

MCHENRY COUNTY BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING  
NOVEMBER 15, 2011

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

<b>District 1</b> Robert Bless Anna May Miller Marc Munaretto Robert Nowak	<b>District 2</b> J.S. "Scott" Breeden James Heisler Kenneth Koehler Donna Kurtz	<b>District 3</b> Mary L Donner Nick Provenzano Kathleen Bergan Schmidt Barbara Wheeler
<b>District 4</b> Sue Draffkorn John Hammerand Pete Merkel Sandra Fay Salgado	<b>District 5</b> Tina Hill John P Jung Jr. Virginia Peschke Paula Yensen	<b>District 6</b> Randall Donley Diane Evertsen Mary McCann Ersel C Schuster

The Honorable County Board of McHenry County, Illinois met in Regular Session on Tuesday, November 15, 2011.

Chairman Koehler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.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. Salgado gave the invocation/personal remarks.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

Mr. Heisler made a motion seconded by Mr. Hammerand to approve County Board minutes of November 1, 2011 and COW meeting minutes of November 1, 2011.

Chairman Koehler asked if there were any changes or corrections. One change was noted on the board minutes and will be corrected. Noting no discussion, Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, he declared County Board minutes of November 1, 2011 as corrected and COW minutes of November 1, 2011 have passed.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Koehler asked for a moment of silence for Virginia Peschke and her family in the passing of her husband. Chairman Koehler said he and several other board members and Under Sheriff Andy Zinke participated in a fire learning day a couple of weeks ago to see what firemen actually do in their duties. This was a hands on experience getting suited up with all of the gear that real firemen wear and participating in a real fire situation and the cutting up of a car for an extraction. Ms. Salgado is to be commended as she was the one county board member to make it all the way through the fire exercise, which was real smoke and fire including going up stairs and crawling through some areas in full gear. He said it was a very interesting all day event and encouraged everyone to participate when it is held again next year.

In regard to the Superintendent of Schools issue, the Chairman said funding has been restored but only through June 30, 2012, so it doesn't really solve the problem. He had hoped to have a candidate to talk about today but other issues have cropped up with the three potential candidates. Chairman Koehler said he and Mr. Austin have a conference call tomorrow with the State Superintendent of Schools to hopefully iron out some of the minor issues that we have. If that is done, he will attempt to bring a candidate forward to the Health & Human Resources Committee to meet the person before we formally choose them to be the replacement on a temporary basis.

Lastly, the Chairman said he is going to be starting a series of meetings with the standing committee chairs at the end of November or first part of December. Topics that will be discussed are the overall concerns and suggestions that the committee chairs have about the committees they are chairing and any concerns or suggestions that they might have relative to the County Administrator and his involvement or non-involvement with their committees. They will talk about setting committee goals for 2012 if that is what the chair wishes to do or items that they might want brought forward for the Strategic Planning Meeting that will be held in January. Lastly, they will talk about better

communication ideas both with staff, administration and our constituents. The Chairman said if any committee members want to participate in these meetings, check with the chairs of your committee as he would appreciate all comments and suggestions.

#### SPECIAL RECOGNITION/REPORTS

None

#### SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

#### ZBA CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Koehler asked if anyone wished to remove a petition, there were none.

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

Exb #11-29; Marengo Twp; John & Kathy Burns; reclass A1C/A2C – A1C/A2C

Noting no discussion Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen and Koehler. Absent: Donley and Peschke. The vote being twenty-two (22) ayes noting two (2) absent, the Chairman declared the motion to approve the ZBA Consent Agenda has passed.

#### PLATS

None

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Koehler explained the rules of Public Comment. The following person spoke:

Janine Heidtke of Woodstock for funding for 4-H/University of IL Extension

Noting no others wishing to speak, Chairman Koehler closed public comment.

#### NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

#### APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Hill made a motion seconded by Mr. Provenzano to approve the following Appointments:

McHenry Co Emergency Telephone System Board	
Andrew Zinke	term to expire 11/30/2013
McHenry Co Housing Commission	
Ryan L Anderson	term to expire 04/30/2013
Thomas W Johnson	term to expire 04/30/2013

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen and Koehler. Absent: Donley and Peschke. The vote being twenty-two (22) ayes noting two (2) absent, the Chairman declared the motion to approve the above-named Appointments has passed.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN UPDATES

Ms. Salgado said the Public Health & Human Services meeting scheduled for Friday is cancelled. She said if a candidate for Supt of Schools needs to be brought in before the next scheduled committee meeting she is sure they can schedule something.

