

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building**  
**667 Ware Road – Conference Room A**  
**Woodstock, IL 60098**

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2011

Chairman Peschke called the Public Health and Human Services Committee meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. The following members were present: Virginia Peschke, Chairman; Mary Donner; Kathleen Bergan Schmidt; Randy Donley; and Donna Kurtz. Anna May Miller and Sandra Salgado were absent. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Adam Lehmann, Assistant to the County Administrator; and Robert Lesser, McHenry County Mental Health Board.

	Virginia Peschke, Chairman	
Randy Donley		Mary L. Donner
Donna Kurtz		Anna May Miller
Sandra Salgado		Kathleen Bergan Schmidt

MINUTE APPROVAL:

Committee members reviewed the Public Health and Human Services Committee minutes of June 17, 2011. Ms. Schmidt noted two corrections to the minutes. The first correction is located at the tenth line of the first paragraph on page 3 and it should read “Ms. Schmidt stated that a list should be maintained by the Operating Board that includes prospects of what is needed on the Board for future consideration.” The second correction is located at the first line of the last paragraph on page 4. It should read “Ms. Schmidt stated that she believes the “coffee cookie” issue at the Historical Society has not been adequately addressed.” Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schmidt, to recommend approval of the minutes as corrected. The minutes were approved with a unanimous voice vote of all ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

*Interview for appointment to the McHenry County Housing Authority:* Chairman Peschke informed committee members that there are two open positions on the McHenry County Housing Authority. Committee members interviewed Robert Routzahn for appointment to the Housing Authority. Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kurtz, to recommend the appointment of Robert P. Routzahn to the McHenry County Housing Authority with a term to expire on June 1, 2016. This appointment will replace the appointment previously held by Mark Ruda. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Donner, Kurtz, Schmidt and Peschke).

*Resolution Appointing Jeffery J. Poynter Director of the Workforce Investment Board and Authorizing Budget Line Item Transfers in the Workforce Network/Workforce Investment Board Fiscal Year 2011 Budgets:* Mr. Labaj mentioned that recruitment for a new WIB Director proceeded after the County Board authorized the position for a full-time WIB Director. After the review of applicants and in-house interviews, Jeffrey Poynter is recommended for appointment as the new WIB Director. The County Board recently reclassified the WIB Director position to a pay grade of 12E and the job description has also been recently updated for this position. Chairman Peschke feels that in the future applicants for positions that are recommended by this committee should attend a committee meeting and be interviewed, along with meeting the committee members. She feels it is important that they meet the applicant before the committee appoints them. It was mentioned that in the past Mr. Poynter has attended many Public Health and Human Services Committee meetings. Mr. Donley agreed with Chairman Peschke’s statement. Ms. Kurtz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schmidt, to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Donner, Kurtz, Schmidt and Peschke).

*Resolution Authorizing Entering Into a Contract with Gavers Excavating for the Demolition of the Old Valley Hi Nursing Home Facility:* Committee members were informed that the Purchasing Department solicited RFPs for the demolition of the abandoned Valley Hi facility, along with the removal of asbestos. Ten companies submitted proposals and Gavers Excavating provided the lowest bid in the amount of \$356,335. \$100,000 will be covered by the Valley Hi Nursing Home Enterprise Contingency account. The Resolution requests an additional \$50,000 for site improvements which will include a new driveway for access to the Valley Hi garage and Well House No. 3. This project is expected to be completed by

November 1, 2011. At this time there are no plans for the property once the building has been demolished. Members were informed that there are three sources of funds for this project, those being the General Fund Contingency, the Valley Hi Nursing Home Enterprise Contingency, and the Risk Management Loss Fund & Reserve. The Risk Management Loss Fund & Reserve is an insurance liability fund which will pay for the asbestos removal and disposal. Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kurtz, to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Donner, Kurtz, Schmidt and Peschke).

*Appointment to the McHenry County Tuberculosis Board:* Members were informed that there is one open position on the McHenry County Tuberculosis Board. Committee members were previously provided with a copy of the application by incumbent James H. Mowery. Dr. Mowery has been a member of this Board for many years and is applying for re-appointment to the Board.

Ms. Schmidt mentioned that since there are new committee members, she suggested that in the future applicants and incumbents attend meetings in order to be interviewed and meet committee members. Chairman Peschke suggested that in the future, committee members should decide whether or not they want to interview incumbents. She also mentioned that incumbents that are unable to attend a meeting, a description of their responsibilities for the appointed position should be provided to the committee members prior to the meeting.

Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kurtz, to recommend the re-appointment of James H. Mowery to the McHenry County Tuberculosis Board with a term to expire on June 30, 2014. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Donner, Kurtz, Schmidt and Peschke).

OLD BUSINESS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE:

*Workforce Network/WIB:* None.

