

**KENOSHA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY BOARD CHAMBERS COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

September 21, 2010

The **Regular Meeting** was called to order by Chairman Molinaro at 7:30 p.m., in the County Board Room located in the Administration Building.

Roll call was taken.

Present: Supervisors Grady, Rose, Goebel, Hallmon, Grulich, J. Gentz, Arrington, R. Frederick, Johnson, Michel, O'Day, Singer, B. Frederick, Kohlmeier, Molinaro, Esposito, Clark, Noble, Underhill, Decker, Breunig, Elverman, Ekornaas.

Excused: Supervisors Zerban, Celebre, Kubicki, G. Gentz, Haas.

Present: 23.

Excused: 5.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Steve LaMothe, 2211 116th St. stated he was hired by Kenosha County June 1998 and is one of the 14 laid off Highway Department employees. They've been told the State cut funding to the Highway Department and that is the reason for the lay-offs. He feels the County Executive is using these lay-offs as leverage in Local 70's contract negotiations. He stated the County Executive is playing a very dangerous game with the lives of the very people who trusted him and put him into office. Comparing this summer to previous years, the obvious neglect of the roads and ditches, and the growing amount of trash along the roadways is not only an eyesore, but creates hazardous conditions. He wonders who will be accountable when lives are lost due to improperly graveled road edges, lack of visibility at intersections, and debris on roadways. He stated he and 13 of his co-workers were blindsided and laid off last June with no notice and only 12 days of Health Insurance. They were not given severance pay or several months of Health Insurance as he understands the I.S. Employees were given when they were laid off. When he received notice of his lay-off, he asked Bob Riedl if he would be called back if anyone retired. He was told he would be called back. Someone did retire and has been off the payroll for over a month and he has not been called back. He would like straight answers from the County Executive as to what exactly is their future with Kenosha County. Some of the employees who are laid off are hurting both financially and emotionally.

Mark Montague, 7835 36th Ave., stated he is part of the Highway Department employees and President of Local 70. They were told there was some severe funding difficulties and they were instructed that when the total deficit was recouped they would be able to bring the laid off employees back to work. Several people have given him some information on the math; from June 18th to September 10th the numbers are \$268,867 the county has saved and should be able to plug that hole. He would be happy to sit down with somebody and discuss this. Local 70 has always been willing to work along with the department and with management. As an example they were asked to sign a memorandum of understanding which has to do with a prevailing wage job for repaving on Hwy 158. This memorandum of understanding was needed because the prevailing wage law is handcuffing counties like us who do our own work in and out of the county which brings in more revenue. They haven't seen the memorandum back from the county with management's signatures. This bid they were able to obtain will bring the county another \$275,000 in revenue. The union is trying, and need to get the 14 guys back to work.

Ed Sinnen, 5217 41st Ave., stated he knows that over the years of the Parks and Highways, some of the departments have been in the red quite a bit of times. There is no reason why some funding can't be moved into Highway like it

has been done for other departments in the past. In his opinion this is just a way to stick it to them because of their contract. To lay-off employees to save money is one thing, but to take the Health Insurance away is taking their lives away. He begged Jim Kreuser to give them their Health Insurance back immediately since the county has already saved enough money to cover the loss. He personally has been hit the hardest because his wife is literally on her deathbed. Trying to get any Doctors to help is impossible without Health Insurance. He is not sure how much longer his wife will be able to make it and again be begged Jim Kreuser to give them their Health Insurance back as soon as possible.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Molinaro reminded the supervisors the WCA Conference opens on Sunday evening and due to some health issues in his family he may not be in attendance. He also stated Mr. Melcher will be presented the 2010 Friend and Advocate Award for UW Colleges and UW Extension. He deserves this recognition and our recognition and appreciation goes out to George. Everyone should have received their new email address and instructions on how to access it. If anyone has any trouble they may contact the County Clerk or the I.S. Department. A week ago Thursday and Friday a contingent of Kenosha County Representatives went to Chicago on the annual bond rating trip. They made presentations to Moodys and well as Standard and Poors. Kenosha County's good bond rating has been maintained by both rating agencies. Kenosha County has made good decisions in who we partner with which includes Todd Battle, KABA and Ehlers and Associates and Mike Harrigan. He also thanked Joe Clark, Chairman of the Finance Committee and has continued confidence in all that Joe brings to the county particular to the Finance Committee. On the supervisor's desks is the schedule for the 2011 Budget Hearings. He urged all supervisors to attend as many of these hearings as possible. The county budget will be presented at the next county board meeting. They toured the new addition of the Emergency Services Center; our dispatch center is second to none in his opinion. It is everything they hoped for and more. There was not a single call lost or interrupted during their transition.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Supervisor Grady reported on October 2nd there will be a Fall Wheel Ride. This is a family friendly event that everyone can get together and show their interest bicycle riding. Monday October 4th 5:30 p.m. is the Committee meeting for Building & Grounds and they will be meeting at Kemper Center. They are going to tour two of the buildings on the grounds. One of them is the Children's Place and Bishop's Quarters. These are older buildings not in very good repair at the moment. He wants the committee to see these buildings to apprise themselves of the condition of these two buildings so they can be aware of what any future may hold for these. Wednesday October 6th at 11:00 a.m. there will be a walkthrough of the Public Safety Building Emergency Service Center. Any supervisor interested can attend either event.

Supervisor J. Gentz stated the Emergency Service Center transfer went off at 4:45 a.m. the day before without a hitch. He is really proud of the people that worked in making that effort possible.

