

**NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL
CONFERENCE**



***Celebrating 50 Years of
Excellence in Local Government Service***

NWMC Board

Minutes

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

7:00 p.m.

Sheraton Chicago Northwest

3400 W. Euclid Avenue

Arlington Heights, IL

I. Call to Order

President Arredia called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

President Arredia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Diane Kopterski called the roll.

Members Present

Arlington Heights, Mayor Arlene J. Mulder
Barrington, President Karen Darch
Bartlett, President Cathy Melchert
Buffalo Grove, Manager Bill Brimm
Cary, Mayor Steve Lamal
Deerfield, Manager Kent Street
Des Plaines, Mayor Tony Arredia
Elk Grove Township, Trustee Lou Petrone
Elk Grove Village, Trustee James Petri
Evanston, Manager Julia Carroll
Fox River Grove, Trustee Duane Figurski
Glencoe, Manager Paul Harlow
Glenview, President Kerry Cummings
Hoffman Estates, Manager Jim Norris
Inverness, Administrator Curt Carver
Lincolnwood, Mayor Jerry Turry
Morton Grove, President Rick Krier
Mount Prospect, President Irvana Wilks
Niles, Trustee Louella Preston
Northbrook, President Gene Marks
Palatine, Mayor Rita Mullins
Park Ridge, Alderman Don Bach
Prospect Heights, Administrator Pam Arrigoni, Trustee Dolly Vole
Rolling Meadows, Asst. Manager Barry Krumstok
Roselle, Administrator Jeff O'Dell
Schaumburg, President Al Larson

MEMBERS

Antioch
Arlington Heights
Barrington
Bartlett
Buffalo Grove
Carpentersville
Cary
Crystal Lake
Deerfield
Des Plaines
Elk Grove Twp.
Elk Grove Village
Evanston
Fox River Grove
Glencoe
Glenview
Golf*
Grayslake
Hanover Park
Harwood Heights
Hawthorn Woods
Highland Park
Hoffman Estates
Inverness
Kenilworth
Lake Barrington
Lake Forest
Lake Zurich
Libertyville
Lincolnshire
Lincolnwood
Morton Grove
Mount Prospect
New Trier Twp.
Niles
Northbrook
Northfield
Northfield Twp.
Palatine
Park Ridge
Prospect Heights
Rolling Meadows
Roselle
Schaumburg
Skokie
Streamwood
Vernon Hills
Wheeling
Wilmette
Winnetka

President

Anthony Arredia
Des Plaines

Vice-President

Karen Darch
Barrington

Secretary

Jill Brickman
Northfield Township

Treasurer

James H. Norris
Hoffman Estates

Executive Director

Mark L. Fowler

*Affiliate Member

Skokie, Trustee Randall Roberts
Wheeling, Manager J. Mark Rooney
Wilmette, President Chris Canning
Winnetka, Trustee Sandra Berger

Members Absent

Antioch	Lake Barrington
Carpentersville	Lake Forest
Crystal Lake	Lake Zurich
Golf	Libertyville
Grayslake	Lincolnshire
Hanover Park	New Trier Township
Harwood Heights	Northfield
Hawthorn Woods	Northfield Township
Highland Park	Streamwood
Kenilworth	Vernon Hills

Others in Attendance

Larry Bury, NWMC Policy Analyst
Nancy Firfer, Metropolis 2020
Mark Fowler, NWMC Executive Director
Diane Kopterski, NWMC Executive Secretary
Laurie Roche, Cook County Sheriff's Office
Chris Staron, NWMC Program Associate
Jim Tansor, Nicor Gas
Mike Walczak, NWMC Program Manager
Larry Widmer, NWMC Deputy Director
Lerisa Wilkins, NWMC Program Associate

IV. Approval of Minutes – February 13, 2008

Motion to approve the February 13, 2008 Meeting Minutes was made by Trustee Preston. It was seconded by Trustee Berger and approved by membership.

V. President's Report – Anthony Arredia, NWMC President and Mayor, City of Des Plaines

A. March Board Meeting Presentation – The Burnham Plan Centennial

President Arredia introduced Nancy Firfer, Senior Executive of Metropolis 2020 who stated that 2009 will mark the 100 year anniversary of the 1909 Plan of Chicago, popularly known as the "Burnham Plan." Ms. Firfer discussed plans for the centennial and stated that they want to inspire the region's communities, leaders and institutions to build on the success of the Burnham Plan in shaping the region's future. The basic objectives are to inspire and educate children and adults; advance the living legacies beyond 2009 and develop bold legacies for the future. Ms. Firfer reviewed marketing plans and discussed ways that the celebration will be marked throughout the region starting in June 2009.

