

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

**February 3, 2009**

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

Roll call was taken.

Present: Supervisors Grady, Zerban, Kessler, Rose, Huff, Kubicki, Hallmon, Marks, Gentz, Modory, Faraone, Ronald Johnson, Michel, O'Day, Singer, Nudo, Moore, Molinaro, Morton, Jackson, Clark, Noble, West, Roger Johnson, Breunig, Haas, Elverman, Ekornaas.

Absent: None.

Present: 28. Absent: 0.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Anthony Kennedy 4223 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated he attended a meeting which talked about the investment of transit and the payoff that investment of transit brings to community. There is a need for Regional Transportation Authority. Those areas that have a Regional Transportation Authority really have the ability to bring in those dollars to make those investments in transit. Those areas that don't, are lagging behind. So he urged the members of the County Board to continue their support for Kenosha/Racine/Milwaukee (KRM) Commuter Line.

Jeffrey Cassity, 4921 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated he felt the use of the stimulus funds for the KRM is ridiculous. In order for any economic benefit to be considered stimulus, you basically have to have the project "shovel ready" at the time the funds are made available. He thinks the KRM project wouldn't be ready for another two years because of the required engineering, purchase of right of way, etc. If we are going to seek these economic stimulus funds, we should target them to programs in the community that would make a difference to those that are unemployed, or are having difficult economic times. He asked the board to defeat tonight's resolution on the KRM and to look for projects that would actually provide economic stimulus to the Kenosha area.

Bill Bensmen, 2151 N. Riverboat Road, Milwaukee, stated he was here on behalf of the Creative Community Sprinkler in Milwaukee, which has organized a group of young professionals and entrepreneurs who are all in favor of the RTA's recommendations. Being a creative young professional, he feels it is important to have a regional transit system that is in place that will link people to jobs and would also allow people to live and work anywhere in the region. He believes we need a dedicated source of funding for transit, which should come from an increase in sales tax and the RTA should manage the funding.

Amy Schneider, 1533 112<sup>th</sup> Street., she is a board member of Transit Now which is a group that is committed to development of commuter rail or KRM. She applauded Supervisor Rose and the Legislative Committee for their proactive effort to gain federal stimulus funding for KRM in an investment for job creation and economic prosperity. She also urged the supervisors to support the resolution to use federal stimulus funding to invest in KRM commuter rail as highly effective means to create jobs, to connect workers and employers, reduce our dependence on oil, spur sustainable economic development and strengthen our economic base in Kenosha County. A study by the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee Institute for Policy and Research found that KRM will during construction, create over 3,160 jobs and have a \$425,000,000 impact on

our area economy. During operation and maintenance, it will create 126 jobs and have a \$24,000,000 annual impact on our economy.

Lou Ruganni, 4526 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated he works at a radio station and the morning host put out some polls. One was in March 2008, and at that point 84% of the respondents supported the KRM line. Last week the same host started another poll, 92% supported the KRM line. It is crucial to get the RTA to find funding for this, and when they do it will take Kenosha, Racine and Milwaukee transit off the property taxes and put them on sales taxes which every visitor of Kenosha will pay.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE CHAIRMAN**

Chairman Clark asked the Committee Chair-people to make sure the committee minutes are getting to the County Clerk's Office and on the County's web site.

Chairman Clark presented a County Executive Proclamation to NAACP. This week represents the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

#### **SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

Supervisor Elverman reported Highway & Parks received a report from a traffic engineering firm which came up with many more safety recommendations to add to HWY C. Gary Sipsma is looking into the feasibility and cost of some of these recommendations. The committee approved a resolution for a Jurisdictional Transfer Agreement between the State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation and Kenosha County. It would be for each site where there are ramps in Kenosha County to I-94. This allows the DOT to reconfigure these ramps and it takes the maintenance and upkeep of those stretches of roads out of our hands, but still allows Kenosha County to be paid for plowing and mowing. He also stated that they are down to two candidates for the Director of Golf Operations, and hopes to have someone in place by February 16<sup>th</sup>. Supervisors Elverman and Noble attended the County Highway Conference. Every county is very interested in the Stimulus Package. Speakers reported Wisconsin will be in line for between 2 billion and 3.5 billion dollars. The largest fear in the Counties Association is with the States new record deficit of 5.7 billion dollars. The money that will come down to the counties may be seriously affected by the state's budget problems. He also found out that Kenosha County is in the top 6 counties for how well we do with fuel procurement.

