

MCHENRY COUNTY BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING  
DECEMBER 20, 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 Tuesday, December 20, 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. Hill gave the invocation/personal remarks.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

None

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Koehler thanked the women of the board, especially Ms. Yensen and Ms. Hill for coordinating everything, for a very nice Christmas dinner along with Dickens Carolers and Santa Claus.

Today the Chairman said they had the honor of having Senator Kirk in the County. He visited at DOT at which time they had an opportunity to talk with him about our road needs, stormwater and groundwater issues, and our labor forces in McHenry County. The Chairman considered it to be a short but successful visit and they have invited him back when he can be here a little longer.

In regard to the Regional Supt of Schools, they are still talking with a candidate and they hope to have a new Supt of Schools announcement early next year.

The Chairman said in regard to CMAP, he had mentioned that he and Mr. Austin were going to a CMAP meeting in regard to the Chairman of the Collar Counties and of Cook County. The brunt of the meeting was about roads and the regional impact that we have with all the interstate projects that are going on. There was an emphasis put on the Rte. 53 and Rte.120 project which is said to be going well.

Chairman Koehler said there has also been a Task Force that has been working on taxation; looking at it from the standpoint of what is right and wrong with our tax codes today and where they might be in the future. There will be a report on that coming out about the middle of February.

Lastly, the Chairman noted that the Metro Counties has a new Executive Director by the name of Katie Lawrence. She is a resident of Springfield and will be working from there representing only Metro Counties down in Springfield. He said they are going to try to set a time for her to come to McHenry County in January or February to meet with the Legislative Committee. Once a date is set the full County Board will be notified so if you want to attend that meeting you can.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION/REPORTS

*7.05 Medical Reserve Corps of IL – Commendation and Lifesaving/Volunteer Recognition for Susan Byrnes and Bobby Higgen*

Mr. McNulty said Ms. Byrnes and Mr. Higgen are part of our Medical Reserve Corp which has been in place since 2003. It is a group of volunteers, many with a medical background, that assist them typically in health emergencies

and other events as well. They were critical when we had the H1N1 outbreak and most recently with the Pertussis issues being dealt with in the County. At this time there are 284 volunteers who meet on a regular basis, train and offer their assistance to the residents of McHenry County to make us a more prepared area in case an event should happen. He asked Elizabeth Hackett, Medical Reserve Corp Liaison and Bob Cohen, IL Asst Chair for the Medical Reserve Corp. to come forward to make the presentation. Mr. Cohen and Ms. Hackett came forward and expressed their appreciation for the volunteer services of many who never fail to answer a call for assistance. Ms. Hackett said she is pleased to be able to recognize these two volunteers who had a huge impact on a runner at the Chicago Marathon this year. Mr. Cohen said in 2010 the Medical Reserve Corp of IL was asked by Region 5 of Health & Human Services to see if volunteers could be recruited to be part of a contingent to assist at the Chicago Marathon. A recruitment drive was held and several volunteers from MRC's made up the 60 person contingent. Their duties at the 2010 Chicago Marathon were admired enough that they were asked again to recruit volunteers for the 2011 Chicago Marathon. Mr. Cohen said on marathon day, October 9<sup>th</sup> one area they were assigned to was called the pre-finish area, a location that started 20 yards in front of the finish line and continued for about a block just after a grueling hill that the runners had to overcome. Over 30 volunteers were put into that area along with a communications team. Mr. Cohen noted that over 95% of the original 45,000 registered runners and an additional 4,000 unregistered runners actually completed the race and passed through this area. Mr. Cohen said the pre-finish team was able to assist about 30 runners who went down in their area and were able to get most everyone to the finish line where they were transferred to strike teams or other medical transport and treatment teams. Of great importance is that our team revived a 61-year old male who went down just before the 200 meter sign exhibiting seizure activity. Sixteen members immediately conducted an assessment on him however he quickly lost his pulse and was not breathing. The AED was brought over but not used because of an unshockable rhythm that was showing. Rescue breathing was started and after 4-5 minutes of CPR the man became responsive again and his care was transferred to a crew to be taken to the hospital.

Mr. Cohen said the success rate of CPR is less than 5% and this was truly a heroic effort on the part of these volunteers. There were 12 volunteers on the team that was involved with this including Susan Byrnes and Bobby Higgen and all 12 are being recognized for their heroic efforts. Mr. Cohen awarded Ms. Byrnes and Mr. Higgen for life saving actions as a member of the pre-finish team in response to a downed marathon participant. He expressed his appreciation and commended them for their heroic efforts in their actions.

