

MCHENRY COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2009

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

District 1 Yvonne M. Barnes Robert Bless Anna May Miller Marc Munaretto	District 2 J.S. "Scott" Breeden James Heisler Kenneth Koehler Lyn Orphal	District 3 Mary L Donner Ed Dvorak Kathleen Bergan Schmidt Barbara Wheeler
District 4 Sue Draffkorn John Hammerand Pete Merkel Sandra Fay Salgado	District 5 Tina Hill James P Kennedy Virginia Peschke Paula Yensen	District 6 Randall Donley Mary T McCann Daniel P Ryan Ersel C Schuster

The Honorable County Board of McHenry County, Illinois met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 6, 2009.

Chairman Koehler called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by County Clerk Katherine Schultz with Members of the Board, department heads and visitors participating. Ms. Peschke gave the invocation/personal remarks.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by County Clerk Katherine Schultz. The following members responded: Breeden, Donley, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Heisler, Hill, Kennedy, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Orphal, Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless and Koehler. Absent: Donner, Hammerand and McCann. Chairman Koehler declared a quorum present with twenty-one (21) members responding.

MINUTES

Ms. Miller made a motion seconded by Mr. Heisler to approve County Board minutes from December 16th, 2008. Chairman Koehler asked if there were any corrections. Noting none, Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, the motion to approve the minutes was approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Koehler said he hoped everyone had a happy holiday season. He then thanked the people from each district that met when he had the discussions about the committees and the changes that might be made. He said it was approved by the Committee on Committees that we do have the new Environmental Committee and it was also discussed and approved to keep the Valley Hi Committee and the Building Projects Committee as full committees. He also thanked those that represented each district on the Committee on Committees. The preparation was really good and there was a lot of good give and take trying how best to structure the committees. Chairman Koehler said everyone should have a copy of the appointments and liaisons that will be coming up for approval later in the meeting. Lastly, Chairman Koehler said we have a special event taking place in February and that is the recognition of the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln. He hoped that everyone will be able to participate in at least one if not more of the activities being planned. There will be a Lincoln dinner on February 21st not to be confused with the Lincoln Day dinner that the Republican Party has, they are two different things. Chairman Koehler asked Ms. Hill to speak on some of the events that will be taking place. Ms. Hill said she has the invitations and will get it to board members. She said this is a non-partisan and citizen event and Rep. Jack Franks is one of the Honorary Co-Chairs. This dinner is to honor our heritage in the State of IL. She said for more information you can go to the website, alincoln200.com. Ms. Hill said February 1st the Civil War Roundtable is doing an afternoon with the Lincoln's at MCC and they will be portraying a scene between Mary Todd and Abraham Lincoln. Then on February 12th, not here because we are closed, at other government entities and businesses we're going to do it the day before or after, at 1:30 p.m. there will be a county wide reading of the Gettysburg Address and the County libraries are doing a county read in February, Lincoln a Photo Biography and there will be book club discussions. Ms. Hill said Ms. Wheeler is planning Lincoln floats for all of our community parades this summer and is working on a sponsor for this. Chairman Koehler thanked all who were working on these events.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION/REPORTS

Chairman Koehler introduced the new Court Administrator, Dan Wallace who started three weeks ago. Mr. Wallace told the board of his qualifications for the position and what he is working on now.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Koehler asked Auditor Pam Palmer to come forward to explain the award her office received once again for excellence in financial reporting. Ms. Palmer said this is the tenth consecutive year of winning the award and that the County should be very proud because out of 102 counties in IL only thirteen of them received this award. She added that everyone involved with the financial process should be commended for their hard work.

Chairman Koehler asked Mark DeVries of the DOT to talk about the recent snow events and removal in the County. Mr. DeVries said he is pleased with how things are going given the challenging December that we have had. December was a record setting month with about 30" to 33" of snow and their department had twenty-four hour coverage for the snow events that occurred. With the salt shortage that many areas are experiencing, he said they have done their best to manage their materials to this point. Mr. DeVries said they're hoping for a quiet January!