Supervisor Breunig stated she attended her first SWRPC meeting on Wednesday, September 15th. They were given a briefing on the regional water supply system plan for the southeastern Wisconsin that highlighted the research that's been done over the past 10 years including the 5 year study, the recommendations and alternatives. Anyone with any questions about the plan can contact Supervisor Breunig.

Supervisor Clark stated the county executive will be making the budget presentation at the next county board meeting. After that the various different committees will have their budget hearings. Hopefully that is where the heavy lifting on the budget takes place. Recommendations and changes will

then come to the Finance Committee. We will be having a very challenging budget this year. On the supervisors desk there is a general fund update. The audited fund balance at the end of the year was 6.277 million. That is higher than anticipated. They are anticipating the general fund reserves will go from 6.2 million down to 6.1 million. There has been a million dollar shortfall in sales tax; we have loss of revenue in tipping fees, dog track along with other various items. It appears we will have a surplus on our health insurance again this year. The Sheriff's Department is projecting a million dollar surplus on the federal inmate money. Another thing that went a long way to help balance this budget is the \$1,000,000 in funds that were found by either new revenues or cuts. It is quite an accomplishment that Kenosha County has been able to hold and maintain their bond ratings with everything that is happening. Last year Kenosha County acted as a conduit for the YMCA as far as bonding and funding which allowed them to get a better interest rate. One of the requirements by the county was that we receive an annual audit. They are in good financial standings based on the audit. At the last Finance meeting they received the Brookside census of the newly created Admissions Coordinator. The budget called for 25 Medicare beds, which are the highest paying beds, this year to date the average is 26.1. Private pay was budgeted at 46 but is averaging 40.4. Medicaid was budgeted at 82 and is at 84.5. Overall the targeted revenue through June 30 should be 50% of our budget we were at 49.6 so we are very close to budget in terms of revenues. Kenosha County is required to purchase all the delinquent tax certificates from all the municipalities in Kenosha County. The certificates outstanding last year were 3600 totaling 7.9 million in delinquencies. The certificates that were issued this year were 3400 however the delinquency number has went up to 8.1 million. At the bond rating trip there was a presentation regarding the analysis of the delinquencies. What that analysis concludes is that within three years we collect approximately 98-99% of all those delinquencies. When the delinquencies turn around our general fund should increase. The Public Safety budget is within budget. They had contingency dollars available. At the last couple of county board meetings there have been reports from laid off employees. It is troubling for him to see this and hopes both sides get together and resolve this.

At this time Todd Battle from KABA gave an Economic Update.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

29. Carolyn Budwick to serve on the Kenosha County Library System Board.

Chairman Molinaro referred County Executive Appointment 29 to Finance Committee.

30. Cynthia Johnson to serve as the Director of the Kenosha County Division of Health.

Chairman Molinaro referred County Executive Appointment 30 to Human Services Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolutions - one reading.

54. From Finance Committee regarding Initial Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds in an Amount of Approximately \$7,325,000 and Providing for the Sale of the Bonds.

It was moved by Supervisor Clark to adopt Resolution 54. Seconded by Supervisor J. Gentz.

Roll call vote passed unanimously.

55. From Finance Committee regarding Resolution Awarding the Sale of \$12,325,000 Taxable General Obligation Promissory Notes (Build America Bonds - Direct Payment)

It was moved by Supervisor Clark to adopt Resolution 55. Seconded by Supervisor Singer.

Roll call vote passed unanimously.

56. From Finance Committee Awarding the Sale of \$10,435,000 Taxable General Obligation Public Safety Building Bonds (Build America Bonds - Direct Payment)

It was moved by Supervisor Clark to adopt Resolution 56. Seconded by Supervisor Singer.

Roll call vote passed unanimously.

57. From Highway and Parks Committee a Resolution to Approve the Appointment of Roger Johnson to the Kenosha county Traffic Safety Commission.

It was moved by Supervisor Elverman to adopt Resolution 57. Seconded by Supervisor Underhill.

Motion carried.

58. From Highway and Parks and Finance Committee a Resolution to Discontinue a Portion of Springbrook Court.

It was moved by Supervisor Elverman to adopt Resolution 58. Seconded by Clark.

Motion carried.

59. From Highway and Parks and Finance Committee a Resolution to Transfer Ownership of a Portion of Springbrook Court Right of Way.

It was moved by Supervisor Elverman to adopt Resolution 59. Seconded by Supervisor Clark.

Motion carried.

60. From Land Use Committee regarding Request to Approve the Appointment of Attorney Dean R. Troyer to the Kenosha County Zoning Board of Adjustments.

It was moved by Supervisor Esposito to adopt Resolution 60. Seconded by Supervisor Decker.

COMMUNICATION

9. From George E. Melcher, Director of Planning & Development regarding future rezonings.

Chairman Molinaro referred Communication 9 to the Land Use Committee.

CLAIMS

15. Lea M. Koos - injured in motor vehicle accident.

16. Edward J. Bednar - injured in motor vehicle accident.

17. Thomas Vitrano - denied medical treatment while incarcerated

Chairman Molinaro referred Claims 15 - 17 to Corporation Counsel.

It was moved by Supervisor Noble to approve the September 7, 2010 minutes.
Seconded by Supervisor Singer.

It was moved by Supervisor Clark to adjourn. Seconded by Supervisor Michel.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Prepared by: Edie LaMothe
Deputy Clerk
Submitted by: Mary Schuch-Krebs
County Clerk