Ms. Byrnes and Mr. Higgen thanked the organization for this award. The Chairman said the event at which these people were able to help people in itself is pretty amazing but most people in McHenry County don't know that we have such an organization and all of the things that they do. He thanked those who participate in this organization for the work that they do.

#### *7.10 GFOA Awards for FY2010 CAFR and PAFR – Pamela Palmer*

Ms. Palmer came forward and said the County has once again one awards from GFOA for submitting our CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) and also for the PAFR which is a report that is easier for the average citizen to read that gives them an idea where the County stands. Ms. Palmer said in talking with their outside auditors, they received only one comment from the three people who reviewed this which is unheard of. She commended her Chief Deputy and Financial Reporting Manager for doing an outstanding job of putting together the CAFR. In regard to the PAFR we are the only county in the State of IL who produces a PAFR let alone submits it to the GFOA for an award, which speaks highly of our County. Ms. Palmer said in the State of IL only 13 counties of 102 submit and have won the award for FY 2009 and for the United States 498 out of over 3,000 counties. She said McHenry County is in a unique class to win these awards. In regard to the PAFR, for the nation 55 counties have submitted their report and received the award out of over 3,000 counties. Ms. Palmer said these awards speak very highly of the financial operations of the County.

Chairman Koehler thanked Ms. Palmer and her team for all of their efforts.

#### 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 #10-35; McHenry Twp; Cheryl Wilkinson; request reclass of R1-R1V

Noting no discussion Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Donley, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Peschke,

Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Bless, Breeden and Koehler. Absent: Hammerand. The vote being twenty-three (23) ayes noting one (1) absent the Chairman declared the motion to approve the ZBA Consent Agenda has passed.

PLATS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

APPOINTMENTS

None

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN UPDATES

Ms. Miller said the Transportation Committee will meet tomorrow at 8:15 a.m. to talk about the Highway Improvement Program. It was the original intent to move this forward from Transportation to the first County Board meeting in January but she has asked that this be delayed to the evening meeting in January because it is an important document and this will give board members some extra time to ask questions or give comments before it comes to the Board for approval.

Ms. Schuster said there is a Strategic Plan worksheet on everyone's desks. She encouraged fellow board members to fill these out and get them to Adam by January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

ROUTINE CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Koehler asked if any one wished to remove an item from the Consent Agenda. Ms. Evertsen removed 15.10 B(35).

Ms. McCann made a motion seconded by Mr. Nowak 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: Donley, Donner, Draffkorn, Evertsen, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Kurtz, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Peschke, Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Bless, Breeden and Koehler. Absent: Hammerand. The vote being twenty-three (23) ayes noting one (1) absent the Chairman declared the motion to approve the Routine Consent Agenda with one item removed has passed.

15.10 B (35) *Resolution Authorizing a contract agreement between the IL Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) – McHenry County Correctional Officers – Unit II and McHenry County*

Mr. Breeden made a motion seconded by Ms. Hill to approve the above-named resolution.

Chairman Koehler asked for any discussion. Ms. Evertsen said she knows that all of our correctional officers do a fine job however she and her constituents feel giving raises during this difficult economic time is not right as many of the people paying for these raises are without jobs.

Mr. Donley stated he voted against this at committee and will be staying consistent with that vote.

Ms. Kurtz asked if this contract covers a steps and lanes situation. Mr. Austin said there are steps in the contract as there have been in the past. She asked what the effective pay increase rate is when the steps and lanes are taken into consideration. Mr. Austin said he couldn't give a number off the top of his head as it's not a common number between each year. Ms. Kurtz asked what percentage is budgeted. Mr. Austin said he believes that we use 2%. Ms. Kurtz asked what the pension contribution is for the FOP. Mr. Austin said that the corrections officers are also in the IMRF program so they pay the same as most all of our county employees.

Ms. Schuster said she asked while she was on the HR Committee that there be a meeting of County Board members before the County started negotiating but that didn't happen and now there is a contract on the table that she believes undermines the financial situation that our County/country/state is in. She will be voting against this.

Mr. Breeden reminded the Board that until things change in Springfield, you have to realize how much influence we actually have which is very little. He will be voting for this.

