

WILL COUNTY BOARD
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

February 11, 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 8:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent were Members: Seiler.

Also Present: Bilotta, Moustis and Friefeld.

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

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. May led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Riley, second by Mrs. May, to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2009 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

OLD BUSINESS

Update Re: NACo Drug Prescription Card

Mr. Cicero stated they had distributed 40,000 cards out to various municipalities and locations that have shown interest in being a distribution point. He encouraged any county department or facility that wants to be a distribution point to contact us and we will set you up.

Mr. Blackburn arrived at this juncture.

Mr. Gould indicated the VAC is interested.

Mr. Cicero stated he will contact them.

Mr. Gould commented 40,000 is tremendous at this point.

Other Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Ordinance Licensing Sale of Tobacco Products in Will County

Ms. Leigh and students from Plainfield Central High School addressed the committee to discuss an ordinance for licensing the sale of tobacco products in Will County. The students provided information regarding the use of tobacco products by underage youths. They presented a penalties chart: \$25 for the first offense, \$50 for the second offense and \$100 for the third offense.

Mr. Bilotta arrived at this juncture.

Mr. Gould thanked the students for their effort and preparation. We will follow this along; the legislative and policy committee tabled this issue. He suggested this committee do the same.

Mrs. Riley commented this was an excellent presentation. You should be very proud of our youth.

A motion was made by Ms. Konicki, second by Mrs. Riley, to table the issue until the next meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Exelon Generation

Mr. Dempsey, Communications Manager for Exelon gave a presentation to keep everyone updated on the process at Braidwood regarding the starting of a nuclear fuel storage program. He also provided a map on the tritium remediation.

Mr. Babich arrived at this juncture.

Resolution Opposing GNEP

Ms. Konicki provided background information regarding the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership, which involves a nuclear fuel recycling center.

Mr. Gould asked if there is a site within Will County that they are considering.

Ms. Konicki answered it is just over the border in Grundy County. Many communities have passed a resolution opposing this.

Mr. Friefeld indicated the committee needs to understand the GNEP program. It is the transportation of the spent fuel from all over the world. This issue has been dead twice before; it may have a third life – one argument is that it is jobs. You may want to consider this from a policy perspective. Regarding the CN; there will be hazardous materials on the trains. This would be all forms of transportation – roads, rails and barges. In the end, how much of that do

we want impacting the residents of Will County? He suggested amending the resolution to include waterways.

Ms. Headington, an environmental activist, addressed the committee in opposition of the GNEP program.

A motion was made by Ms. Konicki, second by Mrs. May, to amend the resolution in the 8th Whereas to include waterways. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Ms. Konicki, second by Mrs. Riley, to place the resolution, as amended, opposing the consideration to design, build or operate an advanced fuel cycle research facility at Illinois sites. On a roll call vote, Blackburn, Babich, Konicki, May, Riley and Gould voting yes. MOTION CARRIES.

Request to Appropriate Grant Funds in Coroner's Budget

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, second by Mrs. Riley, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda appropriating grant funds in the amount of \$4,415 from the Illinois Department of Public Health into the Coroner's budget. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request to Place on File Coroner's 2007 Annual Report

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, second by Mrs. Riley, to place the Coroner's 2007 Annual Report on the County Board Agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Intergovernmental Agreement with Village of Mokena for Recyclables

Drop-Off Center

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mrs. Riley, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda authorizing the County Executive to execute and intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Mokena for a recycling drop-off center. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Regional Superintendent of Schools Quarterly Report

A motion was made by Mrs. Riley, second by Mr. Blackburn, to place the Regional Superintendent of Schools Quarterly Report on the County Board Agenda. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Sunny Hill Replacement Hires

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

**PUBLIC HEARING: Proposed Ordinance Regulating Open Burning within
Unincorporated Will County**

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mrs. Riley, to open the public hearing at 9:25 a.m. regarding the proposed Ordinance regulating open burning within unincorporated Will County. On a roll call vote, Blackburn, Babich, Konicki, May, Riley and Gould voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mrs. Riley clarified the guidelines were 50 feet from any structure.

Mrs. Tatroe stated it had been 40 feet and the committee decided to change it.

Mrs. Riley commented there are pockets of unincorporated areas in Naperville in a pretty urban area. Fifty feet does not seem that far away.

Mrs. Tatroe indicated state law does prohibit open burning in unincorporated areas 1000 feet from any municipality that has an ordinance banning open burning.

Mr. Hartke with the Waste Services Department stated they have been given some guidance from the state that it is difficult to enforce or may be unenforceable at this point. We have not taken any violations to the State's Attorney or the Attorney General in the last 10 years because of the guidance we have received that we cannot enforce that rule.

Mrs. Tatroe commented you constantly have the changing municipal boundary; that is quite often an issue.

Mr. Babich asked if we could have a permit that people would have to buy to burn leaves.

Mrs. Tatroe answered the EPA may require that any one who is holding fire contact the fire district; she can review that.

Mrs. Rozak questioned if this is for anyone in unincorporated or is there a restriction for an acre or less. If it is for anyone, she is adamantly opposed to it.

Mr. Moustis arrived at this juncture.

Mr. Gould replied they can burn on their property; it restricts days and times on which they can burn.

Mrs. Rozak stated that is why people live in unincorporated because they do not want the restrictions. When you have people with large acre lots, she does not agree with it.

Mr. Gould indicated it is difficult in trying to craft an ordinance when some of the county is rural and some is urban. In surveying other areas we found they restrict days and times in other counties.

Mrs. Tatroe stated you have a deputy going to the site and telling him to make the determination that if it is more than 10 acres they can burn.

Mr. Gould commented you also find in the southern portion there are small lots that are unincorporated but heavily wooded where people burn.

Mrs. Riley asked if they could be grandfathered in.

Mrs. Tatroe answered again you are having the deputy out there making a determination.

Mr. Moustis stated he represents a district that is very urban in some areas but yet very rural in others. Our current ordinance addresses burning in more urban areas by all the set backs from buildings and property lines. You cannot do that unless you have a fairly decent size parcel to accommodate all the setbacks for the burn. If you feel that is not working, he suggested looking at the set backs. Until the township started a leaf program people burned under the current ordinance but it was never enforced; the deputies would tell them to put it out. Without a strict enforcement mechanism it is rather meaningless.

Mr. Gould commented we surveyed all the townships and Frankfort is the only one who owned a machine. The question was brought up if we were going to put an unfunded mandate on the other townships.

Mr. Moustis feels the current ordinance is adequate. He suggested looking at the current setbacks; that gets you to what you are trying to accomplish.

Mr. Blackburn stated he feels it is still important to have a time restriction; a leaf fire with dry leaves will burn within a couple of hours. The problem is the smoldering fires; a time restriction will help with that. It needs to be specified for a certain time.

Mr. Moustis commented that is not unreasonable. We say you need to attend the fire but it still becomes an enforcement issue.

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mrs. Riley, to close the public hearing at 9:39 a.m. On a roll call vote, Blackburn, Babich, Konicki, May, Riley and Gould voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Blackburn, to table the issue until the next meeting. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Other Business

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Blackburn, to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 a.m. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.