Supervisor Huff reported after an 8 month study by the Legislative Committee, they are in the final stages of presenting their findings regarding the sex offender ordinance to the State Legislators. They are not recommending an ordinance at this time; they are going to recommend changes within the state law. He also reported the Contracting Policy went through the Legislative Committee and is currently with the County Executive and his administration and will be back before the committee for approval and then before the county board for passage. The Ethics Policy is also with the County Executive and his administration, it will then come back before the committee and then to the county board. Sustainable living is still with the city, and he will keep the board updated on that. The Legislative Committee has decided not to recommend a county wide referendum or resolution regarding the mute swan issue. Instead they will present a letter to the State Legislators, DNR and other appropriate people that they are going to protest the shooting of adult mute swans. The Pickens's Plan was tabled. The WCA Legislators will be coming before the committee in February and they'll find out what their plans are for the state budget. In March the State Legislators will be at their meeting and he encourages everyone to attend and at that time they will present the Legislators with their findings regarding the sex offender ordinance, mute swan & other issues they have been working on for the past several months.

Supervisor Ekornaas attended the December meeting of the WCA Board of Directors. Executive Director Mark O'Connell and the President of the WCA went to Washington to lobby for stimulus funds to come directly to the counties instead of the state.

The Governor and his staff are keeping their plans for the budget very close to the vest, but they did hint that revenue sharing with the counties may go away and that the counties may have to consider raising funds with the sales tax. Walworth County notified WCA that they are dropping out, they are now an eleven member board and they don't have enough people to staff committees so they act as a committee of the whole and they don't have time to attend any events outside of the county. Lee Holloway, Chairman of Milwaukee County Board reported that the Milwaukee County Transit System will be falling completely apart come 2010 unless they can get an infusion of tax dollars which would take 1½% sales tax to just make them whole. Milwaukee will not even consider RTA until they make their transit system work the way it should. The Board of Directors passed a motion to lobby the legislature for legislative authority for all 72 counties to raise sales tax by another 1/2%, and an additional 1% for Milwaukee County for their transit difficulties.

Supervisor Breunig stated the Extension Education Committee received 110 nominations for the Youth in Governance Program. They will be meeting to go over how they're going to put the program together and work on the interview process.

#### **COUNTY EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS**

30. Mary Sue Lux, D.V.M. to serve on the Kenosha County Board of Health.

31. Sharon Acerbi to serve on the Kenosha County Library System Board.

Chairman Clark referred County Executive Appointment 30 to Human Services and Appointment 31 to the Finance Committee.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Ordinance - second reading - two required

##### **ORDINANCE 27**

27. From Judiciary & Law, Legislative, and Finance Committees an Ordinance to Repeal and Recreate Section 4.40 (1) (a) of the Municipal Code of Kenosha County Entitled "Jail Maintenance Costs."

It was moved by Supervisor Michel to adopt Ordinance 27. Seconded by Supervisor Huff.

Motion carried.

Resolutions - one reading

##### **RESOLUTION 101**

101. From Supervisor Rose and the Legislative Committee a Resolution in support of Federal Funding of Commuter Rail between Chicago and Milwaukee as part of the proposed Federal Economic Stimulus Program.

It was moved by Supervisor Huff to adopt Resolution 101. Seconded by Supervisor Michel.

Roll call vote.