Chairman Koehler said wages are an important part of the contract but not the only part. The contract does not highlight some of the important givebacks that were negotiated. The Chairman asked Mr. Austin and Mr. Ivetic to give more information on this contract. Mr. Austin said this contract has gone through three standing committees, HR, Finance and Law & Justice, and at each one Mr. Ivetic talked about some of the economics and how the wage increases proposed at 2%, 2 3/4%, and 3% over the next three years were measured against some of the givebacks. They have set in motion a larger employee contribution on health insurance (85%/15%) and decreasing the dollars that are allowed to be carried over at the end of the year in comp time. Both are significant both immediate and over a period of years and what it could suggest for some of our other unions. Mr. Austin said in the last six years they have tried to keep all of our employees, union and non-union alike, with the same insurance program. On the operational side he said they've had representatives at each of their standing committees, HR, Finance and Law & Justice, and representatives from Corrections who have talked about improvements we've made in leave time use, in particular sick time and over time use which are two expensive measures that we're going to get better control on from a management perspective.

The Chairman said along with those givebacks the process is definitely one sided when it comes to police contracts they are not allowed to strike and therefore it complicates the way we have to negotiate. Mr. Austin said that law enforcement and public safety officers in the State of IL are not allowed to strike and in return they are entitled to binding arbitration. This means if we can't come to a mutually agreed upon contract like the one we have here, they will go to binding arbitration. At binding arbitration they don't look at our offer "and" their offer the arbitrator finds somewhere in the middle; it is our offer "or" their offer. If our offer were to be 0% and the union is asking for something more, the union's offer will look pretty attractive. Mr. Austin said the County needs to be able to back up their offer with comparable organizations and if we can't then we would lose at binding arbitration.

Chairman Koehler said we have been fortunate to have John Kelly representing the County in the negotiations because he has the opportunity to also be involved with many other negotiating groups across the Northern IL area so it puts him and us in a unique situation to have a good idea of what is going on in the market. The Chairman agrees it's hard to give increases during this difficult economic time however this is a well negotiated contract.

Mr. Provenzano added that he is concerned as well about raises. He noted that figures were not just pulled out of the sky as a starting point, comparable arbitration awards were looked at for like facilities and geographical locations.

Mr. Merkel said he has seen similar situations and because we have good financial control and have been responsible with our finances and are in a strong financial position, we are not in a good bargaining position at this time because we have not experienced layoffs and worse situations as many areas have. Mr. Ivetic said out of the last about 30+ arbitration cases in this past year in IL, three-fourths of the awards were for the union offer with at least two years getting a 3% increase.

Noting no further discussion, the Chairman asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Donner, Draffkorn, Heisler, Hill, Jung, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Peschke, Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Wheeler, Yensen, Bless, Breeden and Koehler. Nay: Donley, Evertsen, Kurtz, McCann and Schuster. Absent: Hammerand. The vote being eighteen (18) ayes and five (5) nays noting one (1) absent, the Chairman declared the motion to approve 15.10 B(35) contract agreement between IL FOP – McHenry County Correctional Officers Unit II and McHenry County has passed.

#### ORDINANCES

##### 16.10 A For Action

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

Mr. Provenzano made a motion seconded by Ms. McCann to approve the above-named Ordinance.

Noting no discussion, the Chairman asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it he declared the motion to approve 16.10 A Setting the Juror Pay and mileage reimbursement rate has passed.

##### 16.10 B

*Ordinance providing for the Submission to the electors of the County of McHenry, IL, the questions Whether the County should have the authority under Public Act #096-0176 to arrange for the Supply of Electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers who have not opted out of such program (request for 30 day review to be waived)*

Mr. Heisler made a motion seconded by Ms. Donner to approve the above-named Ordinance.

Chairman Koehler asked for any discussion. Several board members were in support of letting the people of the County decide if they want the County to be involved in electrical aggregation on their part noting that they do have the opportunity to opt out at any time.

Ms. Schuster said that although she likes the idea that people could vote on this, she doesn't support this referendum because of the confusion she feels the opt out idea clause can create with the public. She said she has not gotten a firm statement as to whether or not the County is going to take a percentage of this as a fee. She is also concerned about the disruption these large block contracts could have on the free enterprise system. She believes the public is smart enough to figure out which programs they want to take on with their electric service.

