s) spoke:

Lee Stevens of Crystal Lake	against	Walkup Rd project
Al VanMaran of Harvard	for/regarding	Variance on their property
Jim Witherell of Woodstock	for/regarding	Petition #10-14/CUP
Ed Barsotti	regarding	bicyclists & transportation
Tim Stac of Woodstock	for/regarding	Petition #10-14/CUP
Jose Olague of Crystal Lake	for/regarding	Petition #10-14/CUP

Noting no others wishing to speak, Chairman Koehler closed Public Comment.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Hill made a motion seconded by Ms. Donner to approve the following Appointment:

McHenry County Housing Commission
David C Henry term to 04/30/2012

Acting Chairman Breeden asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Hill, Kurtz, McCann, Munaretto, Peschke, Provenzano, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Hammerand and Heisler. Absent: Jung, Merkel, Miller, Nowak, Salgado, Donley and Koehler. The vote being seventeen (17) ayes noting seven (7) absent, Acting Chairman Breeden declared the motion passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN UPDATES

Mr. Heisler said last Tuesday he went to Springfield with Chairman Koehler. A quick report from Metro Counties, they are tracking 457 Bills at this time. Mr. Heisler will e-mail the names of the twelve Bills he would like County Board members to keep track of that would affect McHenry County. Lastly, he invited members to the Legislative Committee meeting on the 14th at 8:30 a.m. They will have a preliminary presentation on re-districting options.

Ms. Hill said board members did get an end of the year Housing Commission report in your mailboxes. Last night they had their first UDO public presentation and thanks to District 6 they had a wonderful turnout.

Ms. McCann told members that the MCCOG Water Policy Task Force is sponsoring a lunch here in the Admin Building on the 20th. The Future of Regional Groundwater Supply will be presented by CMAP Water Resources Director, Timothy Lofton. Something will be put in mailboxes shortly.

ROUTINE CONSENT AGENDA

Acting Chairman Breeden asked if anyone wished to remove an item from the Consent Agenda. Mr. Provenzano removed item #14.2 B(8).

Ms. Hill made a motion seconded by Ms. McCann to approve the Routine Consent Agenda with one item removed.

Acting Chairman Breeden asked for any discussion. Ms. Kurtz said in terms of the Workforce Investment Board Resolution, she has written a letter and members of her committee have agreed to sign it. The Committee asked that anyone who would like to sign a letter supporting the Workforce Investment Board see her after the meeting and she will e-mail a copy of the letter.

Acting Chairman Breeden asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Hill, Kurtz, McCann, Munaretto, Peschke, Provenzano, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn,

Evertsen, Hammerand and Heisler. Absent: Jung, Merkel, Miller, Nowak, Salgado, Donley and Koehler. The vote being seventeen (17) ayes noting seven (7) absent, Acting Chairman Breeden declared the motion passed.

14.2 B(8) Resolution authorizing the appointment of David Christensen to the position of Director of the Emergency Management Agency

Mr. Provenzano made a motion seconded by Ms. Draffkorn to approve the above-named Resolution.

Mr. Provenzano noted that there was a change in the starting date on this Resolution and that is why it was pulled.

Acting Chairman Breeden asked if there was any discussion. Mr. Munaretto asked if this hire was an at-will employee or contracted. Mr. Austin said he is an at-will employee. He asked if the County's current policy relating to vacation obligate us to pay for unused vacation at any point in time. Mr. Austin responded that the County revised its vacation policy a couple of years ago and that is what will be followed.

Acting Chairman Breeden asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Hill, Kurtz, McCann, Munaretto, Peschke, Provenzano, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Hammerand and Heisler. Absent: Jung, Merkel, Miller, Nowak, Salgado, Donley and Koehler. The vote being seventeen (17) ayes noting seven (7) absent, Acting Chairman Breeden declared the motion passed.

Mr. Christensen stood up and said he is happy to be here and is looking forward to working with board members in his new position. Acting Chairman Breeden recognized Mr. Valentine's 36 years of service.

ORDINANCES

15.2 A Ordinance for Recertification of Zoning Maps

Ms. Hill made a motion seconded by Ms. Peschke to approve the above-named Ordinance.

Ms. Hill noted that the maps are in the room for review.

Acting Chairman Breeden asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, he declared the motion passed.

15.2 B Ordinance Amending Article 10, School Developer Donation Requirements of the McHenry County Subdivision Ordinance to include the annual "CPI" adjustment and amending Section 1003.1 Fair Market Value

Ms. Hill made a motion seconded by Ms. Peschke to approve the above-named ordinance.

Acting Chairman Breeden asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, he declared the motion passed.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Austin thanked board members who participated in the DOT's HIP meetings. Yesterday at the DOT meeting they had a presentation on the land acquisition process. Mr. Young said this info is on the website and copies of the presentation will be given to board members in their mailboxes as well. Mr. Austin said in regard to the Strategic Plan there will be an update in two weeks. At Valley Hi he said they had their survey from the State and it was tough. We are in the fifth year and have been cited for a couple of things and they are working to take care of those items. Lastly, the Legislative Committee meeting a week from today will talk about the re-districting. They will look at the current district map to show how out of whack populations are and also review a series of questions that they will be asking the full board. There will then be a COW meeting at 6 p.m. on April 19th on the subject of re-districting.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Donner commented on the letter that Ms. Kurtz talked about in support of the Workforce Investment. She is concerned about the County Board sending letters of opinion to a newspaper.

Ms. Yensen said she attended the Coltar meeting and it was very well presented and she thanked staff for that.

Ms. Schmidt said there are a number of board members who went to a family function on March 12th to celebrate Iris Bryan's 80th birthday. They wished Iris a Happy Birthday.

Ms. McCann agreed with Ms. Yensen's comments on the Coltar meeting. She said at Finance this morning they talked about using local, state vendors if at all possible on a transportation issue. She said Mr. Austin has put this on his agenda to see if we can somehow reinforce that in all of our bids from now on.

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Ms. Evertsen said Hartland Twp votes at Valley and everything went along very smoothly on Election Day. She noted that since Mr. Annarella has been there the atmosphere has changed dramatically for the better and she thanked him for that. Secondly, she said Mr. VanMaran who talked about his windmill, if you have a chance to drive by his home, it is a beautiful work of lawn art that everyone can enjoy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Donner made a motion seconded by Ms. Heisler to adjourn at 11:29 a.m. Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Dated and approved at Woodstock, Illinois this 19th day of April, A.D., 2011.

Kenneth D Koehler, Chairman
McHenry County Board

ATTEST:

Katherine C. Schultz, County Clerk