Ms. Hill said at the morning meeting in December the board will see the Building Permit fees. It was inadvertently left off of the non-refundable review fee deposit of \$150, so a scrivener's has been added to it when the staff was reorganizing the schedule. She wanted the board to be aware this will be in there.

Ms. McCann said she and Chairman Koehler have been attending alternately or sometimes together the Northwest Water Planning Alliance. She will be sending each board member a packet. If you don't want to stay on the mailing

list send her a note and you will be removed from the mailing list. Chairman Koehler said the technical group is going to meet every month and their group will be meeting every other month.

#### ROUTINE CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Koehler asked if any one wished to remove an item from the Consent Agenda. Ms. Schuster removed item #15.10 I(05).

Ms. Salgado made a motion seconded by Mr. Breeden to approve the Routine Consent Agenda with one item removed.

Noting no discussion, the Chairman asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen and Koehler. Absent: Donley and Peschke. The vote being twenty-two (22) ayes noting two (2) absent, the Chairman declared the motion to approve the Routine Consent Agenda with one item removed has passed.

15.10 I(05) *Resolution authorizing approval of the McHenry County 2012 Annual Action Plan for HUD programming*  
Ms. Hill made a motion seconded by Ms. Donner to approve the above-named resolution.

Noting no discussion, the Chairman asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Wheeler, Yensen and Koehler. Nay: Evertsen and Schuster. Absent: Donley and Peschke. The vote being twenty-two (20) ayes and two (2) nays noting two (2) absent, the Chairman declared the motion to approve 15.10 I(05) has passed.

#### ORDINANCES

16.05 A For Review

##### *Ordinance Setting Juror Pay and Mileage Reimbursement Rate*

Mr. Provenzano made a motion seconded by Mr. Jung to put this Ordinance up for 30-day review. If there are any questions, please let him know.

Ms. Hill said when this Ordinance came to finance the resolution wasn't real clear and they got a good explanation from Mr. Wallis of how they've changed jury service to just Monday's and Tuesday's receiving \$5 for each of those days and then you get to leave unless you are called. If you are called to be on a jury you will receive \$12.50. They are moving the pay down from \$12.50 to \$5 which is the minimum statutorily required fee. She said for mileage they used to pay twenty-six cents per mile and it's going down to ten cents per mile which is statutorily required. Ms. Hill said this bothered her because if we're going to go down to that amount it's not worth the time to administrate it. She has talked with Senator Althoff and she has agreed to research this.

Mr. Hammerand said he believes that jurors should be compensated at a higher rate than \$5 a day and \$12.50 was even minimal.

Ms. McCann said she expressed much of the same at finance and believes that we should monitor response to compliance to the request to be a juror. This low payment may in fact cause people to say no. There is a procedure if people don't respond to jury duty and if it becomes a problem the pay may be one of the causes. Chairman Koehler said Mr. Wallis will be monitoring this.

For Action:

16.10 A ***Approving the Annual Budget and Appropriations Ordinance for McHenry County IL for Fiscal Year December 1, A.D. 2011 through November 30, A.D. , 2012 with a schedule of expenditures totaling \$256,286,189 and a schedule of revenues totaling \$256,286,189 which includes the following recommended amendments to the preliminary budget that was filed on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011.***

Mr. Breeden made a motion seconded by Ms. Donner to approve the above-named ordinance with the following amendments:

**GENERAL FUND:**

Increase Non-Departmental Capital Outlay Expenditure line item by \$36,251 and decrease the following expenditure budget line item:

Court Services – Personnel	\$ 36,251
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Increase Facilities Management/Green Facilities Commodities Expenditure line item by \$3,930 and increase the following revenue budget line item:

Facilities Mgmt/Green Facilities – Utilization of Fund Balance	\$ 3,930
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Increase Sheriff – Corrections Personnel Expenditure line item by \$150,000 and decrease the following expenditure budget line item:

Non-Departmental – Capital outlay	\$150,000
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**RTA SALES TAX FUND (COUNTY PORTION):**

Increase RTA Sales Tax Fund transfers out expenditure line item by \$600,000 and increase the following revenue budget line item:

RTA Sales Tax Fund – Utilization of Fund Balance	\$600,000
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**SPECIAL COURTS FUND:**