Chairman Koehler thanked staff for putting together a ready to go project list. On December 23rd he got a call and there has been a flurry of activity for ready to go projects, as President-Elect Obama is talking about a major stimulus package. He said we were contacted and asked "what does McHenry County have that is ready to go". There were some preliminary discussions with the DOT and some good concepts were prepared to come forward. That was assembled along with some other projects that we feel could be ready to go in approximately 120 days. Chairman Koehler said to give an idea of what that is about, we're looking at reconstruction projects for Chapel Hill and Lincoln Rd intersection at \$1.8 million; Fleming Rd reconstruction at about \$3.5 million; resurfacing projects totaling about 43 lane miles, about \$8 million; and some high priority resurfacing projects of about 97 miles that comes out to about \$18 million dollars. Randall Rd resurfacing is about \$4 million and several bridge projects for a total ask of about \$12 million dollars. Chairman Koehler said there is also an ask in for the renovation of the Cardinal Savings & Loan property for about \$637,000; and the Sheriff's archives and evidence facility that could possibly be fast tracked, for about \$5.3 million dollars and some conceptual costs of the infrastructure for the campus plan that we're talking about to the tune of over \$15 million dollars. Chairman Koehler said he feels they have put together a pretty good ask list and they are realistic in a short period of time.

PLATS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11.1 *Resolution authorizing the acquisition of right of way for highway purposes (Allendale Bridge) pursuant to eminent domain*

Mr. Dvorak made a motion seconded by Ms. Miller to approve the above-named resolution.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Breeden, Donley, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Heisler, Hill, Kennedy, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Orphal, Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless and Koehler. Absent: Donner, Hammerand and McCann. The vote being twenty-one (21) ayes noting three (3) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

11.2 *Resolution authorizing the acquisition of right of way for highway purposes (Walkup Rd) pursuant to eminent domain*

Mr. Dvorak made a motion seconded by Ms. Schuster to approve the above-named resolution.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Breeden, Donley, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Heisler, Hill, Kennedy, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Orphal, Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless and Koehler. Absent: Donner, Hammerand and McCann. The vote being twenty-one (21) ayes noting three (3) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Koehler said everyone should have a copy of the appointments to the committees. Information as far as the committees themselves prior to Christmas, none of those have been changed based on what the Committee on Committees had approved. What are here today are the assignments for Chairman and Vice Chairman for each of the standing committees and then the liaison assignments that are for the different areas that required one. Also, the Stormwater Commission, the Senior Services Grant Commission, the Pollution Control Facility Siting Committee and the CDBG Committee. The Chairman said one thing that is slightly different and is not on there, before there was an advisory committee for budget purposes and that is being changed, and as we go through the process of determining how the budget is going to be conducted for this year we will bring together a CALF to discuss that process.

Ms. Yensen made a motion seconded by Ms. Hill to approve Appointments to Standing and Liaison Committees.

Chairman Koehler asked for any discussion. Ms. Schmidt said she would vote against these appointments as the first time they are seeing this list is at their desk this morning. Ms. Peschke agreed that this is the first time she is seeing these assignments. She said she felt that when we do a structure of the committees it should be done at a Strategic Planning meeting where all of the members are present. She is concerned about extending another committee as board members are already stretched with their commitments. She said some members like to keep up with the other committees that they don't serve on and it becomes increasingly difficult to read all of the minutes of those other committees and much more attempt to keep up. In regard to the Environmental Committee which is the new committee, her concern is that we did have this committee at one time and she was involved with it, and what they found difficult was that there were very few issues because most things that have to do with water and air belong in Health, things with land use or resource protection belong in Planning & Development, so as a result many meetings were canceled. Ms. Peschke said she also noticed that on P & D, Mr. Munaretto is the only standing member with a lot of experience left on that committee. She feels that a committee as important as that should have at least four pulled over people that really know the drill. Lastly, she said regarding the liaisons, typically the standing committees make a recommendation for who they think the liaison member should be. In the future she said perhaps the liaison members be regarded as temporary until the newly formed standing committees make their recommendations. Chairman Koehler commented regarding the committees, this is why he held the district meetings where they met with each district. Ms. Peschke said this was only communicated through e-mail which she does not get.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Breeden, Donley, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Heisler, Hill, Kennedy, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Orphal, Ryan, Salgado, Schuster, Barnes, Bless and Koehler. Nay: Peschke, Schmidt, Wheeler and Yensen. Absent: Donner, Hammerand and McCann. The vote being seventeen (17) ayes and four (4) nays noting three (3) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN UPDATES

Ms. Hill thanked staff for the work she was able to do with Management Services.

ROUTINE CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Koehler asked if anyone wished to remove an item from the Consent Agenda, there were none.

