

**NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL
CONFERENCE**



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

**NWMC BOARD MINUTES
Wednesday, October 15, 2008
7:00 p.m.
Radisson Hotel
2875 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Northbrook, IL**

MEMBERS
Antioch
Arlington Heights
Barrington
Bartlett
Buffalo Grove
Carpentersville
Cary
Crystal Lake
Deerfield
Des Plaines
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
Niles
Northbrook
Northfield
Northfield Twp.
Palatine
Park Ridge
Prospect Heights
Rolling Meadows
Roselle
Schaumburg
Skokie
Streamwood
Vernon Hills
Wheeling
Wilmette
Winnetka

President
Karen Darch
Barrington

Vice-President
Gerald C. Turry
Lincolnwood

Secretary
Jill Brickman
Northfield Township

Treasurer
James H. Norris
Hoffman Estates

Executive Director
Mark L. Fowler

*Affiliate Member

I. Call to Order

President Darch called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. She welcomed Dean Argiris, the new interim president of the Village of Wheeling.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

President Darch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Diane Kopterski called the roll.

Members Present

Arlington Heights, Mayor Arlene Mulder
Barrington, President Karen Darch
Bartlett, President Cathy Melchert
Buffalo Grove, President Elliott Hartstein
Carpentersville, Manager Craig Anderson
Deerfield, Manager Kent Street
Fox River Grove, Trustee Duane Figurski
Glencoe, President Scott Feldman
Glenview, President Kerry Cummings
Harwood Heights, President Peggy Fuller
Hoffman Estates, President Bill McLeod
Lincolnwood, Mayor Jerry Turry
Morton Grove, President Rick Krier
Mount Prospect, Mayor Irvana Wilks
Niles, Trustee Louella Preston
Palatine, Mayor Rita Mullins
Park Ridge, Manager Jim Hock
Prospect Heights, Administrator Pam Arrigoni, Trustee Dolly Vole
Rolling Meadows, Asst. Manager Barry Krumstok
Roselle, Administrator Jeff O'Dell
Schaumburg, President Al Larson
Skokie, Trustee Randall Roberts, Asst. Mgr. John Lockerby
Wheeling, Interim President Dean Argiris, Manager J. Mark Rooney
Wilmette, President Chris Canning

Winnetka, Trustee Gene Greable

Members Absent

Antioch	Inverness
Cary	Kenilworth
Crystal Lake	Lake Barrington
Des Plaines	Lake Forest
Elk Grove Village	Lake Zurich
Evanston	Libertyville
Golf	Lincolnshire
Grayslake	Northbrook
Hanover Park	Northfield
Hawthorn Woods	Northfield Township
Highland Park	Streamwood
	Vernon Hills

Others in Attendance

Randy Blankenhorn, CMAP
Janet Bright, CMAP
Larry Bury, NWMC Policy Analyst
Kristi DeLaurentiis, MPC
Mark Fowler, NWMC Executive Director
Diane Kopterski, NWMC Executive Secretary
Andy Plummer, RTA
Stacey Puccini, DCR Group
Chris Staron, NWMC Program Associate
Mike Walczak, NWMC Program Manager
Larry Widmer, NWMC Deputy Director
Lerisa Wilkins, NWMC Program Associate

IV. Approval of Minutes – September 10, 2008

Motion to approve the September 10, 2008 Meeting Minutes was made by President Hartstein. It was seconded by President McLeod and approved by membership.

V. President's Report – Karen Darch, NWMC President and President, Village of Barrington

A. October Membership Meeting Program – Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

President Darch introduced Randy Blankenhorn, Executive Director of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) who discussed the Developments of Regional Importance (DRI) process. Mr. Blankenhorn explained that this is a mandate that was passed two years ago by the General Assembly and given to CMAP to implement. He is working with municipalities and councils of government to discuss how to make it work.