Increase Special Courts Revenue – State Government Grants by \$109,682 and increase the following expenditure budget line items:

Special Courts – Personnel	\$ 51,539
Special Courts – Contractual	14,270
Special Courts – Commodities	43,873

**MCHEMRY COUNTY DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION:**

Decrease the County Highway Fund Personnel expenditure budget line item by \$5,200 and decrease the following revenue budget line item:

County Highway Fund – Utilization of Fund Balance	\$ 5,200
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Increase the County Highway Fund (RTA Sales Tax Projects) Contractual Expenditure budget line item by \$600,000 and increase the following revenue budget line item:

County Highway Fund – (RTA Sales Tax Projects) Transfer In	\$600,000
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Increase the Motor Fuel Tax Fund Personnel Expenditure budget line item by \$5,200 and increase the following revenue budget line item:

Motor Fuel Tax Fund – Utilization of Fund Balance	\$ 5,200
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Increase the Motor Fuel Tax Fund Contractual Expenditure budget line item by \$200,000 and increase the following revenue budget line item:

Motor Fuel Tax Fund – Utilization of Fund Balance	\$200,000
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Increase the County Option Motor Fuel Tax Fund Contractual Expenditure budget line item by \$500,000 and increase the following revenue budget line item:

County Option Motor Fuel Tax – Utilization of fund Balance	\$500,000
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Increase the County Bridge Fund Contractual Expenditure line item by \$200,000 and decrease/increase the following revenue and expenditure budget line items:

County Bridge Fund – Fund Balance Enhancement (decrease)	\$ 138,800
County Bridge Fund – Utilization of Fund Balance (increase)	61,200

**GEOGRAPHIC INFO SYSTEMS:**

Decrease the GIS Fund Personnel Expenditure line item by \$4,137 and decrease the following revenue budget line item:

GIS Fund – Utilization of Fund Balance	\$ 4,137
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Decrease the GIS Fund Contractual Expenditure line item by \$100,500 and decrease/increase the following revenue and budget line items:

GIS Fund – Utilization of Fund Balance (decrease)	\$ 61,520
GIS Fund – Fund Balance Enhancement (increase)	38,980

Chairman Koehler asked for any discussion. Ms. Wheeler said she meant to ask if the board could do the Levy first. Chairman Koehler said yes we can do this.

Ms. Wheeler made a motion seconded by Ms. Miller to vote on **Item #16.10 B Ordinance Providing for the Levy of Taxes for McHenry County, IL for the fiscal year December 1, 2011 through November 30, 2012**

Mr. Munaretto asked for a Point of Order as it is his understanding that Mr. Breeden already made a motion to adopt the Budget and Appropriations Ordinance, and he asked if that takes precedence. Parliamentarian Jamie Rein responded that it can be laid aside as long as a majority of the board agrees to do that.

Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote on the motion to vote on item #16.10 B the Levy of Taxes prior to voting on item #16.10 A, the Annual Budget , the ayes having it noting a couple of nay's, the Chairman declared the motion passed.

**16.10 B Ordinance Providing for the Levy of Taxes for McHenry County, IL for the fiscal year December 1, 2011 through November 30, 2012**

Mr. Breeden made a motion seconded by Ms. Wheeler to approve the above-named Ordinance.

Chairman Koehler asked for any discussion.

Ms. Wheeler made a **motion to amend** seconded by Mr. Provenzano **to remove the CPI from the tax levy and the language that provides the extension of the 1.5% to the CPI which would reduce the amount of \$78,809,995 to \$77,652,995.**

Chairman Koehler asked for any discussion on the motion to amend. Ms. Wheeler said that any tax increase will hurt our constituents as our economy is not able to provide even the \$8 that it would go up. She said she understands that our taxes will go up because of other areas of government but this is what the County Board is in control of right now. She went on to say the County does have a 7-month reserve and when the budget is discussed she is going to suggest that a portion of the reserve be used for this.

Mr. Breeden said when you remove this it is not for just one year, you are removing it from our budget process forever and it also gives us the situation of figuring out where the money is coming from for the 2013 budget. He believes that it is irresponsible for us to be considering not taking the CPI. With the state and the legislature not knowing what they're going to do with regard to property taxes in the future, it may be next year we don't have this opportunity and it will be lost forever. Mr. Breeden feels that we are jeopardizing the financial security of the county by not taking this increase. He hopes board members are making their decision based on the well-being of the county and the people in our county rather than personal aspects with regard to pressure because of an election.

