

**MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS  
THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2012  
2:00 P.M.  
LAKE IN THE HILLS VILLAGE HALL  
600 HARVEST GATE  
LAKE IN THE HILLS, IL 60156**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**A. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS (SIGN-IN SHEET)**

President Rick Mack, Chair of the McHenry County Council of Mayors, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. The meeting was held at the Lake in the Hills Village Hall located at 600 Harvest Gate in Lake in the Hills, Illinois. A quorum was in attendance. Attendance was as follows:

**Members Present:**

Rick Mack, Chair, Village of Ringwood  
Josh Blakemore, City of Marengo  
Fred Mullard, Village of Lake in the Hills  
Art Osten, Village of Fox River Grove  
Claudett Peters, Village of Johnsburg  
Rob Scardino, Village of Huntley  
Jon Schmitt, City of McHenry  
Jeannine Smith, Village of Prairie Grove  
Jeff Young McHenry County Division of Transportation

**Others Present:**

John Ambrose, Baxter and Woodman  
Jim Condon, TAI  
Mary L. Donner, Pace  
Steve Cieslica, TAI  
Gerardo Fierro, IDOT Local Roads  
Ted Hamilton, HR Green  
Mark Johnson, Ciorba Group  
Jeff Mawdsley, City of Crystal Lake  
Jason Osborn, McHenry County Division of Transportation  
Emily Pflagman, CMAP  
Andy Plummer, RTA  
Kevin Stallworth, IDOT  
Dave Van Camp, HR Green  
Chalen Daigle, McHenry County Council of Mayors

**B. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Chair Mack asked for a motion to approve the March 15, 2012 meeting agenda. *Mr. Osten moved for approval. Mr. Blakemore seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

**C. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 19, 2012**

Chair Mack asked for a motion to approve the January 19, 2012 meeting minutes. *Mr. Osten made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Young seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

**II. PROGRAM & AGENCY UPDATES**

**A. IDOT Highway Report**

Ms. Palmer was not at the meeting, but provided the IDOT status sheets with her contact information.

**B. RTA**

Mr. Plummer said that the RTA is trying to resolve the issue of tax dollars being moved away from northeastern Illinois. The RTA has drafted legislation (HB 3859) to help with this. He noted that the RTA had received bonding certification for their capital improvement program. The short term bonding will expire in June and will need to be extended for another three years.

Mr. Plummer touted the pre-tax transit benefit which is an important program to increase transit use. The program is applicable to vanpools and has great advantages for employers. Mr. Osten asked how the pre-tax program works. Mr. Plummer said that up to \$125 must be spent on a ticket; in turn the employer doesn't have to pay federal income tax on that \$125.

**C. McHenry County Division of Transportation**

Mr. Young provided the most recent McDOT Project Status Update. The Rakow Road project has been under construction most of the winter and estimated to be completed in November 2012. He also said that construction on the Blivin Street Bridge continued through the winter as well. Lastly, Mr. Young mentioned that the Virginia Road/IL 31/Klasen Road project will start this spring.

**D. McHenry County Division of Transportation 2040 Plan**

Mr. Osborn informed the Council on the recent activity with the McDOT 2040 Plan. Mr. Osborn explained the six goals of the Plan. Chair Mack asked about the schedule for the Plan. Mr. Osborn said the Plan will be presented to the County Board for approval in December. Ms. Smith asked about input on the Plan and Mr. Osborn said the County would be doing another big push this spring and summer for input. Input in the fall would be from macro public meetings.

**E. Pace**

Ms. Donner said that larger employers continue and can take advantage of the vanpool program and that Pace has two hybrid regular buses in Highland Park. Mr. Osten asked if Pace has reached out to McEDC and the Chambers of Commerce and Ms. Donner said yes.

**F. Metra**

Chair Mack said that in 2011 there were 82.7 million riders which is an increase of 1.6%. 2010-2011 were the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest years for ridership in history. He noted that Metra will begin their strategic plan this year and will identify projects for the next 10 years. Currently, Metra estimates \$7.4 B is needed to keep Metra in a state of good repair. This is with no new starts. Chair Mack said that Metra has \$2 B available which leaves a \$5 B shortfall. He noted that the first priority is safety, then state of good repair and lastly expansion. Chair Mack said that funding for the future will need to be identified by the end of the year.

**G. Illinois Tollway**

There was no report.

**H. IDOT STP Local Program**

Mr. Stallworth provided the updated IDOT STP Local Program.

**III. CHICAGO METROPOLITAN AGENCY FOR PLANNING (CMAP) / COUNCIL OF MAYORS**

**A. Executive Committee Report**

The next Council of Mayors Executive Committee meeting will be May 1, 2012.

**B. Energy Impact Illinois**

Ms. Pflagman presented information about the Energy Impact Illinois program that provides low interest energy efficiency loans, rebates and incentives and information about expert contractors to residents. For more information please visit, [www.energyimpactillinois.org](http://www.energyimpactillinois.org). Mr. Osten asked if handouts would be in ComEd bills and Ms. Pflagman said that CMAP is working with their partners and this is a goal for the program.

**C. CMAP Report**

Ms. Daigle provided the CMAP report which included information about the Community Planning and Local Technical Assistance Program, the ITEP Call for Projects and the 2012 GIS Workshops hosted by CMAP.

**IV. MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS / STP PROGRAM**

**A. Call for Projects Update**

Ms. Daigle reminded the Council that at the next meeting the Council will officially kick off the Call for Projects for FFY 2015, 2016 and 2017.

**B. City of Crystal Lake Berkshire Drive FAU Route Request**

Mr. Mawdsley explained that the City of Crystal Lake would like to change the classification of Berkshire Drive from a local road to a collector. He explained that it is a busy road and has a lot of traffic.

*Ms. Smith moved for approval. Mr. Blakemore seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

**C. FFY 12-16 Surface Transportation Program**

There were no new changes so the program was presented as informational.

**V. PLANNING LIAISON REPORT**

There was no Planning Liaison report.

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Osten said the Advance Funding information sheet was helpful.

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the McHenry County Division of Transportation located at 16111 Nelson Road in Woodstock.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*A was made by Mr. Osten, seconded by Mr. Young to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 p.m.*