Mr. Blankenhorn listed five points in regard to the process. He stated that they are not trying to duplicate existing review procedures; they want to add value to the projects of regional impact; only projects of regional importance will be considered; the process is advisory in nature and decisions will still be made at the local level; and they want to establish a successful process to satisfy the mandate.

Mr. Blankenhorn stated that projects for the DRI process can be identified through CMAP staff recommendations; municipalities and counties can bring a proposal to the Agency; and the CMAP program or planning committees or the CMAP board can make a project recommendation. He noted that the CMAP Board has the final approval to determine if a project is a DRI. He stated that there are three tiers to determine if the project is of regional importance. Projects that are already subject to an existing review process would drop out at the first tier. Projects without regional impact would drop out at tier two and projects without measurable impact would drop out at the third tier. If it is determined that the project has regional impact, then CMAP staff would do a regional impact analysis in conjunction with the community and the developer. The CMAP Board would then review the document and make recommendations to ensure the project consistency with existing regional plans.

Membership discussed the DRI process and recognized the value that CMAP could provide with its resources. However, members voiced concerns about CMAP's ability to participate in local land use decisions. Mr. Blankenhorn reiterated that it was not CMAP's intent to interfere in local land use decisions. He stated that he is looking for suggestions on the DRI process and encouraged the Conference and municipalities to provide written comments. Mr. Blankenhorn stated that the deadline for stakeholder and public comment is December 1, 2008

Mr. Fowler stated that there is a Transportation Committee meeting next week and the intent is to have that committee prepare comments which would be presented to the November Executive Board and then brought for final action before the full board at the November 12 meeting.

- B. Resolution Honoring Village of Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase**
Resolution Honoring Village of Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase
President Darch stated that Village of Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase announced his resignation after 47 years of service. Mayor Blase served the Conference in many capacities throughout the years and a resolution was prepared to honor this service.

Motion to approve the resolution honoring Mayor Blase was made by Mayor Mulder. It was seconded by President Melchert.

President Feldman made a motion to table the resolution until the outcome of the legal proceedings involving Mayor Blase are resolved. There was no second to the motion.

Members engaged in discussion about the resolution and suggested that language stating the specific number of members be omitted and the word “members” be substituted in the language of the resolution.

Motion to amend the resolution with the additional language was made by President Cummings. It was seconded by Mayor Mullins. A voice vote was taken and the resolution as amended was approved. There were four abstentions. Glencoe, Glenview, Harwood Heights and Wilmette abstained.

C. Resolution Honoring NWMC Staff Member Mary Scheuer

Resolution Honoring NWMC Staff Member Mary Scheuer

Mr. Fowler stated that NWMC Administrative Secretary Mary Scheuer will retire on October 17 after 24 years of service and the staff recommended approval of the a resolution honoring her years of service.

Motion to approve the resolution was made by Mayor Mullins. It was seconded by Mayor Mulder and unanimously approved. Mayor Mulder commented that “Mary has been the voice of the Conference who quietly gets things accomplished.”

VI. Priority Issues

A. Legislative Committee – Rick Krier, President, Village of Morton Grove Co-Chair and Al Larson, Village of Schaumburg, Co-Chair

Legislative Update

Mr. Bury stated that the House and Senate were scheduled to meet in the second and third week in November. At this time, he said the House has cancelled the first week of their veto session and the Senate is likely to do the same.

Mr. Bury reported that the amendatory veto on HB 4602 (which would allow firefighter re-enrollment in municipal insurance pools) was overridden but it may re-surface again. The General Assembly did pass a fund sweep bill (SB790) which the Conference originally opposed because it exempted certain funds from sweeping and did not include the local government distributive fund. The version that passed was very specific as to which funds would be swept and the local government distributive fund was left off. The money that was swept into that bill was rolled into a budget relief bill which is SB1103 and it specified where the swept money would be spent. This bill was signed by the governor. The House started to work on a capital bill by putting one of the funding instruments in place in the form of SB2595 which is the lease of the state lottery. A number of conditions were put in the bill including that there would have to be a \$10

billion lease price before it would be accepted or else it would become void. The Senate has not taken any action on this bill yet.

