

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

**January 20, 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, Hallmon, Gentz, Modory, Faraone, Ronald Johnson, Michel, O'Day, Singer, Moore, Molinaro, Morton, Jackson, Clark, Noble, West, Roger Johnson, Breunig, Haas, Elverman, Ekornaas.

Absent: Supervisors Kubicki, Marks, Nudo.

Present: 25. Absent: 3.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Nick Paczkowski, 8200 75<sup>th</sup> Street, is a Vietnam veteran and a veteran in the United States Coast Guard. He stated the CVSOS needs to reach and inform veterans of all eras and ages. The duties can be as simple as making and filing copies of separation and discharge papers to requesting replacement awards and military records. It can also be as complex and deciphering the difference between service connected and non-service connected disability. A few of things a CVSOS must have a working knowledge of are; DIC benefits, VA Health Care System, the claims of adjudication process, the appeals system, correct preparation and requirements for filing a claim, correcting military records, loans, grants, application to a Veterans Home, etc. After reading the article in the Kenosha News, about Mr. Greene, it is apparent he has had a good military career; however there was no mention of veteran's organizations, interest in veteran's issues or specialized knowledge of veteran's services and benefits. Mr. Greene is a retired Lt. Colonel, intelligent, well educated and purposeful in his thinking, which are attributes to a military officer. However, for those who work in the veteran's community will attest, the military and the VA are as different as apples and oranges when it comes to both compiling and sharing information. He thinks Mr. Kreuser believed that a military career and working with the veteran's community would be synonymous. He feels the job should be filled by the personal they have at their disposal right now.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE CHAIRMAN**

Chairman Clark stated the study in the I.T. Department is ongoing. There is going to be a work group and a steering committee put together. Supervisor Singer has been asked to serve on the work group as a county board representative.

**SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

Supervisor Elverman reported there are interviews set up for the Director of Golf Operations, in which 72 applications were received.

Supervisor Breunig stated today was the last day for high school students to turn in their nominations for the Youth in Governance. She also stated she challenged the department to go paperless for the Extension Education Committee meetings and they have done it. She would like to challenge the chairmen of the other committees to that with their departments also.

Vice-chair Faraone stated the Finance Committee received a report from Finance Director Dave Geersten on the status of the County's general Fund. The preliminary General Fund Analysis projects that the General Fund will increase \$900,000 from \$8.2 million in 2007 to \$9.1 million at year end 2008. The major items which had a positive impact on the general fund where \$2.6 million of reserve replenishment, \$488,000 higher than expected Brookside Intergovernmental Transfer Revenue, \$872,000 unplanned Human Services WIMCR Revenue and \$1,000,000 of anticipated health insurance surplus. The major items which are having a negative impact are \$550,000 of reserves used in the 2009 budget, \$300,000 projected shortfall in Workers Compensation, \$370,000 increase in outstanding tax delinquencies and a \$600,000 shortfall in meeting our vacancy adjustment. The Finance Committee is also working on a comprehensive Debt Management Policy. The dept policy will set forth the parameters for issuing debt and managing outstanding debt, and will provide guidance on the timing and purposes for which debt will be issued, types and amounts of permissible debt, methods of sales that may be used and structural features that may be incorporated.

Supervisor Moore stated the Administration Committee approved the reorganization of the Golf Operation the night before. He also gave an update on the non-represented employee evaluations for 2008. There were 160 employees who reached their anniversary date, 22 were sworn so there was no step increase, 28 were at the top of their pay range, 104 received step increases, 2 did not receive a step increase due to low evaluations and 4 are in process. He reported that Kenosha County is no different than our peers in terms of risks we are exposed to. Our Risk Manager, Jim Olson is active in WMMIC, Wisconsin Municipal Mutual Insurance Company and they are developing some control plans and best practices to use in regard to risk management. He also stated they are in negotiations with 4 represented groups. The Administration Committee has heard the County Boards concerns in light of a poor economy and has asked our administrative negotiating team to be transparent in terms of the boards concerns in this area.

Supervisor Jackson reported she attended the Emergency Services Network, Emergency Food and Shelter Program board meeting. Since Kenosha County's unemployment rate is higher than the state average, we are now eligible to apply for the Mass Food and Shelter Grant. It looks like a request of \$190,000 will go in towards that grant and they will find out in February or March if it will be received. A grant was received for 1000 short term jobs for the Census Bureau late February or March. Later there will be some data entry positions that will happen in June and July.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ordinances - first reading - two required

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.'

Resolutions - one reading

103. From the Highway & Parks and Finance Committees a Resolution to grant a permit for a pedestrian/bike path connection to the South Bike Trail to the Village of Pleasant Prairie.

