

WILL COUNTY BOARD
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

September 10, 2009

8:30 a.m.

302 North Chicago Street
County Board Committee Room
Joliet IL 60432

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gould called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Members: Blackburn, Babich, May, Riley, Seiler and Gould.

Absent were Members: Konicki.

Also Present: Stewart and Friefeld.

Present from State's Attorney's Office: M. Tatroe.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Friefeld led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Seiler, second by Mr. Babich, to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2009 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING: Re: Newly Created Public Swimming Facility & Bathing Beach

Ordinance

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Ms. May, to open the public hearing at 8:34 a.m. On a roll call vote, Babich, May, Riley, Seiler and Gould voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mrs. Bilotta stated we have scheduled operator's training for October 8 throughout the county. We have already had 20 individuals sign up.

Mr. Blackburn arrived at this juncture.

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mrs. Riley, to close the public hearing at 8:35 a.m. On a roll call vote, Blackburn, Babich, May, Riley, Seiler and Gould voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

Approval of Newly Created Public Swimming Facility & Bathing Beach Ordinance

A motion was made by Mrs. Riley, second by Mr. Blackburn, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda establishing the newly created Public Swimming Facility & Bathing Beach Ordinance. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

PUBLIC HEARING: Re: Amending Water Well Permit & Water Supply Ordinance

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mrs. Riley, to open the public hearing at 8:35 a.m. On a roll call vote, Blackburn, Babich, May, Riley, Seiler and Gould voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mrs. Bilotta stated we are updating the existing ordinance; there are only minor changes.

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mrs. Riley, to close the public hearing at 8:36 a.m. On a roll call vote, Blackburn, Babich, May, Riley, Seiler and Gould voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mrs. Johannsen questioned the effective dates of both ordinances.

Mrs. Bilotta replied they would become effective once they are approved by the board.

Approval of Amendments to Water Well Permit & Water Supply Ordinance

A motion was made by Ms. Seiler, second by Mrs. Riley, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda amending the Water Well Permit & Water Supply Ordinance. On a roll call vote, Blackburn, Babich, May, Riley, Seiler and Gould voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

Other Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Transfer of Funds in T.B. Clinic's Budget

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, second by Mrs. Riley, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda transferring funds in the amount of \$,1045.81 within the TB Clinic's budget. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Sunny Hill Replacement Hires

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Blackburn, to place the replacement hires for Sunny Hill on the County Board Agenda. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Discussion Re: Potential Services Overlap for Community Health Center

Mr. Cicero provided some background information and an update on the concerns they have regarding an application for federal funds to contemplate another FQHC on the east side of Joliet. These centers are designated a service area that they are granted approval to work within; it is the location where the majority of the patients reside. The Will County Community Health Center has a designated service area. The request by this outside entity to seek a second location in Will County basically overlaps the service area that we are responsible for. We become concerned when that happens because you are basically taking patients away from one entity to go to another entity. You are not really increasing access to anyone; you could end up diluting out the population and hurting the one entity that is servicing them – that is our concern. The Governing Council is concerned enough they are notifying the federal government through HRSA asking them to please give serious consideration about competing entities. We are asking for support from council members and the Board of Health to assist us with writing some letters to Washington. Ultimately this decision lies within the federal government

Ms. Coffey indicated the concern is this could be a major impact to the center since 64% of our patients come from the zip code where a new facility is requested. We feel we are managing the patient needs.

Mr. Cicero stated we are the only entity in Will County. When these concerns are raised at the federal level, they put a halt on the process and probably will ask for all parties to get together and work out some options. We are here to protect our entity that services our patients; we do not want something to happen to our center that could hurt what we do and not allow us to continue.

Mr. Gould asked how this came about with utilizing Silver Cross.

Mr. Cicero answered Silver Cross approached us in late 2007 with the idea of leaving some type of primary care. They approached the Board of Health talking about if that was an option for us to consider as an alternative site. At the same time we were working with St. Joseph's and they also made the proposal to us. Every hospital would like to have a federally qualified health center right next to them. We also met with Bolingbrook and discussed the needs in the northern part of the county. We need some type of data driven study regarding going forward with alternative sites.

Mrs. Riley questioned the motivation by Silver Cross.

Mr. Cicero replied there were concerns with relocating to New Lenox and part of the discussion was that there would be some type of primary care left on that location; part of their certificate approval was to leave some level of care on that campus.

Ms. May asked how much grant money is available.

Ms. Coffey answered there are about 618 health centers that are eligible to apply for funding.

Mr. Cicero indicated Aunt Martha's applied for the same grant that we applied for; this is capital infrastructure money. Our application was over \$2 million.

Ms. Coffey commented Aunt Martha's has been fairly successful getting grants. Another significant issue is that many of the services we provide are funded through the county. Those services are not required of an FQHC so the county has been supporting those.

Mr. Cicero stated there are large counties in Illinois that have multiple players involved in this business. We recognize that Will County is large enough that this would not be an issue if it were in another area of the county. Our ultimate goal is to see patients whether we do it or someone else – it is providing services to the community. Our major concern is the proximity to where we are now. We are asking for letters of support from the County Executive's Office.

A motion was made by Mrs. Riley, second by Mr. Blackburn, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda in support of the Community Health Center regarding potential overlap of services. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Other Business

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Riley, second by Mr. Babich, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 a.m. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.