B. Finance Committee – Jim Norris, Manager, Village of Hoffman Estates, Chair

2007-2008 Audit Draft

Mr. Fowler stated that Wolf & Company has completed a preliminary draft of the Audit Report for the period ending April 30, 2008. He stated that there was an increase in net assets of \$210,000 due to increases in enterprise revenues and some staffing positions that were not filled. Operating revenues increased by 14.7% and expenses increased 8.3%. Reserve funds are at approximately 55% and the Conference is in good financial shape. The Finance Committee and Executive Board recommended acceptance of the report.

Motion was made by Mr. Krumstok to approve the audit for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2008. It was seconded by President Larson and unanimously approved.

C. Attorneys Committee – Pat Hanley, Attorney, Village of Skokie, Chair

1. Amendatory Veto Challenge

Mr. Bury stated that the Executive Board requested that the Attorneys Committee discuss the prospect of participating in a possible legal challenge to the Governor's authority to rewrite legislation through his amendatory veto power. However because the amendatory veto of HB4602 was overridden, the committee determined that the time would not be right for the Conference to mount any constitutional challenges.

2. Streamlined Sales Tax Mitigation Plan

Mr. Bury stated the Attorneys Committee reviewed the proposed plan to mitigate the impact of adoption of legislation enabling Illinois Senate Bill 1429. He stated that the rules for a state to enter into the streamlined sales tax compact were amended last year to allow states to retain origin sourcing for taxation purposes. The mitigation plan is meant as protection in the event of changes in federal law or legal challenges. The Attorneys Committee chair will have further discussions with the Illinois Retail Merchants Association. The committee will meet again in November to make a formal recommendation.

D. Utilities Regulation Committee – Gerald Turry, President, Village of Lincolnwood Chair

1. FCC Wireless Tower Siting Petition

Mr. Bury commented that the FCC extended the deadline for public comment on this issue and that it received many comments from local governments that the FCC was overstepping its authority on matters that belong to local zoning authorities. Mr. Bury stated that the FCC Intergovernmental Advisory Commission recommended that the FCC reject the proposal from the Wireless Association because zoning decisions are the purview of local government. No timeframe has been set for a ruling on this. The Utilities Regulation Committee met on September 19 and approved sending a letter in opposition to the FCC prior to the expiration of the comment period.

2. *Natural Gas Franchise Task Force Status*

Mr. Fowler stated that several years ago when a Com Ed Model Franchise Agreement was negotiated and adopted, there was discussion about doing this on the natural gas side, but the natural gas interests were not receptive to the idea at that time. Mr. Fowler stated that he and DMMC staff met with Nicor representatives on September 23 who have expressed interest in seeing a proposal for a model franchise agreement. Mr. Fowler stated that they would also look at other gas companies for interest in such an agreement and for an indication of municipal interest. Currently 67 municipalities have either signed letters of intent to participate in this effort or have indicated an interest because their franchise is still active and they are seeking a most favored nations clause or similar benefit that could be realized from an effort like this. A Steering Committee of municipal representatives has been formed with COG staff providing staff support. A Drafting Committee will be developed and legal assistance engaged with the cost being shared by all participants.

Mayor Turry stated that Smart Grid is the 21st century electrical grid that will change the reliability of the electrical system. There will be a presentation in Mount Prospect on October 17 and he urged members to attend or send a representative.

VII. Motion was made by President McLeod to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. It was seconded by Mayor Mullins and approved by membership. The following items were approved on the Consent Agenda:

- Monthly Budget Report and Warrant List for July 2008
- Monthly Budget Report and Warrant List for August 2008
- North Shore Council of Mayors STP Changes

VIII. Other Business

IX. For the Good of the Order

X. Next Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12 at 7:00 p.m., at the Radisson Hotel.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Mullins. It seconded by Mr. Krumstok and approved by membership. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.