



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

**NWMC BOARD MINUTES  
Wednesday, January 14, 2009  
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

**I. Call to Order**

President Darch called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Darch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Roll Call**

Diane Kopterski called the roll.

**Members Present**

Antioch, Administrator Jill Velan  
Arlington Heights, Mayor Arlene Mulder  
Barrington, President Karen Darch  
Buffalo Grove, President Elliott Hartstein  
Deerfield, Manager Kent Street  
Elk Grove Village, Trustee James Petri  
Evanston, Finance Director Marty Lyons  
Fox River Grove, Trustee Duane Figurski  
Glenview, President Kerry Cummings, Manager Todd Hileman, Trustee Jim  
Patterson  
Hanover Park, Trustee Toni Carter  
Hawthorn Woods, Manager Jim Bassett  
Highland Park, Manager Dave Limardi  
Morton Grove, President Rick Krier, Administrator Joe Wade  
Niles, Trustee Louella Preston  
Park Ridge, Manager James Hock  
Prospect Heights, Administrator Pam Arrigoni, Alderman Dolly Vole  
Rolling Meadows, Manager Sarah Phillips, Asst. Mgr. Barry Krumstok  
Skokie, Assistant Manager John Lockerby, Trustee Randall Roberts  
Vernon Hills, Manager Mike Allison  
Wheeling, Manager Mark Rooney  
Wilmette, President Chris Canning  
Winnetka, Trustee Gene Greable

**Members Absent**

\*Affiliate Member

|                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Bartlett        | Lake Forest         |
| Carpentersville | Lake Zurich         |
| Cary            | Libertyville        |
| Crystal Lake    | Lincolnshire        |
| Des Plaines     | Lincolnwood         |
| Glencoe         | Mount Prospect      |
| Golf            | Northbrook          |
| Grayslake       | Northfield          |
| Harwood Heights | Northfield Township |
| Hoffman Estates | Palatine            |
| Inverness       | Roselle             |
| Kenilworth      | Schaumburg          |
| Lake Barrington | Streamwood          |

#### **Others in Attendance**

Larry Bury, NWMC Policy Analyst  
 Kristi DeLaurentiis, Metropolitan Planning Council  
 Marina Durso, NWMC Program Associate  
 Mark Fowler, NWMC Executive Director  
 Diane Kopterski, NWMC Executive Secretary  
 Chris Kichka, Cong. Peter Roskam's Office  
 Laurie Roche, Sheriff Tom Dart's Office  
 Peggy Sheahan, Sheriff Tom Dart's Office  
 Chris Staron, NWMC Program Associate  
 Jim Tansor, Nicor Gas  
 Mike Walczak, NWMC Program Manager  
 Kitty Weiner, Cong. Peter Roskam's Office  
 Larry Widmer, NWMC Deputy Director

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes – December 10, 2008**

Motion to approve the December 10, 2008 Meeting Minutes was made by Trustee Preston. It was seconded by Mayor Mulder and approved by membership.

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

##### **A. January Membership Meeting Program – Weathering the Financial Downturn**

President Darch introduced Highland Park City Manager Dave Limardi and Glenview Village Manager Todd Hileman who gave a presentation on the impact of the economic downturn on local governments.

Mr. Limardi stated that every municipality should have financial policies in place that include a clear and defined revenue policy. He also stated that annually municipal boards should determine those core and discretionary services that their municipality cannot do without which helps when it is necessary to make cuts to the budget. He stated that the budget process

should be started early with input from various departments and performance targets determined. Mr. Limardi discussed the plans and steps his municipality took in preparing the 2009 budget. Mr. Limardi emphasized the need for paradigm shifts regionally and state wide for pension funding and collective bargaining and for consolidation of services for local governments and stated that the Conference was in a position to help take the lead in these scenarios.

Mr. Hileman of Glenview stated that there are different ways to approach budgeting and running a local government more like a business. He discussed the importance of board driven goals and the economic threats to village goals. Mr. Hileman stated that a change must be made in the way services are delivered in order to meet the demands of this economy. He also stressed the need to share technologies and services among towns, the importance of strategic planning, and the need for a continuous review of professional services and staffing levels. For the future, he felt that municipalities should aggressively seek intergovernmental cost sharing and seek cooperative ventures to help reduce costs.