Mr. Breeden added that the County Board has set a level of 5-months as far as reserves, Moody's requested when we received our Aaa rating that they prefer seeing 6-months of reserves, so we don't have as much there as some would think and if we spend the reserves down this year we're actually impacting what we have available over and above Moody's requirement of almost 33%. He does realize asking constituents for even a small amount more during these difficult times is not something that is easy to do but it's a small amount to pay to maintain fiscal responsibility within McHenry County. Mr. Breeden said not knowing what is going to happen with state and federal government over the next couple of years he feels we will be getting less from both and he is uncomfortable not taking advantage of what the county can take now.

Mr. Provenzano said this has been a very contentious issue and he agrees with Ms. Wheeler's comments adding that he feels it is not the right time to be taking \$1.1 million dollars out of the economy of McHenry County that the taxpayers have better uses for that money. He believes the county needs to look at ways to cut our budget even more because our revenues aren't rising as fast as we thought they would. He said he commends the staff for the cuts that have been made already but he would like to see more work by the departments in bringing in even more cuts. Mr. Provenzano said he believes we should create a budget study group to start as early as January made up of County Board members who are interested in finding ways to cut our budget and to keep it from continuing to grow and being in that default position where we're going to take the CPI every year; being that default position that if things get tight we'll pull from the cash reserves. He doesn't agree with using our cash reserves and believes there should have been more cutting from this budget.

Ms. Salgado agreed that she too is looking for forever cuts. She knows the county has a nice amount in reserve and respects Mr. Breeden's perspective on that. She said her priorities have changed over the last five years because of the economy and the people who live in her district have changed theirs as well. Ms. Salgado said she can't in good faith sit back, with the additional amounts we have in the reserves, and ask for more money from the people. She added that last year during the budget time she offered areas that we could make cuts and those weren't touched. She feels the money doesn't have to come from the reserves; it can come from different areas in the budget that the county has not addressed appropriately.

Ms. Evertsen said she understands Mr. Breeden's position and concern about money that comes out of the county budget forever, however our constituents who are unemployed also will not have that money forever. Beyond that there are other governmental agencies in McHenry County that have cut their levies and they understand it will tighten things up for them.

Mr. Hammerand said he hopes the levy is not extended. He said when the Finance Committee brought this up and the ordinance was being discussed he asked for a meeting of the whole and at that meeting there were only a handful that voted against this levy including himself. He thinks the idea of using our surplus is wrong and if this levy increase is denied he hopes that we would either deny the budget or make the blanket appropriation equal to the levy so that there would be no more spending and take the \$1.5 million out of line items not out of reserves.

Ms. Kurtz said that one of the most important jobs of the county board is to handle the money and to know our revenues and expenditures. Our state legislature has set the example of not funding the many programs that they have manufactured. She pointed out that as a government entity we face costs that are unplanned i.e. legal fees and union contracts just to name a couple. Ms. Kurtz said it is devastating what inflation can do to the economy, the people we serve and to our government and inflation now is at 4% and we're looking at a tax levy of 1.5%. This allows us to keep up with the constant momentum that happens with inflation. If we take it away it's gone forever and the hole for revenue will get bigger. Ms. Kurtz reminded the board that McHenry County has made many efficiency cuts in our government and will continue to do so. Most importantly Ms. Kurtz said for those who say a tax levy is irresponsible for a community that is suffering declining property values and reduced income, she feels it is not responsible to take money from cash reserves because that is taxpayer money and has already been earmarked for emergency or capital projects. In closing Ms. Kurtz said there is a reason why prices go up and that is to keep ahead of the game and the board needs to show leadership and help people to understand why this extra \$8 per household is very responsible.

Ms. Schmidt spoke about the information they received on if the CPI increase is not taken and what would be affected. She wanted to know how funds were going to be decreased as she has not heard any specifics. The only place she can see after going over the budget would be from personnel and she would be against a cut in personnel.