Ms. Peschke asked if everyone in the County would have this on their ballot because the question says "electors of County". The Chairman said no, just the unincorporated areas of the County. She asked about the cost of this as it pertains to the election. Ms. Schultz said she doesn't have an exact figure. Because this is a Primary Election, this question would go on the appropriate ballots for each of the political parties as well as ballots with propositions only. That means that all precincts will need to have a Non-Partisan ballot available. In precincts that have municipalities that do not have this question on the ballot it's going to create additional ballot styles, so another ballot will be required. The cost of a ballot is about .34 cents each, so we could be looking at \$20,000 or more. Ms. Schultz said fortunately we have programming in house. Ms. Peschke asked if this is different in that the Purchasing Department can't send this out for bid rather than doing a referendum. Mr. Austin said you can't aggregate a local government body's power absent a referendum. The residents of unincorporated areas or/and municipalities who ask the same question must vote on this to allow their local policy making board to aggregate their power and put it out for bid. Individuals can do it on their own if they want to. Either way they can opt out if they choose.

Ms. Evertsen said she researched this and said that the State Senate recently passed Senate Bill 678 which has a significant impact on this. Part of that Bill limits the increase for household's electric bills to no more than 2% but doesn't cap the increase to bills of those who buy from non-utility suppliers. So at this point Com Ed is limited to how much they can increase the consumer's bill; these other non-utility suppliers are not limited to how much they can raise their bill at any one time. This concerns her because we're looking at non-utility suppliers who state that you "can" save 20% or more they don't say you "will" save that and it also doesn't say for how long you will save whatever percentage they are saying. Ms. Evertsen said getting people packaged and bundled into this and then expecting them to opt out is confusing and she thinks we would be taking people to a place they don't want to go.

Mr. Provenzano asked Ms. Schultz how many other Non-Partisan questions have been filed at this time. Ms. Schultz said probably about a dozen right now. The deadline is in January, another couple of weeks away. Mr. Provenzano said with or without this it looks like there will be a lot of Non-Partisan ballots.

Mr. Merkel asked Ms. Schultz if the ballot preparation will be for each of the communities that have presented the question for the ballot. She said yes plus there are a few questions on the ballot that are not pertaining to this question. Mr. Merkel asked if it would be more cost effective to do this all at once with the other communities or to wait until November. Ms. Schultz said programming wise it doesn't really matter. In a Primary election it creates another ballot for the voters, possibly more than one ballot; but in a General election like in November it will just automatically go on the ballot styles that it should go on because the voter does not have to make a party selection at that time. Mr. Merkel said there is a lot of information out there on this and he believes residents are smart enough to decide on this so he is in support of putting this on the ballot with the other communities.

Ms. Donner said she is already in a different program so if the County were to do this she could change or opt out of the new program. If this goes to referendum everyone effected will see it if they vote.

Ms. Kurtz asked if this is where we want to take our constituents, taking them into a situation where they may not be happy with the service and may not get any sort of financial advantage. She asked do we want to take County government into a scenario where we are responsible for the utility that they are receiving. Based on what she is reading in the Ordinance there are no experts to guide us and we will have to pay consultants.

Ms. Salgado said it bothers her that we are waiving the 30-day review because it is there for a purpose. Perhaps this should have been done in a more timely manner so that the Board could have had that time for review.

Ms. Salgado said this is giving the people the choice if they want their government to get more involved in this area. If people vote for and pass this, she thinks the Legislative Committee will need to research this more to put some things in place.

Mr. Austin said there are a number of questions and this is new for all of us. They have had some time to get information but the Board needs to make a decision if they want to have this on the March ballot. Mr. Austin said if the Board passes this Ordinance this evening the question will go on the ballot in March to allow the voters to vote on this. Simultaneously they have been interviewing consultants to do the aggregation in partnership with a number of municipalities with the Purchasing Department being the anchor. Mr. Austin said they have also been working with MCCOG as well as professionals from the different municipalities looking into doing this same thing. They are getting down to a finalist stage and will be meeting with those consultants as early as tomorrow.

Mr. Austin said in answer to the question about where the money comes from to pay for the consultants, the money comes from the suppliers themselves. The County is affording them the opportunity to connect us to the suppliers, so there is not an out of pocket expense from the local government. Mr. Austin said he likes the idea that we may have as many as a dozen local governments in McHenry County asking this question of the voters this spring. There will be a lot of dialogue going on for the voters and for us to learn about this process. If this is passed, there will be public hearings which will help the voters make an informed decision at the polls. If this passes by referendum by the voters, then an RFP for aggregated power to unincorporated areas of the County will be sent out by the consultants and they will get the most competitive rate for the County and give us options. You can do a commitment of 1, 2 or 3 year contract and the Board will be able to see what the savings will be over other companies. Until all information and questions are answered, which could take until May or June, which is when the County would make the commitment to aggregate the unincorporated resident's power. Mr. Austin said this has been available to businesses for a number of years but only recently has the General Assembly made this easy for residents by way of making Com Ed still responsible for the billing, receivables and payables. Com Ed is getting a little off of the top of all this it's just the supplier on the back side that is changing.