Trustee Greable commented that since money is being lost in the current economic downturn pension legislation should be a priority for the Conference.

Manager Hock stated that the Conference has a Performance Management Program that provides statistical data regarding salaries and encouraged members to participate and keep the data updated.

Mr. Limardi and Mr. Hileman then answered question from the members.

Before proceeding with the Agenda, President Darch recognized Sarah Phillips, new village manager of Rolling Meadows, and Jim Bassett, new village administrator of Hawthorn Woods.

**B. Organizational Analysis – Staff Capacity Analysis**

Mr. Fowler stated that an organizational analysis was prepared by former Buffalo Grove Village Manager Bill Balling last year which looked at all operations of the Conference and implementation has started on the recommendations from that analysis. Mr. Fowler discussed the staff capacity analysis for the Conference based on the organizational analysis and stated that the Finance Committee reviewed the personnel plan to meet the current and future needs of the membership. The committee also reviewed areas where the Conference can maximize programs to reduce reliance on dues. He stated that some ancillary services would be discontinued in order to focus more directly on Conference initiatives.

**VI. Priority Issues**

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

*1. 2009 NWMC Draft Legislative Program*

President Krier stated that the Legislative Committee and Executive Board recommended adoption of the 2009 NWMC Legislative Program. This year's program theme is keeping state and local governments fiscally solvent and will be introduced at the Legislative Brunch.

President Krier stated that there was discussion at the Executive Committee to move the last paragraph on page 9 under Adopt the Streamlines Sales Tax to a more prominent position in the document.

Motion was made to approve the Legislative Program with the amended change was made by President Canning. It was seconded by President Krier and approved by membership.

*2. NWMC Legislative Brunch*

President Krier stated that the Illinois Senate will be in session for the impeachment hearings on January 31, the date set for the NWMC Legislative Brunch. Various options including rescheduling the brunch for February 21 were discussed. The consensus of membership was to cancel the brunch for January 31 and follow up with legislators on their availability for a February 21 date.

**B. Transportation Committee - Kerry Cummings, President, Village of Glenview, Co-Chair and Ken Nelson, Mayor, City of Rolling Meadows, Co-Chair**

*NWMC Transportation Priorities*

Mr. Walczak stated that the Transportation Committee has renewed discussion of the Conference's transportation priority projects and decided to obtain additional information about projects to create a comprehensive transportation priorities list. A draft list of priority projects from NWMC members will be considered at the Transportation Committee on January 29 and a list of priorities will be brought to the Board for approval in February.

**VII. Consent Agenda**

There are no reports for the Consent Agenda.

**VIII. Other Business**

President Hartstein stated that Lake County is seeking to determine public support for construction of the Route 53 extension via a proposed referendum to be placed on the April ballot. The Transportation Committee of the Lake County Board would like to make this recommendation to the Lake County Board at its January 20

meeting. President Hartstein urged the membership to go on record to support placing this referendum on the April ballot.

Motion was made by President Hartstein to support placing a referendum on the Lake County April ballot to determine public support for the Route 53 extension. The motion was seconded by Mr. Allison and approved.

**IX. Executive Session – Executive Director Review**

Motion was made by President Hartstein to enter into executive session to conduct the performance review of the executive director. The motion was seconded by Trustee Preston. A roll call vote was taken and the motion approved. Staff and guests were excused and the Board entered into executive session at 8:55 p.m.

Motion to return to regular session was made by President Canning at 9:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by President Krier and approved.

Motion was made by President Krier to approve the recommendation made in executive session to increase the Executive Director's base salary retroactive to his anniversary date of October 3, 2008. The motion was seconded by President Hartstein and approved.

Motion was made by President Canning to place a 3% cap on the Conference salary adjustment pool. It was seconded by President Krier. Before the motion was voted on, there was a comment that due to the current economic situation the individual employee increase should be capped at 3%. There being no further discussion, members approved the motion as originally stated. Niles voted against.

**X. For the Good of the Order**

Trustee Preston suggested that staff send a letter of congratulations to Roland Burris the newly appointed Senator from Illinois.

**XI. Next Meeting**

The next NWMC Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11, at 7:00 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel in Northbrook.

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made by President Krier. It seconded by President Hartstein and approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.