Ms. Schuster said she commends the staff for their work on the budget and levy documents but over the last couple of years her concerns have deepened with respect to our resident's wishes and concerns. In her opinion in many cases she doesn't feel the county is conservative. The proposed increase in the levy and spending of cash reserves and supplemental items that probably should have been on the various budgets she doesn't see as conservative and feels it distorts the budget process. Ms. Schuster said we fall prey to federal and state mandates via grants putting ourselves in a dangerous spiral of having to continue to provide services. The alternative is to walk away from grants and end the programs funded with grants. The problem with grants (tax money) is the temptation is far too great for most public officials to resist, she feels we need to start resisting. Secondly, she said we continue to leave ourselves open for lawsuits by lack of proper enforcement of various ordinances and regulations. Thirdly, the county has taken over municipal bus services that someone justified as a needed service for McHenry County. Millions have been spent already with millions more to come. She said as buses move across the county seldom do you see more than a few people on them. Fourthly, when requesting approval to expand Planning & Development with a new Community Development Division it was clearly stated that two people would be able to handle the work then a short time later there were three new people totaling five. Then this new division was moved into its own space and what was a means of funneling grant money to the various villages and municipalities to address the issue of vacant homes is now a business of county government. Ms. Schuster said this has grown to where county government is now in the business of buying, contracting, remodeling, renting and selling homes normally considered private sector housing issues. Ms. Schuster said McHenry County is now on a path to take over other village and municipal services where they find it too expensive for them to continue their corporate responsibilities. She said an example is of issuing and enforcing various permitting services. She said our health department continues to compete with our network of private providers. Ms. Schuster continued by saying that we are told that we can't qualify residency of those taking advantage of county services as we must follow state and federal guidelines and this is a huge unfunded mandate placing us in the path of aiding and abetting untold numbers of illegal's. Ms. Schuster said it is her firm conviction that we have entered into programs and services that are being justified by a highly questionable rationale. Ms. Schuster said when you look at your tax bill it is not just going to be an \$8 increase from the county it will include the increases for the other entities as well. She understands that it is the board's responsibility to keep county government working however for the reasons she has stated, she will be voting no on both the budget and the levy as she knows no other way to register her discontent with the direction of the board.

Mr. Hammerand commented that we need to put restraints on government or it will continue to expand.

Mr. Breeden said a lot of time and effort has gone into the preparation of the budget and levy. He pointed out that there have been multiple opportunities to discuss these items at the committee level or to call him or e-mail him. He has only had one or two people contact him about these items and then to come here this evening and have this amount of discussion, he finds this frustrating as it is not the process that the board should be working with. This doesn't serve the board or our constituents well when the process is not followed. Decisions should be made in committees prior to coming to the board.

Noting no further discussion, the Chairman asked for a roll call vote on the motion to remove the CPI increase from the levy (in effect removing about \$1,157,000 from the budget) . A yes vote is to remove the CPI and therefore cutting the budget. A no vote would leave the levy intact at 1.5%. The following members responded aye: Draffkorn, Evertsen, Hammerand, Hill, Miller, Nowak, Provenzano, Salgado, Schuster, Wheeler and Yensen. Nay: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Heisler, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Munaretto, Schmidt and Koehler. Absent: Donley and Peschke. The vote being eleven (11) ayes and eleven (11) nays, the Chairman declared the **motion to remove the CPI increase from the levy has failed with a tie vote.**

Chairman Koehler asked for any further discussion on the main motion to approve the Levy of taxes with a 1.5% increase. Noting none, the Chairman asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Schmidt and Koehler. Nay: Evertsen, Hammerand, Provenzano, Salgado, Schuster, Wheeler and Yensen. Absent: Donley and Peschke. The vote being fifteen (15) ayes and seven (7) nays noting two (2) absent, the Chairman declared the motion to approve the Levy of taxes with a 1.5% increase has passed.

**16.10 A Approving the Annual Budget and Appropriations Ordinance for McHenry County IL for Fiscal Year December 1, A.D. 2011 through November 30, A.D. , 2012 with a schedule of expenditures totaling \$256,286,189 and a schedule of revenues totaling \$256,286,189 which includes recommended amendments to the preliminary budget that was filed on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**

Chairman Koehler noted that a motion and second has already been taken and asked for any discussion.

Noting no discussion, Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Schmidt and Koehler. Nay: Evertsen, Hammerand, Provenzano, Salgado, Schuster, Wheeler and Yensen. Absent: Donley and Peschke. The vote being fifteen (15) ayes and seven (7) nays noting two (2) absent, the Chairman declared the motion to approve **the Annual Budget and Appropriations Ordinance for McHenry County IL for Fiscal Year December 1, A.D. 2011 through November 30, A.D. , 2012 with a schedule of expenditures totaling \$256,286,189 and a schedule of revenues totaling \$256,286,189 which includes recommended amendments to the preliminary budget that was filed on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011has passed.**

Mr. Hammerand commented that if members vote against the budget it does not mean that they're not interested in changing the budget and making spending more in line with what they believe their constituents would want. He said if you vote for the levy you can vote no for the budget because you would like to apportion the funds in a different manner.

