



Attachment 1

Daniel J. McLaughlin
Mayor, Village of Orland Park
Executive Board Chairman

Rahm Emanuel
Mayor, City of Chicago
Executive Board Vice Chairman

Jim Holland
Mayor, Village of Frankfort
Executive Board Secretary

MINUTES Executive Board Meeting Tuesday, January 20, 2015

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Orland Park Mayor and Executive Board Chairman, Daniel J. McLaughlin, representing the Southwest Conference of Mayors, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the offices of the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference, 1220 Oakbrook Road, Oak Brook, Illinois. Others in attendance included:

Directors

Mayor Gerald R. Bennett, Palos Hills (representing the Southwest Conference of Mayors)
President Deborah M. Bullwinkel, Villa Park (representing the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference)
President Karen Darch, Barrington (representing the Northwest Municipal Conference) (via speaker phone)
Mayor Jim Holland, Village of Frankfort (representing the Will County Governmental League)
Mayor Daniel J. McLaughlin, Orland Park (representing the Southwest Conference of Mayors)
Mayor John A. Ostenburg, Park Forest (representing the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association)
Mayor Jeffrey D. Schielke, City of Batavia (representing the Metro West Council of Governments)
Mayor Jeffrey T. Sherwin, Northlake (representing the West Central Municipal Conference)
President Erin Smith, Village of Lakewood (representing the McHenry County Council of Governments)
Mayor Thomas Weisner, City of Aurora (representing the Metro West Council of Governments)
Claudia Chavez, Assistant to the Mayor, City of Chicago

Others

Larry Bury, Deputy Director, Northwest Municipal Conference
Mark L. Fowler, Executive Director, Northwest Municipal Conference
Jill Hodge, Special Projects Assistant, Orland Park
Paul Lee, Legislative Assistant, City of Chicago
Edward Paesel, Executive Director, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association
Richard F. Pellegrino, Executive Director, West Central Municipal Conference
Suzette Quintell, Deputy Director, DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference
Steven A. Quigley, Executive Director, Will County Governmental League
Vicky Smith, Executive Director, Southwest Conference of Mayors
David Bennett, Executive Director, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
Allison Clements, Director of Housing Initiative, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
Edith Makra, Director of Environmental Initiatives, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
Jeffrey Walter, Project Coordinator, Environmental Initiatives, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

II. Approval of Minutes

President Karen Darch requested a change to the minutes of the November 10, 2014 Executive Board meeting. She stated that she was present in person at the meeting and asked that the phrase “(via speaker phone)” be deleted from her name in the list of attendees. Mayor Thomas Weisner made a motion to approve the minutes with this revision. Mayor Jeffery Schielke seconded and the motion was unanimously adopted.

**City of Chicago · DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference · Lake County Municipal League · McHenry County Council of Governments
Metro West Council of Governments · Northwest Municipal Conference · South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association
Southwest Conference of Mayors · West Central Municipal Conference · Will County Governmental League**

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III. Legislative Consulting and Public Relations Services

As called for the Caucus strategic plan, Executive Director David Bennett and the Caucus Officers drafted a request for qualifications (RFQ) for legislative consulting and public relations services. Chairman McLaughlin said he received positive feedback from consultants in the field about it. The consultants selected will complement existing lobbying and public relations of the COGs, not supplant them. Mayor Weisner noted that the record-setting sponsorship income of \$66,000 from the Gala allows the Caucus to afford this service. He recognized the assistance from Chicago in securing sponsorships and challenged the Committee to continuously commit to securing such sponsorships.

Mayor McLaughlin called for volunteers to help select service providers. President Bullwinkel, Ms. Claudia Chavez, Mr. Mark Baloga and Mr. Steven Quigley agreed to help. Chairman McLaughlin also suggested removing the proposed budget information from the RFQ, instead allowing bidders to propose fees. President Erin Smith suggested a clearer scope of work, such as the number of required meetings and reporting requirements to better set expectations. She also suggested asking bidders for an hourly rate to accommodate project additions. Mayor Weisner moved to accept the RFQ with the proposed modifications and Mayor Jim Holland seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Bylaws Amendment re Second Vice Chair Position

Dave Bennett reviewed amendments to the Caucus Bylaws which add a Second Vice Chair position. Mayor Schielke noted that the rotation of the existing Secretary to the Second Vice Chair position will create a vacancy at the Secretary position. He asked if consideration has been given to a nominee for the Secretary spot. Mr. Bennett noted that the Officers have discussed Mayor Brian Sager from Woodstock as a possible candidate. He will be coming on the Executive Board this spring to replace President Erin Smith as the McHenry County Council of Governments Primary Director. The Caucus has never had a Mayor from McHenry County in its Officers rotation before.

President Karen Darch suggested correction Article III, Section 2, line 1 be updated to reflect all three positions of Chairman and two Vice Chairs. Mayor Gerald Bennett moved to approve the bylaws amendment with Mayor Darch's proposed revision. Mayor Schielke seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Showcasing Region's Best Practices

Mayor McLaughlin introduced his idea to highlight innovative municipal programs and policies through the region. He believes the Caucus should create opportunities for mayors to better learn from one another. President Smith discussed McHenry County COG's model municipal project competition and promotion. They set project categories and recognize winners. Mayor Schielke suggested the title, "Acute Observations" and shared his experience with medical marijuana facility siting in Batavia. The Board concurred with Chairman McLaughlin's suggestion.