Mr. Kennedy made a motion seconded by Ms. Orphal to approve the Routine Consent Agenda as presented.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Breeden, Donley, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Heisler, Hill, Kennedy, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto, Orphal, Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless and Koehler. Absent: Donner, Hammerand and McCann. The vote being twenty-one (21) ayes noting three (3) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

ORDINANCES

For Review: *Ordinance to amend Article IV (Temporary Food) of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance*
Mr. McNulty said all recommended changes were explained on the cover sheet noting that most of the requirements are specific to the IL Department of Public Health which sets the minimum standards for our Food Ordinance. Several board members expressed concerns about the changes being recommended. Mr. McNulty said it has been reviewed by our Food Advisory Committee, which is made up of a variety of types of food operations as well as all food operations in the county were notified of the changes and they have been posted on our website. Mr. McNulty said they have received no comments from the food operators. Some felt that the changes were being too nitpicky.

It was asked if the IL Restaurant Association was asked to join in conversations about the changes. Mr. McNulty referred back to the Food Advisory Committee that is consulted as well as the notifications that are sent out, of which no input has been received as yet. Chairman Koehler said he also had concerns with this. He said the board should read over the Ordinance carefully and recommended attending the Public Health meetings with any concerns.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Austin said that when we are putting things on 30-day review we like to bring them back to committee for one more review. The Public Health & Human Services Committee will meet on Friday and the agenda is already set, but they will try to get this on their agenda prior to full consideration of the board. In regard to the Strategic Planning process, we will be using a new facilitator this year. The date has been set for February 6th with the full board and all elected officials and department heads. He hopes that it will be done in 4-5 hours and it will take place here in this board room. Mr. Austin said you'll be doing a lot of work for setting the table for discussions. Later this week the consultant will be here on Thursday and Friday for meetings with the board members by district to talk about the questions that have been provided to you already. The balance of the time will be spent meeting with department heads and elected officials. The firm will then be back here on the 15th and 16th to wrap up the discussions. If a board member feels they would want one on one time with the consultant, a time can be set up on the 15th or 16th. Mr. Austin said following the meeting on February 6th, we will have a second half day meeting toward the end of March to look at the goals that have been laid out and making sure we are on track. Lastly, Mr. Austin said a forum is being planned in response to the housing crisis, for February 13th 8:30 to 11:30. The County will be the host of that meeting from a facilities standpoint, it's really being organized and kicked off by MCCOG and Imagine McHenry County and the EDC. Mr. Austin said hopefully we will have several county reps there along with municipal leaders trying to think about what we can do in response to the housing crisis.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Koehler said there was a need to go into executive session to discuss Litigation.

Ms. Peschke made a motion seconded by Ms. Barnes to go into executive session.

Executive session ran from 9:56 a.m. to 11:02 a.m.

Ms. Peschke made a motion seconded by Ms. Salgado to return to open session.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Breeden, Donley, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Heisler, Hill, Kennedy, Merkel, Orphal, Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Yensen, Barnes, Bless and Koehler. Absent: Donner, Hammerand, McCann, Miller, Munaretto and Wheeler. Absent: Donner, Hammerand, McCann, Miller, Munaretto and Wheeler. Chairman Koehler declared a quorum present with eighteen (18) members responding. Miller, Munaretto and Wheeler left during executive session.

Chairman Koehler noted no action was taken in executive session.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Kennedy said he and Ms. Draffkorn attended a public hearing conducted by the Village of Wonder Lake's Village Board in regard to the SSA. It was well attended by residents and others interested in it. If anyone has any questions they can contact the Village Board as this is on 60-day review. He noted that the Sheriff's office had two deputies there which were helpful when people got somewhat upset. The Shift Lieutenant was called because of the safety factor involved. Mr. Kennedy said the meeting was held at Greenwood School and had only about 100 seats available when several hundred showed up.

Ms. Hill asked for prayers for a 2 year old boy, Jackson Rabow, in District 3 who was diagnosed with a brain tumor. He was operated on at Children's Hospital in Milwaukee, the tumor was removed and he will now receive treatment but he has a long road.

Ms. Peschke said she heard disturbing things about the overcrowding of the SSA meeting held at Greenwood School. She wondered why the Fire Marshal was not called and if there is a protocol that the deputies should have followed in regard to the overcrowding. Chairman Koehler said this is something we should and will check into.

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ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Orphal made a motion seconded by Mr. Ryan to adjourn at 11:10 a.m. Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Dated and approved at Woodstock, Illinois this 20th day of January, A.D., 2009.

S/ Kenneth D Koehler
Kenneth D. Koehler, Chairman
McHenry County Board

ATTEST:

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