Ayes: Supervisors Grady, Zerban, Kessler, Rose, Huff, Kubicki, Hallmon, Marks, Gentz, Modory, Faraone, Ronald Johnson, Michel, O'Day, Singer, Nudo, Moore, Molinaro, Morton, Jackson, Clark, Noble, West, Roger Johnson, Elverman.

Nays: Supervisor Haas, Breunig, Ekornaas.

Ayes: 25. Nays: 3.

Motion carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ordinance - first reading - two required

28. From the Legislative Committee an Ordinance to amend Section 3.01(1)(g) of the Municipal Code of Kenosha County Pertaining to the Filling of Vacancies in the Office of Kenosha County Board Supervisor.

Resolutions - one reading

**RESOLUTION 111**

111. From Supervisor Molinaro and the Legislative Committee a Resolution in support of the planning and development of Economic Development Strategies to further Wind and Sustainable Energy in Kenosha County.

It was moved by Huff to adopt Resolution 111. Seconded by Supervisor Michel.

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 112**

112. From the Finance Committee an Initial Resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$2,735,000 and providing for the sale of the bonds.

It was moved by Vice-chair Faraone to adopt Resolution 112. Seconded by Supervisor Rose.

Roll call vote passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 113**

113. From the Human Services Committee a Resolution to approve the appointment of Jack Rose to the Kenosha County Aging and Disability Resource Center Board (ADRCB).

**RESOLUTION 114**

114. From the Human Services Committee a Resolution to approve the appointment of Dr. James Foster to the Kenosha County Board of Health.

**RESOLUTION 115**

115. From the Human Services Committee a Resolution to approve the appointment of Loran Hein to the Kenosha County Commission on Aging.

**RESOLUTION 116**

116. From the Human Services Committee a Resolution to approve the appointment of Norma Carter to the Kenosha County Commission on Aging.

**RESOLUTION 117**

117. From the Human Services Committee a Resolution to approve the appointment of Sandra Beth to the Kenosha County Commission on Aging.

**RESOLUTION 118**

118. From the Human Services Committee a Resolution to approve the appointment of Ross Boone to the Kenosha County Commission on Aging.

**RESOLUTION 119**

119. From the Human Services Committee a Resolution to approve the appointment of Supervisor Jennifer Jackson to the Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency Board.

**RESOLUTION 120**

120. From the Human Services Committee a Resolution to approve the appointment of Supervisor Mark Modory to the Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency Board

**RESOLUTION 121**

121. From the Human Services Committee a Resolution to approve the appointment of Louise Principe to the Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency Board.

It was moved by Supervisor Kubicki to adopt Resolutions 113 - 121. Seconded by Supervisor Rose.

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 122**

122. From Supervisors Molinaro and Rose a Resolution regarding Federal Economic Stimulus Legislation.

It was moved by Supervisor Molinaro to adopt Resolution 122. Seconded by Supervisor Rose.

It was moved by Supervisor Singer to refer Resolution 122 to committee. Motion dies for lack of a second.

Roll call vote on Resolution 122.

Ayes: Supervisors Grady, Zerban, Kessler, Rose, Huff, Kubicki, Hallmon, Marks, Gentz, Modory, Faraone, Ronald Johnson, Michel, O'Day, Nudo, Moore, Molinaro, Morton, Jackson, Clark, Noble, West, Roger Johnson, Breunig, Haas, Elverman, Ekornaas.

Nay: Supervisor Singer.

Motion carried.

**CLAIMS**

40. Gloria Mayer - use of excessive force and denied medical treatment while being arrested.

41. Ron Henning - mail box damage.

Chairman Clark referred Claim 40 & 41 to Corporation Counsel.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Faraone to approve the January 6, 2009 minutes. Seconded by Supervisor Haas.

Motion carried.

It was moved by Supervisor Gentz to adjourn. Seconded by Supervisor Kessler.

Motion carried.

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