Ms. Firfer also distributed the publication “Homes for a Changing Region” which is a project of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and Metropolis 2020. This book follows three housing plans in each of the region’s councils of government.

Mayor Mullins spoke about the recent Cook County tax increase and its effect on municipalities that border another county. She stated that they would like to form an ad hoc committee of village managers and finance directors to offer assistance to the county regarding its financial problems. She also expressed the need for a mayoral meeting with President Stroger who indicated a willingness to come out to discuss the tax issue with membership.

Mayor Mullins also reminded members about the Mayoral Institute in Palatine which will be held on March 25 and she encouraged the mayors to register for this important seminar.

B. Metra Board Candidate Recommendations

Mr. Fowler stated that, as directed at the February Board meeting, staff sent letters to the mayors/presidents in the townships where a new Metra director is to be selected as a result of the expanded transit bill. Mr. Fowler stated that three letters of interest were received from membership and the Executive Board recommended that the letters be forwarded to the Cook County Board for consideration.

Motion to approve the Executive Board recommendation was made by President Melchert. It was seconded by Mayor Mulder and approved by membership.

C. Immigration Integration Proposal

Mr. Fowler stated that the Conference received a proposal from the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) to partner with NWMC municipalities to identify resources for immigrants and encourage the path to citizenship. Mr. Fowler stated that HIAS has a series of programs and projects that focus on permanent residency and integrating immigrants into communities. The Executive Board recommended that the Conference partner with HIAS to offer this assistance to interested municipalities.

Motion to approve the Executive Board recommendation was made President Larson. It was seconded by President Marks and approved by membership.

VI. Priority Issues

A. Legislative Committee – Karen Darch, President, Village of Barrington, Co-Chair and Rick Krier, Mayor, Village of Morton Grove, Co-Chair

1. *NWMC Pension Resolution, NWMC PowerPoint Presentation & NWMC Pension Summit*
President Darch stated that the Conference’s top legislative priority this year is “Preserving the Solvency of Public Safety Pensions”. There is no longer a moratorium on legislation that increases pension costs and a significant number of pension bills (both positive and negative) have been introduced by the General Assembly this session. She stated that as part of this legislative effort, the Executive Board recommended approval of Resolution 2008-2, “A Resolution Urging the General Assembly to Preserve the Solvency of Public Safety Pensions.”

Motion to approve the resolution was made by President Larson. It was seconded by President Marks and approved by membership. Glenview abstained from the vote.

Mr. Bury reported on several pension bills that were still in the General Assembly. He also stated that to stay focused on the pension issue, a pension summit for NWMC municipalities and other interested parties is being proposed for late March. It will be presented to the Legislative Committee at its next meeting.

President Canning requested some background history on firefighter pensions to use in negotiating contracts. President Cummings asked if Conference legislative priorities could be measured against the pending pension bills.

2. NWMC Legislative Position Recommendations

President Darch stated that the committee recommended to oppose HB4417 since it allows policy and fire boards to bypass the candidate requirements and hire sworn officers directly from another municipality. Since the Legislative Committee discussed this position, they have learned that non-home rule communities are restricted in their ability to do this. While the original position on this bill was to oppose it, Mr. Fowler suggested keeping it on the list as “neutral” and having further discussions on it.

There was discussion on changing support on HB4627 from “support” to “neutral” as it places a larger burden on firefighters. However, Mr. Bury stated that in actuality it is only one-half percent of payroll that they are being required to contribute.

Motion was made by President Darch to approve the recommended Legislative Positions with the one change in HB4417 from “oppose” to “neutral”. It was seconded by President Mulder and approved by membership. Bartlett abstained.

3. NWMC Legislative Days

President Darch reported that the NWMC Legislative Days in Springfield are scheduled for Tuesday, April 8, and Wednesday, April 9, which overlaps with the Illinois Municipal League’s annual lobby day. She stated that on Tuesday the Conference will hold a briefing for NWMC members at the Capitol followed by dinner with the Conference’s legislators. On Wednesday, the IML is hosting its briefing in the morning, followed by lobbying in the Capitol and an evening reception at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel. Members were encouraged to attend and make reservations as soon as possible.