Ms. Peschke asked if we would have to have a stepped situation when we go out for bid because some people might not think the amount of savings, whatever that is, is not enough. Chairman Koehler said possibly not. He said one of the reasons the electric companies want to go with this route is because it is a lot less expensive for them to go after a group of people than to go out individually. He said another question might be is if that amount that is saved is going to be less than 10% and people's expectations are more, then would they look to go to some other company that is offering this. Chairman Koehler said the way we are trying to do this is a much safer way for our constituents because we are working with a bigger volume. Because we have been working with MCCOG and municipalities in trying to see if we can do an aggregation on a larger scale, hopefully that will be more savings. Some questions are unknown at this time and people do have the option to opt out. Chairman Koehler said another issue looming is that there may be about 30-40 power plants that the federal government are going to say have to be decommissioned because they don't meet their standards. If that happens, the electrical costs are going to be all over the map and the savings that we may be able to capture in one or two years might not be there in three or four years.

Ms. Schuster asked if in the discussions with the aggregators they have defined the mechanism for which they would make the case for the aggregation process. Because they have a vested interest in a percentage of the final product, are they going to be as proactive in telling the people the negatives as much as the positives. Mr. Austin responded that the County is in charge and the message of educating the residents and providing the public forum needs to come through the local government. He doesn't believe that we should be a part of a marketing campaign. He went on to say that there is no vested interest on the part of the government. It has been asked about the municipal contribution that can be a part of this and although no final decisions have been made, the parties that the County has been at the table with seem to be saying that is not part of what they are looking for, it's about maximizing savings. He doesn't believe there will be a significant cost to the local government that we need to cover. Ms. Schuster said she believes there will be a cost whether it comes through the County or through the aggregator. She wants to know if the County is going to be putting out any money to get the information out to the public. Mr. Austin said he can't answer that definitively because the question hasn't been asked if we want to spend money on this. He believes we can accomplish this without the County spending any significant amounts of money. Ms. Schuster said she can understand putting this on the March ballot with the other communities trying to make it one big educational campaign, but she has no problem suggesting that she would feel more comfortable if this went on the November ballot. Chairman Koehler noted that there was one firm that was going to charge an up-front fee that the municipality would have had to pay to move this forward, so there are different ways these aggregators are talking about going about things. The bottom line is that the consumer will be picking up the cost.

Mr. Merkel said as far as a ballot referendum, he knows that if it is for a tax increase (specific in the state statutes) that the taxing body can't use any of its own funds. He asked if this could be looked into by the State's Attorney's office. The Chairman said Sarah Jansen from the SAO is already in the process of looking at this.

Mr. Provenzano clarified the portion of the bill that will change is the actual electricity. The supplier of the service, responder in an emergency and the up keep of the lines is still all from Com Ed. He also noted that the consumer aggregation issue has come in two waves from the state legislature. The first wave was to allow people to opt in one at a time. The numbers of people opting in individually were not very high. The second wave was to allow municipalities and unincorporated areas to do the aggregate and the opt out option, and with this everyone is in which saves more money, and if an individual chooses he can opt out as an individual. The aggregators are the middle men for the consumers, they are working to buy electricity and it will be through their expertise to get the best deal for the consumers that they represent.

Chairman Koehler noted that even if our constituents pass the referendum, if the County is dissatisfied with what they see, the County does not have to do through with anything. If this does move forward to go on the ballot, there is going to have to be a special committee that will be specifically charged with going through this process and monitoring and being a part of it so this will be watched very carefully.

Ms. Evertsen commented on #2 in the Ordinance it says "to operate the aggregation program under the Act" and then in #4 it says "the County Board may implement an opt out aggregation program". She asked that this be clarified what the aggregation program is that the County will be operating. Mr. Austin responded that if this passes, the County will identify a consultant to take the lead on this and prepare and work with us on the informational campaign. If the referendum passes the consultants will create a comparative environment with the different electrical suppliers and get the County the best rate. They will be in charge of the opt out, they or Com Ed will do the two mailings to every home that is required, the County does not do this. The consultants will give the County the full picture. Ms. Evertsen said her concern is that another department will be developed to handle this aggregation issue. Mr. Austin said that is not what the County believes will be happening nor does he believe any additional staff will be added to handle this. He doesn't feel there will be a burden on the existing County staff.

