

NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

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*A Regional Association of Illinois
Municipalities and Townships
Representing a Population of Over One Million*

MEMBERS

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

President
Christopher S. Canning
Wilmette

Vice-President
William D. McLeod
Hoffman Estates

Secretary
Sandra E. Frum
Northbrook

Treasurer
Robert R. Kiely, Jr.
Lake Forest

Executive Director
Mark L. Fowler

*Affiliate Member

NWMC Board Minutes
Wednesday, September 14, 2011
7:00 p.m.
Crowne Plaza Hotel
2875 North Milwaukee Avenue
Northbrook, IL

- I. Call to Order**
President Canning called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
President Canning 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
Buffalo Grove, President Jeffrey Braiman, Manager Dane Bragg
Carpentersville, President Ed Ritter, Manager Mark Rooney
Cary, Mayor Tom Kierna
Crystal Lake, Manager Gary Mayerhofer
Des Plaines, Mayor Marty Moylan
Elk Grove Village, Trustee Jim Petri
Evanston, Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl
Fox River Grove, President Robert Nunamaker
Glencoe, President Scott Feldman
Glenview, President Kerry Cummings, Manager Todd Hileman
Highland Park, Manager Dave Limardi
Hoffman Estates, Mayor Bill McLeod
Lake Forest, Manager Bob Kiely
Lincolnwood, Mayor Jerry Turry
Morton Grove, President Daniel Staackmann, Trustee Maria Toth,
Administrator Joe Wade
Mount Prospect, Mayor Irvana Wilks
Niles, Trustee Louella Preston
Northbrook, President Sandy Frum
Northfield, President Fred Gougler
Palatine, Deputy Village Manager Michael Jacobs
Park Ridge, Manager James Hock
Prospect Heights, Administrator Anne Marrin
Rolling Meadows, Manager Barry Krumstok
Skokie, Assistant Manager John Lockerby, Assistant to Village Manager
Julian Prendi

Wheeling, President Judy Abruscato
Wilmette, President Christopher Canning
Winnetka, President Jessica Tucker, Trustee Richard Kates
Manager Rob Bahan

Members Absent:

Antioch	Libertyville
Bartlett	Lincolnshire
Deerfield	Northfield Township
Grayslake	Schaumburg
Hanover Park	Streamwood
Kenilworth	Vernon Hills
Lake Zurich	

Others in Attendance

Jerry Burke, Glenview
Ellen Dayan, NWMC Program Manager
Marina Durso, NWMC Program Associate
Mark Fowler, NWMC Executive Director
Diane Kopterski, NWMC Executive Secretary
Don Owen, Glenview
Andy Plummer, RTA
Gordon Smith, CMAP
Chris Staron, NWMC Program Associate
Mike Walczak, NWMC Program Manager
Kitty Weiner, Rep. Roskam's Office
Larry Widmer, NWMC Deputy Director

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2011

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2011 Board Meeting was made by Mayor Mulder. It was seconded by President Cummings and approved.

V. President's Report – Christopher Canning, NWMC President and President, Village of Wilmette

A. FY11-12 Membership Meeting Schedule

President Canning reviewed the membership meeting schedule for the upcoming year.

B. 2011 NWMC Golf Outing Ahrens Cup Presentation

President Canning presented the Ahrens Cup to President Gougler of the Village of Northfield, winners of the 2011 NWMC Golf Tournament held on August 25.

C. FY 2010-2011 Committee Assignments

President Canning thanked members for volunteering to serve on the various NWMC committees and stated that the Executive Board recommended approval of the FY11-12 NWMC Committee Assignment list.

Motion to approve the FY11-12 Committee assignment list was made by President Tucker. It was seconded by President Frum and approved.

D. ComEd Outage Restoration Response

President Canning stated that due to the severe weather this summer and ComEd’s outage restoration response, Senator Susan Garrett made a request for municipal input on the shortfalls encountered following this summer’s severe weather. The Conference also recognized that municipalities will present a stronger front if they work together on this issue. Consequently a workgroup of managers, led by Glenview Village Manager Todd Hileman, have met weekly to assess problems with ComEd’s response and discussed potential remedies, including legislation. Mr. Hileman stated that they also met with ComEd external affair executives to explore breakdowns in ComEd crisis communication and emergency response and its impact on municipal storm recovery efforts.