*Housing Authority:* Ms. Kurtz reported that their recent meeting was their budget approval meeting. In order to stay in line with their budget, they have kept their payroll flat and there are no raises of any sort. They have taken on a higher amount of healthcare costs and employees will be paying more of their healthcare costs. Part of this is driven because of Section 8 reimbursement by the Federal government is going to be going down. They will be seeing a significant decrease in revenue. There will be some deficit spending in their budget, but it will be covered by their cash reserves. Also, they are working on possibly another revenue source, that being CAHMCO (Corporation for Affordable Homes of McHenry County). The Housing Authority is stepping in and taking over some of the responsibilities that CAHMCO had. They are working on relationships with the state and doing the hand-off with current CAHMCO staff. The Housing Authority is looking at taking over three current CAHMCO projects, those being a nine-unit building, a duplex and a triplex. Ms. Kurtz mentioned that Julie Biel Claussen is available to attend future Public Health and Human Services meetings. Ms. Kurtz stated that she wants non-profits to do non-profit work and she does not feel comfortable with government taking over non-profit work. Ms. Donner mentioned that the Planning and Development Committee meeting scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on July 7, 2011 will include a report on the Community Development Block Grant.

*Board of Health:* Chairman Peschke mentioned that during their recent meeting there was discussion concerning the tremendous cuts that are occurring with some programs because of the decrease in government funding.

*Mental Health Board:* Robert Lesser informed the committee members that at 8:00 a.m. this morning the first panel to the expansion to their building was set in place. By mid-July they believe they will be back on the original schedule barring no more weather delays. The building trades have been working with the contract manager to get them back on schedule. He thanked the committee for their support for this project. To reduce costs, they chose a half basement which will allow adequate space for storage and room for future expansion. One-third of the second floor will be undeveloped which will allow for future expansion. New space from the expansion will allow more conference space for training. Mr. Lesser mentioned that they received most of their agreements from the state and the ones they received are four-month agreements which are based on four months estimated billings to the departments. Even though they have the

agreements, which have been signed and returned, with the cash flow for the State of Illinois, it could affect them. Currently the conference area is available to outside community groups, primarily the National Alliance on Mental Illness of McHenry County (NAMI-MC) uses the conference areas in the evenings and weekends for meetings and training. Several agencies will conduct board meetings in the evenings using conference areas. Many community consumers visit to the facility during the day for training for the Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) training. They will be able to offer more training for consumers and providers at the new site so they will not have to pay for auxiliary facility rental. If they use space at MCC, they have to pay for the space, but they will be able to use their own site after this expansion is complete. A family room will be available in the new expansion. They currently support NAMI-MC located in McHenry which is located in space they are leasing from Family Services. After the expansion is complete, NAMI-MC will relocate to the new facility which will allow them more conference space and access to office equipment.

*Senior Services Grant Commission:* None.

*VAC:* Ms. Donner invited members to attend an upcoming meeting on June 29, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the Veterans & Family Services facility in McHenry. This is a free informational meeting geared toward people recently returning from deployment. She reported that the VAC is working on its budget. Also, the AMVETS recently held their 24<sup>th</sup> annual picnic at the Fox River Grove Lions Park for hospitalized veterans and over 500 veterans attended. Habitat for Humanity is working closing with the VAC concerning property that may be purchased for a home to be built for disabled veterans. This home will be handicap accessible and some of the funds will come from CDBG.

*Valley Hi:* Mr. Austin reported that this month is the first year anniversary of the Valley Hi Operating Board. At the July 19, 2011 County Board meeting, Operating Board Chairman Pete Michling and Director Thomas Annarella will present a one-year recap on what the Operating Board accomplished during their first year, and introduce the strategic plan that has been developed.

*Human Service Advocates:* None.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

*Regional Office of Education:* Mr. Austin received news that the Governor of Illinois last night vetoed the State's support of the Regional Office of Education. In the past they had State support for the Regional Superintendent of Schools position and the Assistant Superintendent's position. The General Assembly funded, in the new budget, the State support of the Superintendent's positions and the Governor vetoed it last night. This impacts the recruitment for this position. There are currently several applicants for the superintendent's position and interviews have not been scheduled. The County has received authority from the State of Illinois allowing the Lake County Superintendent of Schools to sign-off on the GED certificates that the County currently has, along with future ones. There are currently four employees in the Regional Office of Education that are funded by the County. It was mentioned that some of the duties of the Regional Superintendent of Schools may be assigned to local school districts. Ms. Kurtz stated that as a member of the County Board, she challenges the rationale for having this position. She feels this committee should review why they have the Regional Superintendent of Schools position, along with the four office personnel. She suggests the four office personnel be placed into school districts and have the districts fund their positions. Mr. Austin mentioned that this suggestion can be explored, but they have to make sure that law meshes with the suggested path. Chairman Peschke suggested looking at states that do not have Regional Superintendent of Schools positions rather than hiring someone at this time to work through the summer months. It was suggested reviewing what other counties that do not have Regional Superintendents of Schools and find out who handles these responsibilities.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

Noting no further business, Mr. Donley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kurtz to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of all members present.

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**RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTION:**

Resolution Appointing Jeffery J. Poynter Director of the Workforce Investment Board and Authorizing Budget Line Item Transfers in the Workforce Network/Workforce Investment Board Fiscal Year 2011 Budgets  
Resolution Authorizing Entering Into a Contract with Gavers Excavating for the Demolition of the Old Valley Hi Nursing Home Facility  
Recommend Robert P. Routzahn for appointment to the McHenry County Housing Authority  
Recommend James H. Mowery for appointment to the McHenry County Tuberculosis Board

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