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Austin thanked everyone for their thought and discussion in the budget process and the suggestions for doing things different next year i.e. try and get decisions made earlier in the process. He thanked Mr. Sarbaugh for his hard work in the last couple of days in putting together different options and scenarios for the board to look at.

Mr. Austin said he is now doing evaluations with department heads so if there are any questions or comments on any appointed department heads, please let him know. He will be following up with committee chairs for all the department heads that report to those committees and will be setting up some one on one meetings. He said some members might have seen that they're trying a new 360 degree evaluation, self-improvement program. If you haven't filled out the online form he asked that they do so as they would like to have them by the end of the week.

#### MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Salgado said this past weekend she participated in a 3K run for a fallen soldier and the cause is global. In McHenry County there were only 15 participants but in the gentleman's hometown in NJ there were over 10,000 that participated and they raised several millions of dollars that goes to injured service men that come back and they donate a great portion of that to the Walter Reed Hospital. She said if anyone ever wants to participate in an event where you can either run/walk or just give to soldiers she can link you up with the group she participated with. The individual she ran for was her brother's roommate at West Point and he was killed on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Koehler thanked Ms. Salgado for her participation.

Mr. Hammerand said Senator Althoff lost her father-in-law recently. He knew him and said he will be greatly missed. He also thanked staff as there are many different views on what the budget and levy should look like. He hopes next year as we work through the budget that we will be able to see what the budget totals mean and what the budget line items will actually be expended for in detail. He also noted that he too participated in the fire learning day and found it very interesting and said he takes his hat off to emergency services for the work that they do. It was a great opportunity and he hopes that more board members will attend next year.

Mr. Merkel echoed comments about the passing of Mr. Althoff saying he was a leader in the community and agreed that he will be sorely missed. On a lighter note, Mr. Merkel commended the high school athletes accomplishments this season from girls volleyball – Marian Central and Cary Grove who participated in the State Championship; and high school football – Richmond and Prairie Ridge going to the semi-finals for state. It is a testament to the schools, teachers, athletes, students and parents for their dedication, time and money.

Ms. Donner said she attended the open house of the Elgin Community Clinic on Mercy Dr. this evening. She feels it will be a great help to those people who are otherwise disadvantaged. Also, she said a couple of weeks ago the MCEDC annual dinner was held and the CEO from Caterpillar gave an astounding speech and noted that he is a local from Woodstock. Lastly, she said she was in Arizona for Veteran's Day and at the event she attended they had 4,000 people wearing red shirts circling the lake all for our veterans and then had a fly by from a B-17. It was a wonderful tribute to our veterans.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Koehler said there is a need to go into executive session to review Executive Session minutes and discuss pending and probable and imminent litigation.



Ms. Donner made a motion seconded by Mr. Breeden to go into executive session to review Executive Session minutes and discuss pending and probable imminent litigation.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen and Koehler. Absent: Donley and Peschke. The Chairman declared a quorum present with twenty-two members responding.

Ms. Wheeler made a motion seconded by Ms. McCann to go back into regular session.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote, the following members responded aye: Bless, Breeden, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen and Koehler. Absent: Donley and Peschke. Chairman Koehler declared a quorum present with twenty-two members responding.

Chairman Koehler noted no action was taken in executive session.

Ms. Donner made a motion seconded by Ms. Evertsen to approve release of Executive Session minutes as recommended by the State's Attorney's office.

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

Chairman Koehler wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He thanked Mr. Austin and Mr. Sarbaugh for all the work they did on the budget along with staff and Mr. Breeden and his committee as it was a difficult job that was done well. Also he thanked board members for the civil discussion over the budget and levy this evening as it was a difficult topic. The Chairman noted that the County Board Christmas dinner will be on December 20<sup>th</sup> this year before the board meeting. It will be hosted by the women of the board with Ms. Yensen heading that up!

#### ADJOURNMENT

Ms. McCann made a motion seconded by Ms. Yensen to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Dated and approved at Woodstock, Illinois this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, A.D., 2011.

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

ATTEST:

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