Mr. Hileman reviewed the general problems that were identified by the managers during the severe weather and ComEd’s systematic weaknesses in non-weather related operations. Mr. Hileman reviewed a recommended list of solutions including: holding ComEd accountable under the Public Utilities Act; ICC benchmarking of ComEd performance; legislation requiring and enforcing systematic improvements; and, development of an emergency management plan with specific timeframes and follow up.

Mr. Bury then commented on an action plan that would hold ComEd accountable for specific timeframes, require annual reporting, and reliability and system maintenance targets that Com Ed would be required to meet. Mr. Bury stated that recommended solutions could take the form of legislation, memorandums of understanding with ComEd or service agreements. He stated that several legislators have expressed a willingness to support this effort. Mr. Bury also stated that we currently have a unique opportunity with the Governor’s vetoing of the Smart Grid bill. He stated that there is an effort to override the veto or attach a trailer bill to it. He stated that possible solutions have been drafted in the form of a legislative outline which will be submitted to the Legislative Committee for their review and approval.

President Canning stated that the agenda included a letter to the Governor from the Conference urging him to veto the smart grid legislation. Now that the Governor has vetoed the bill, a letter will be sent to the Governor thanking him for his action and informing him that we will be coming forward with legislative proposals that we hope he will support.

The floor was then opened to questions and comments from members.

President Caning summarized the issue by saying that the Conference will proceed with the action plan; the Legislative committee will review the issues in the proposed legislative outline and White Paper and report back to the membership.

E. Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Update

President Canning reported that the Mayors Caucus met and requested that each Council of Government (COG) take action on the following issues:

1. *Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization*

President Canning stated that the Caucus requested that the Conference take a position on proposals to extend the current federal surface transportation

authorization. Mr. Staron stated that the Senate proposal calls for a two-year extension at current funding levels while the House proposal calls for a six-year extension aimed at reforming federal programs but would reduce current federal spending. He said the House has passed a six-month extension holding the current funding levels.

Motion was made by Mayor Mulder to support an extension of SAFETEA-LU consistent with positions the Conference has taken in the past that would not reduce funding. It was seconded by President Darch and approved.

2. *Senate Bill 512 – Pension Reform*

President Canning stated that Mayor Emanuel is seeking to have Chicago employee pensions amended on to SB512, thus providing an opportunity to add police, fire and IMRF pensions to the legislation.

President Canning stated that the Executive Board recommended approval of seeking an amendment to SB512 to include downstate police, fire and IMRF.

Motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mayor McLeod. It was seconded by President Frum.

During discussion on the motion, President Tucker stated that the Conference has worked hard on pension reform and that perhaps there should be a general statement that we certainly support pension reform but that this bill does not go far enough.

President Canning reiterated the Board's desire for progressive methods to address pension reform through data driven solutions.

Vote to approve the motion was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

3. *Sales Tax Sourcing Lawsuits*

President Canning stated that a letter was received from the RTA seeking a letter or resolution from the Conference in support of their efforts in their recent lawsuit filed regarding lost revenue from tax avoidance schemes. Mr. Plummer of the RTA made a request of the membership to support the RTA effort.

Motion was made by Mayor McLeod to refer the matter to the Legislative Committee for review and discussion. It was seconded by Mayor Mulder.

There was discussion by members that the RTA had a lack of information to present to the communities on this issue and concern was expressed on the effect of the lawsuit on the sales tax sourcing initiatives in Springfield.

Vote to approve the motion was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

F. CMAP Regional Tax Policy Task Force Update

Mr. Staron stated that CMAP held a series of meetings looking at the tax structure in the Chicago region as it affects planning decisions and the economic viability of the region. He stated the August meeting of the task force focused on the need to increase the state Motor Fuel Tax (MFT), the state allocation of transportation funding and the local allocation of state MFT revenues.

Mr. Staron stated that the September meeting focused on income taxes and property taxes, and assessments and exemptions primarily in Cook County. Mr. Staron stated that the task force has not yet made any recommendations but a final report will be completed in January 2012.

President Darch who serves on the task force invited members to attend the next meeting on October 14 as an education process on tax policy.

