

**LEGISLATIVE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**  
**McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building**  
**667 Ware Road**  
**Woodstock IL 60098**

MINUTES OF THURSDAY JUNE 9, 2011

Chairman Heisler called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. The following Committee members were present: James Heisler, Chairman; Ersel Schuster; Kathleen Bergan Schmidt; Marc Munaretto; and Pete Merkel. John Jung, Jr. and Nick Provenzano arrived at 9:34 a.m. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Adam Lehmann, Assistant to the County Administrator; Nicole Gattuso and Brittney Venetucci, GIS; interested public and the press.

James Heisler, Chairman	
John Jung, Jr.	Pete Merkel
Marc Munaretto	Nick Provenzano
Kathleen Bergan Schmidt	Ersel Schuster

MINUTES

Committee members reviewed the committee minutes from May 26, 2011. Ms. Schmidt noted that under Public Comment, “Mr. Miller commented that he did not attend the public hearing at Prairie Isle”, she stated that there was not a public hearing held at Prairie Isle. She noted that Mr. Miller did not attend any public hearing, but heard information regarding these maps at a meeting he attended at Prairie Isle. Ms. Schuster identified a typographical error on page two. Ms. Schuster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Merkel to recommend approval of the minutes as corrected. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PRESENTATION: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS

*State Legislative Update:* Mr. Lehmann joined the committee to provide an update on the State Legislative issues. The State legislative session ended last Wednesday. McHenry County spent this past spring following a variety of legislation that the Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee kept up-to-speed on. Of the Bills that passed both Houses, the Governor has 60 days sign them. The bills that get vetoed will come again before the State legislature during the Fall Veto Session at the end of October and beginning of November. Mr. Lehmann provided updates for the following issues:

*Local Government Distribution Formula:* Efforts were defeated to divert the Local Government Distribution Formula revenues.

*Probation:* Legislation has passed both Houses to fund probation at previous levels.

*Publication Fee for Assessments:* A bill that was aimed at revising publication fees for assessments and was supported by a broad coalition of local government groups, as well as the Illinois Press Association, passed both houses. It is currently waiting for the Governor’s signature.

House Bill 123 (has passed both Houses), restores \$55 million to Illinois Probation. Senate Bill 1631 (passed both Houses), essentially adds a \$10 filing fee to those on probation. This fee has the potential to bring the Illinois Probation fee up to the targeted \$95 million that was requested at the beginning of the session. Both bills are awaiting the Governor’s signature.

*Medicaid to Nursing Homes:* The FY12 state budget does not include a rate cut, but rather a payment delay. The payment delay is expected to be approximately 30 – 60 days.

*Workers Compensation:* A bill passed both Houses in regards to Workers Compensation reform that will result it \$500 to \$700 million in savings for Illinois employers, including counties.

LEGISLATIVE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

June 9, 2011

Page 2

*Next Legislative Session:* The County is starting to evaluate topics to engage our legislature and track for the next legislative cycle.

Topics include:

- Coal Tar Regulation
- Cell Tower Regulation
- Flexibility on Prioritizing Local Purchasing
- Rainwater Harvesting

*Federal Legislative Update:* Committee members were informed that there is very little to report. Very little work has begun on the FY2012 budget. Their main topic of discussion has been the debt ceiling. Mr. Austin reported that he has a meeting scheduled this afternoon with Mr. Norm Sloan, Midwest Director of the Federal Highway Administration, Chairman Koehler, and Mr. Korpalski to try to secure funding for the Randall Road expansion. The local governments will have to deal with the Administrative arms of the Federal Government in order to try to obtain some Federal Funding.

*Final Consideration of Redistricting Map:* The final map has been provided to the County Board Members for review. The blue area on the map shows the areas that are being changed. The green areas are unchanged. 75% of the County is unaffected with two of the County Board districts being unchanged. It was suggested that the majority of the changes will affect District 1. It was stated that concern was voiced by the District 1 board members. District 1 members have suggested map does not maintain the municipal or township boundaries as discussed and did not feel this was the map that was agreed upon at the first redistricting meeting. Mr. Munaretto stated that the proposal he made on the maps was a much fairer distribution with modest changes being made to both Districts 4 and 6. He stated that any change will result in tradeoffs/changes for the districts. He questioned how to defend the notion that there should be no changes to Districts 4 and 6. Ms. Schmidt stated there was a meeting held prior to the previous Legislative Committee meeting that she feels was a violation of the Open Meetings Act. She stated that this meeting was totally inappropriate and she cannot vote on a map that was created during a meeting that was in direct violation of this Act. It was noted that any concerns regarding the maps should have been brought to this committee for discussion. Ms. Schmidt informed committee members that in attendance at this meeting were Koehler, Miller, Hill, Jung, Provenzano and Munaretto. She stated this resulted in a majority of a quorum of this committee. Mr. Jung noted that when he arrived to the meeting he saw there were already a couple of individuals from this committee so he removed himself from this meeting. They questioned why the committee members continue to discuss this when the motions and votes to move this forward to the County Board has already taken place. Chairman Heisler stated that unless there was further comment, he would like to move forward with today's committee agenda. The resolution in consideration of the redistricting map will move ahead to the County Board's meeting scheduled on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

NEW BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Mr. Austin stated that barring any significant developments at the State level, he feels the next meeting, scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>, could be cancelled. He asked that committee members to keep an eye on their emails regarding a possible cancellation of the next committee meeting.

There is a meeting scheduled in Springfield next week with County Chairman to help with the realignment in leadership to Metro Counties. Chairman Koehler will likely provide an update soon thereafter.

ADJOURNMENT:

Noting no further business, Ms. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Provenzano to adjourn the meeting at 10:07a.m. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

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**RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTION:**

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Approved 07 14 11