It was moved by Supervisor Elverman to adopt Resolution 103. Seconded by Vice-chair Faraone.

Motion carried.

104. From Highway & Parks and Finance Committees regarding Emergency Purchase of Snow Plow Blades for 2008-2009 Winter Season.

It was moved by Supervisor Elverman to adopt Resolution 104. Seconded by Vice-chair Faraone.

Motion carried.

105. From the Human Services Committee a Resolution to approve the appointment of Derrell Greene as Director of the Division of Veterans Services.

It was moved by Supervisor Rose to adopt Resolution 105. Seconded by Supervisor Kessler.

Motion carried.

106. From Judiciary & Law Committee regarding Probationary Cabaret License for Sit 'n' Bull.

It was moved by Supervisor Michel to adopt Resolution 106. Seconded by Supervisor Huff.

Motion carried.

107. From Judiciary & Law and Finance Committees regarding Temporary FTE Increase in the Classification of Sergeant.

It was moved by Supervisor Michel to adopt Resolution 107. Seconded by Vice-chair Faraone.

Roll call vote.

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

Nays: Supervisors Huff, Ronald Johnson.

Ayes: 23. Nays: 2

Motion carried.

108. From Judiciary & Law and Finance Committees regarding Request for waiver of competitive bid process for Hazardous Device Unit Wireless Robotic Upgrade.

It was moved by Supervisor Michel to adopt Resolution 108. Seconded by Vice-chair Faraone.

Motion carried.

109. From Judiciary & Law and Finance Committees regarding AAA of Wisconsin Safety Vest Grant.

It was moved by Supervisor Michel to adopt Resolution 109. Seconded by Vice-chair Faraone.

Roll call vote passed unanimously.

110. From Judiciary & Law and Finance Committees regarding BOTS - Traffic Enforcement Grants.

It was moved by Supervisor Michel to adopt Resolution 110. Seconded by Vice-chair Faraone.

Roll call vote passed unanimously.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

15. From George E. Melcher Director of Planning and Development, regarding future rezonings.

Chairman Clark referred Communication 15 to Land Use Committee.

## **CLAIMS**

39. Marsha Cheney - mailbox damage.

Chairman Clark referred Claim 39 to Corporation Counsel.

It was moved by Supervisor Elverman to approve the January 6, 2009 minutes. Seconded by Supervisor Huff.

Motion carried.

## **SUPERVISOR COMMENTS**

Chairman Clark stated he feels there is not one supervisor in this room that doesn't care about Kenosha County. There were things that were said and some follow up things that were written in the paper and he takes criticism of the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors personally. When he was a new supervisor, he received a lot of advice from the members of the county board and community leaders and he learned that you have to earn respect, it's not a right. His goals, values and objectives never changed, but his approach did. He is very proud of the accomplishments they were able to do as a team. It was said that some supervisors come to the meeting unprepared. He feels that everyone comes to the meeting prepared in different ways. Every supervisor brings to the meeting a different point of view, and he would challenge anybody to point out a time or an instance when this county board, committee or this county has passed a resolution without doing the proper due diligence. As a team, they get it right. He doesn't think anybody in the public should construe that this County Board is not prepared, that they don't do their homework. Another thing that stung a little bit is we have a newspaper that has an editor who has an opinion; this editor's opinion is that maybe this County Board doesn't do enough. At a previous meeting, Chairman Clark spoke about going on a bonding trip, and told how proud he was on what Kenosha County has done in this past year. That editor should consider that Kenosha County improved their bond rating. That didn't happen overnight, that happened by executing reserve policies, managing our debt, having budgets that come in, and showing responsibility along the way. Gordon Foods is an example of intergovernmental cooperation. We have a tentative agreement with the City for the Safety Building expansion and figured out a way to fund this to get the ball rolling. The relocation of the Medical Examiner is a situation that saves the taxpayers a lot of money. West End Park planning and initial development is moving forward, that didn't happen by sitting and doing nothing. The Legislative Committee is continuously looking at our policies and procedures and has revised the Ethic Ordinance. Waste Management, Golf Course reorganization, I.T. study, Hwy C's safety measures, \$400,000 grant for the bike path, bonding to stabilize our reserves and Budget Adoption are a few more things the board has been working on. Since 2004, on average Kenosha County's levy has been less than 3%. He would put that record up against anybody. During the meeting with Moody's, the analyst there stated that Kenosha County is a model for other counties to follow. This county has not been sitting still, and it's unfortunate we have an irresponsible editor that made a comment to the contrary. To the citizens, are you going to believe an analyst that analyzes governments everyday of their life, or are you going to take an opinion of an editor.

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

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

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