B. Program Services Committee – Craig Anderson Chair, Village of Carpentersville

1. Office Supplies and Copier Paper Program

Mr. Fowler stated that the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative Governing Board has extended the office supplies contract with Warehouse Direct through February 7, 2009. This will be the second of four possible one-year contract extensions.

2. SPC 2008 Dodge Charger Police Pursuit Vehicle

Mr. Fowler stated that the SPC Governing Board approved the award of the SPC 2008 Dodge Charger Police Pursuit Vehicle contract to Roanoke Motor. The contract dates are effective January 28, 2008 through April 1, 2008.

3. *2008 Toyota Prius Hybrid*

Mr. Fowler reported that the SPC Governing Board also approved the award of the SPC 2008 Toyota Prius Hybrid contract to Arlington Toyota. The contract dates are effective January 30, 2008 through January 30, 2009.

C. Environmental Best Practices Committee – Joe Annunzio, Attorney, Village of Niles, Chair

1. *Green Procurement Exposition and Conference*

Mr. Widmer reported that a Green Procurement Exposition and Conference will be held June 4 and 5 at Navy Pier in Chicago to show case the latest in green products and services available to business and government. There will also be educational sessions to enhance professional practices, facilitate cooperative buying, and highlight energy management and industry trends. The Conference has been asked to become one of the non-monetary supporters for the Exposition by allowing the NWMC logo to be added to their website for sponsoring purposes. The Executive Board recommended approval of the request.

Motion to approve the recommendation was made by President Canning. It was seconded by Manager Rooney and approved by membership.

2. *Earth Hour 2008*

Mr. Walczak stated that the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus is asking the councils of government to publicize Earth Hour 2008. The Mayors Caucus is leading the local efforts of a worldwide initiative to encourage businesses and residents to turn off their lights from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on March 29 to reduce energy consumption. The Environmental Best Practices Committee recommended that NWMC members participate in the event and publicize it to their residents.

Motion to approve the recommendation was made by President Marks. It was seconded by President Canning and approved by membership.

3. *NWMC Green Initiatives Workshop*

Mr. Walczak stated that the Executive Board and Best Practices Environmental Committee recommended that the Conference hold a workshop showcasing green technologies or initiatives that can be implemented at a municipal level. Conference staff will work with the committee to develop the scope of the workshop, which will give elected officials and municipal staff options for going green while staying budget conscious.

Motion to approve Conference sponsorship of a green technologies or initiatives workshop for municipalities was made by President Melchert. It was seconded by Mayor Mulder and approved by membership.

President Arredia stated that on March 28 Des Plaines is holding a green initiative workshop at Oakton College and he invited members to attend.

VII. Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Manager Norris of Hoffman Estates to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. It was seconded by Mayor Turry and approved by membership. The following items were approved on the Consent Agenda:

- Monthly Budget Report and Warrant List for January 2008

VIII. Executive Session

Motion to move to Executive Session to discuss the executive director's review and contract was made by President Melchert. It was seconded by President Marks and approved by membership. Staff and guests were excused and the Board entered into Executive Session at 8:15 p.m.

Motion to return to regular session was made by President Krier. It was seconded by Mayor Mulder and approved by membership. The meeting returned to regular session at 8:20 p.m.

Motion to approve the executive director's contract as written was made by President Marks. It was seconded by Mayor Mulder and approved by membership.

IX. Other Business

Mayor Krier stated that his village has passed a tax on public storage and asked if any other members had similar tax.

President Marks stated that Village Manager John Novinson is retiring May 2 and that current Assistant Village Manager Rich Nahrstadt will replace him.

President Wilks stated that she received a notice on a regional budget meeting and asked for clarification on that meeting. Mr. Fowler stated that Speaker Madigan and several representatives are holding the meetings to take testimony on the Governor's proposed budget.

X. For the Good of the Order

Mr. Fowler thanked membership for their confidence in him and Conference staff and stated that he is proud of the work of the organization. The organizational analysis that is being prepared for the May meeting will be an exciting initiative for the organization. He stated that he is thrilled to see how the organization has evolved over the years and that this would not have happened without the membership and their participation. Mr. Fowler expressed appreciation for the time members have given to the organization.

President Arredia thanked the Executive Board for putting together the Executive Director's contract.

XI. Next Meeting

President Arredia reminded members that the next NWMC Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, 7:00 p.m., at the Sheraton Chicago Northwest in Arlington Heights.

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by President Krier. It was seconded by Mayor Melchert and approved by membership. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.