VI. Priority Issues

A. Legislative Committee – Bill McLeod, President, Village of Hoffman Estates, Co-Chair and Elizabeth Tisdahl, Mayor, City of Evanston

1. Senate Bill 1652 – Smart Grid Legislation

Mayor McLeod stated that Senate Bill 1652, the “smart grid” legislation, was vetoed by Governor Quinn and approval was being sought to send a letter to the Governor expressing our support for his action on this bill.

Motion to approve the letter to Governor Quinn was made by Mayor Turry. It was seconded by Mayor Tisdahl and unanimously approved.

2. Emerging Legislative Issues

- Public employee pension reform - Mayor McLeod stated that this was covered in prior discussion on the agenda.
- Personal property replacement tax (PPRT) – Mayor McLeod stated that Governor Quinn has proposed diverting the PPRT to pay the salaries of regional school superintendants and other county elected officials currently paid by the state. Mr. Bury stated that the allocation for this tax is based on a 1970’s formula and would impact school districts in smaller taxing bodies. He expects that a coalition of these groups will come together prior to the veto session to oppose the governor’s proposal.
- Sales tax sourcing – Mayor McLeod stated that several lawsuits have been filed over larger companies using certain municipalities to avoid higher sales tax and that this issue is expected to garner attention during the veto session.
- PTELL extension limitation (HB 3793) – Mayor McLeod stated this bill would freeze the extension limitation at 0% if the total equalized assessed value (EAV) of current taxable property in the taxing district for the current levy year is less than the total EAV of taxable property for the previous levy year, unless a higher rate of increase is approved by voters.

3. *Request for Legislative Issues*
President Canning asked members to identify and highlight those issues of importance that require a legislative solution for use in the upcoming legislative sessions. This approach will provide the Legislative Committee and staff with the background knowledge to respond as these issues emerge in the legislative forum and to take a pro-active approach. He encouraged members' direct participation in Springfield for the veto session.

B. Transportation Committee - Sandy Frum, President, Village of Northbrook, Chair

1. *I-90 Corridor Planning Council*
Mr. Walczak reported on the Tollway's proposed reconstruction and widening of the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway with a possible fourth lane for managed traffic. He also reviewed plans for uses and impacts of a managed lane and congestion pricing.
2. *CMAQ Comment Letter*
Mr. Walczak stated that the NWMC sent a letter to the CMAQ Project Selection Committee Chair in response to the proposed 2012-2016 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program prepared by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. The letter expressed support for a number of regional issues and discussed several areas of concern such as the shift away from municipally sponsored projects and project funding.
3. *NWMC Comment Letter on Tollway Capital Plan*
Mr. Walczak stated that the NWMC sent a letter to Paula Wolff, Chair of the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority commenting on their Move Illinois capital plan which was approved by the Tollway Board in August. He stated that the Conference supported the reconstruction and widening of the Jane Adams tollway, but that there were still some concerns with the I-90 Expansion. The letter also supported the inclusion of planning funds for the Route 53 extension and the Elgin O'Hare West By-pass project.

C. Program Services Committee – Tim Wiberg, Manager, Village of Lincolnwood, Chair

1. *NWMC Surplus Vehicle and Equipment Agreement*
Mayor Turry stated that a new agreement was negotiated with Manheim Remarketing Inc. to conduct the NWMC surplus vehicle and equipment auctions. The fall 2011 NWMC Surplus Vehicle and Equipment Auction is scheduled for Saturday, October 15, at the Wheeling Public Works Facility.

Motion to approve the agreement was made by Mayor Turry. It was seconded by Manager Limardi and approved.
2. *NWMC Regional Training Institute Fall Calendar*
President Canning stated that the NWMC Regional Training Institute will offer four training opportunities for local government officials this fall, and that a catalog of the seminars was sent to members.

VII. Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Mayor Mulder to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. It was seconded by President Frum and approved. The following items were approved on the Consent Agenda:

- Monthly Budget Report and Warrant List for May 2011
- Monthly Budget Report and Warrant List for June 2011
- Monthly Budget Report and Warrant List for July 2011

VIII. Other Business

None.

IX. For the Good of the Order

None.

X. Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 12, 7:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Northbrook.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Mayor McLeod. It was seconded by President Cummings and approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Sandra E. Frum, NWMC Secretary and
President, Village of Northbrook