Ms. Kurtz said there is nothing that says the County will not have costs associated with this and we don't have any sense of what it's going to be like when this program rolls out. She feels that we don't know what we are getting into and encouraged board members to vote against this.

Chairman Koehler said this is not new as there are many states that have been doing this for years. He encouraged everyone to attend the two aggregator presentations tomorrow to hear what they have to offer. One of those parties is from Ohio and has experienced this across the entire state of Ohio and several other states.

Noting no further discussion, the chairman asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Donley, Donner, Draffkorn, Heisler, Hill, Jung, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Nowak, Peschke, Provenzano, Salgado, Schmidt, Wheeler, Yensen, Bless, Breeden and Koehler. Nay: Evertsen, Kurtz and Schuster. Absent: Hammerand. The vote being twenty (20) ayes and three (3) nays noting one (1) absent the Chairman declared the motion to approve 16.10 B Ordinance providing for the Submission to the electors of the County of McHenry, IL, the questions Whether the County should have the authority under Public Act #096-0176 to arrange for the Supply of Electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers who have not opted out of such program (request for 30 day review to be waived) has passed.

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Austin asked board members to look over the Strategic Plan worksheet that is on their desk and get it turned in by January 3rd so that the core group can go through them on January 6<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Ms. Hill and Ms. Wheeler for already turning in their worksheet. Adam will send out these worksheets via e-mail again tomorrow.

Mr. Austin said the EDC moved this week, they are now located on Dakota Street.

Mr. Austin said he e-mailed this afternoon to board members County e-mail and personal e-mails a link to an electronic copy of the County Code. He congratulated the County Clerk and the SAO as they have been working on this project for some time. He encouraged board members to go out and take a look at this and if there are any questions or concerns to let him know. A public push will be done on this later in January.

Mr. Austin said he has most of the department heads working with him on putting together a written County Administrator's report that we do quarterly. This will be presented at the January 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting and will set the table for the discussion on the Strategic Plan on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Austin said next week Management Services and Finance Committee meetings are cancelled. He does think we will need a quick Finance meeting before the County Board meeting on January 3<sup>rd</sup> so he asked those committee members to plan on being here by 8:30 on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. He noted that there will be no CDBG on Wednesday of next week but reminded the board that they are looking for applications to be on the new CDBG Commission. Those applications are due by January 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Provenzano said there will be no Law & Justice Committee meeting for January. Their next meeting will be in February. He was asked by Congressman Randy Hultgren to extend his apologies for having to cancel today's planned visit. He had planned to come out with Senator Kirk but was called back into session.

Mr. Merkel said he received a copy of the safety contest from Metra and asked if the Transportation Committee could recognize the two local high school students who won the poster contest, one from Woodstock High School and one from Cary Grove High School and there were three essays awarded, one being from Crystal Lake South. Ms. Miller said she will talk to Mr. Korpalski about this. Mr. Merkel wished everyone Happy Holidays and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Ms. Peschke said she and her daughter took the Metra train to Chicago on Sunday and the train was so full the conductor or engineer noted that the train was as long as it could be statutorily to accommodate the huge crowd that was riding. There were many people standing both going to and coming back from Chicago and she noted that no fares were collected either in or out.

Ms. Kurtz said if you encounter anyone over the holiday that is in need of employment she encouraged board members to direct them to the Workforce Investment Board. They have many resources to help the public find employment. She will put a brochure in board member's mailboxes as soon as possible. She wished everyone a Happy Mazel Tov.

Mr. Austin said at the employee holiday luncheon employees donated 75 boxes of food as well as 15 bags of toys. He thanked Phil Dailing and his Court Services staff for handling all of the donations received this year.

Mr. Heisler wished everyone a Merry Christmas. He told board members that he has two shelves of written off Red Wing Boots available to give away. He said if anyone knows of someone in need of a pair of boots to let him know he might have a size that will fit. It was suggested that he contact PADS. Mr. Heisler said he has talked with a couple of township supervisors about this.

Chairman Koehler again encouraged board members to attend the two presentations tomorrow on electricity aggregation. He wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah and a safe New Year. He warned board members that the meeting on January 3<sup>rd</sup> will be a long meeting so be prepared for that.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

#### ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Miller made a motion seconded by Mr. Merkel to adjourn at 8:51 p.m. Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Dated and approved at Woodstock, Illinois this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, A.D., 2012.

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

ATTEST:

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