

WILL COUNTY BOARD
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

February 10, 2011

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: Babich, Hart, McPhillips, Seiler, Stewart and Gould.

Absent were Members: Argoudelis.

Also Present: Will County Board Deputy Chief of Staff Melissa Johannsen, Dr. Leroy Schields, Health Department Executive Director John Cicero, Director of Environmental Health Elizabeth Bilotta and Will County Executive Director of Operations Sharon Cullen.

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

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

Sharon Cullen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Seiler, second by Mr. Stewart, to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2011 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Sunny Hill Replacement Hires

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Stewart, to approve the hires. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request to Place on File Regional Superintendent of Schools Quarterly Report

A motion was made by Mr. Stewart, second by Mr. Babich, to place the report on file. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Approval of Intergovernmental Agreements with Village of Godley, City of Braidwood and Village of Homer Glen for the Provision of Animal Control Services

Dr. Schields explained there has not been a fee increase for the municipalities in three years, and Will County Animal Control is trying to keep expenses to a minimum. As a result of the new agreements, by the time the contracts expire, Animal Control will have operated for six years without a fee increase. The cost of providing the services is rising, however. From a financial standpoint, the department probably would be in better shape if the contracts weren't in place.

Mr. Gould asked if Animal Control is able to cover its costs.

Dr. Schields replied it was a difficult question to answer. Animal Control is paid a flat fee for each animal picked up by the department, but then the animal might be held for 10 days. It might cost \$100 to hold them for that time period while the flat fee for the pickup is \$100. In those cases, the department has lost money. If an Animal Control picks up an animal, and the owner immediately claims it, the department is not affected financially. There is quite a bit of overtime for the officers because many of the calls come during the evening hours or on weekends.

Mr. Babich asked if the contracts could be opened at some point and an increase in fees negotiated.

Dr. Schields answered that is not a provision of the contracts. Animal Control can cancel the agreements with a 30- or 60-day written notice. Some of the municipalities have had serious financial problems and at times have not been able to pay for the service, such as Godley. During the time period that the village couldn't pay, Animal Control continued providing the service.

Mr. Babich asked for an explanation of the six-year time period.

Dr. Schields explained the department is at the end of a three-year contract with the municipalities, and the new contract also will last for three years. The fees in the new contract are the same as the ones charged under the old contract.

Ms. Smith asked if there had been an increase in the calls for service.

Dr. Schields answered the municipalities are not calling Animal Control as often as in the past.

Mr. Stewart asked how many employees worked for the department.

Dr. Schields replied there are four Animal Control officers.

A motion was made by Ms. McPhillips, second by Mr. Babich, to place a resolution on the County Board agenda authorizing the intergovernmental agreements with the Village of Godley, the City of Braidwood and the Village of Homer Glen for the provision of animal control services. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Public Hearing Re: Proposed Amendments to the Sewage Treatment & Disposal

Ordinance

A motion was made by Mr. Stewart, second by Ms. Seiler, to open the Public Hearing at 8:39 a.m. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Gould asked if there were any members of the public who wanted to comment on the proposed amendments to the Sewage Treatment and Disposal Ordinance.

A motion was made by Ms. McPhillips, second by Ms. Seiler, to close the Public Hearing at 8:40 a.m. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Gould stated some of the committee members expressed concern during last month's meeting about a proposed amendment related to the construction of new buildings and the proximity of available water and sewer lines.

Mr. Cicero noted the language had been taken from the state code and added to the ordinance. The State's Attorney recommended the removal of that particular section from the ordinance; if the Health Department encounters the situation, the state code must be followed. All other portions of the ordinance remain as discussed during last month's meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Stewart, second by Ms. McPhillips, to place a resolution on the County Board agenda to revise the Sewage Treatment and Disposal Ordinance. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Other New Business

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Hart, second by Ms. McPhillips, to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 a.m.