VI. Pension Reform Update

Mayor Weisner reported on the pension reform case filed before the Illinois Supreme Court in November. An expedited briefing schedule has been set. The Attorney General submitted the State's initial brief last week. Appellees will file their response in mid-February. The AG will then reply at the end of February. Oral arguments will be heard in mid-March.

Mayor Weisner also noted that amicus briefs were filed in the case last week. The City of Chicago and the Illinois Municipal League representing all other municipalities in the State were among the groups which filed.

Mayor Weisner also discussed the prospects of when the Supreme Court might rule on the case. If a ruling comes down soon after the March oral arguments, there would be time remaining in the spring legislative session for the General Assembly to address any changes the Court might require. If, however, it requires additional time that flirts with the legislature's adjournment date, corrective action would have to wait until the fall veto session.

In either event, Mayor Weisner noted that the Mayors Pension Reform Strategy Group which has been meeting for the last several months will meet soon to reassess the overall strategy for police and fire pension reform. He summarized the key elements of the strategy - benefit reform; additional revenue; and fund consolidation

President Deborah Bullwinkel asked about Governor Rauner's stance on pension reform. Mayor Weisner responded that the Governor is aware of the history and current actions. He is aware that the state makes the rules but not the pension fund payments. President Darch reported that Governor Rauner made comments at the inauguration suggesting to municipalities that "I am on your side". Mayor Darch also stated that she believes fund consolidation will be favored by the administration given their reaction to discussions on the topic in the Local Government and Intergovernmental Efficiencies Subcommittee of the Transition Committee.

Mr. Mark Fowler mentioned that the Northwest Municipal Conference met recently with Jim Clark, the Governor's aide for local government affairs. On the topic of pension reform, Mr. Clark advised that the administration plans to wait on the Supreme Court decision to see how it might affect pension reform. Mr. Clark also suggested that the Governor believes police and fire should be treated differently.

Mayor Weisner expressed concern that the Democratic leadership and Governor Rauner will consolidate funds and consider the issue resolved. Mayor Jeffrey Sherwin said a fund consolidation bill will be very difficult to pass as unions and fund managers will hold tight to status quo.

A discussion of police and fire pension benefits followed. Mayor Weisner said there are captains who retire from Aurora, collect the City's pension and currently serve on forces while building second pensions in other cities. President Smith suggests she is able to attract experienced officers to her small town because they can take their pensions with them. Mayor Holland says Frankfort only has problems because of the large burden of disability. Mayor Darch said more Barrington officers are on disability than collecting pensions. Mayor McLaughlin believes the future Caucus public relations firm can be helpful in raising awareness about the situation.

VII. News from Related Organizations

Mayor Bennett reported that Randy Blankenhorn, Executive Director of CMAP has accepted the position as Secretary of IDOT under Governor Rauner. He expressed optimism about the agency and believes Mr. Blankenhorn will work hard to secure needed capital funds for transportation. Jill Leary will become the interim director while a search firm helps identify a candidate for a permanent Executive Director. May 1 is the target date to have the position filled.

Mayor Bennett also reported that Brad Cole is the new Illinois Municipal League (IML) Executive Director. As the former Mayor of Carbondale and a former IML Board member, Mayor Bennett believes that Mr. Cole has a keen understanding of municipal issues. He has already hit the ground running. Mayors Darch and Weisner are also on the IML Board. They, too, expressed optimism about the new leadership at IML and look forward to future progress.

VIII. Greenest Region Compact Update

Mayor John Osterburg offered an update on the actions of the Caucus Environment Committee in recent months and encouraged participation. He introduced Edith Makra, Director of Environmental Initiatives for the Caucus to provide a summary of the Greenest Region Compact Update.

Ms. Makra explained that the Greenest Region Compact (GRC) was a pledge to take various strategic environmental actions by municipalities. Between 2007 and 2008, ninety-six municipalities and COGs had formally adopted the pledge, though little was done to support and monitor the progress of these adopters in subsequent years. With support from the Chicago Community Trust, the Caucus undertook a comprehensive update of the GRC. The goal of the project was to provide a strategic framework for local environmental actions that align with regional and national goals and leverage funds and resources.

The update was done in three steps. First a survey of adopters was done, in partnership with CMAP, to measure the impact of the GRC and identify progress and environmental priorities. The survey showed environmental actions by GRC adopters with a modest attribution of GRC influence. Next environmental achievements of all municipalities, from objective sources, were inventoried and analyzed. This step revealed environmental actions already being done and identified communities with moderate to low numbers of environmental achievements as the target beneficiaries of the GRC2. Achievements of all municipalities were mapped and are posted on the Caucus website <http://mayorscaucus.org/interactive-map-environmental-achievements-region/>.

In the final step, all published sustainability plans done by communities were reviewed and 30 could be analyzed in detail. Environmental sustainability goals from these local plans and 7 regional (including Go To 2040) and national plans were synthesized to form a draft framework for the updated "GRC2". This framework incorporates all local and regional goals and is believed to represent consensus among municipalities leading in environmental policies and actions in the region. Outreach is underway to refine the framework and gain support. Launch is planned for September 2015. Municipalities and COGs will be invited to adopt the new pledge. Ms. Makra plans to work to align funding opportunities with the GRC2 and expects to recreate a recognition program similar to the former Clean Air Counts program.

IX. Sustainability Project

Mr. Bennett presented a summary of his plans for a new sustainability project building off past efforts of the Sustainability Exchange. The Sustainability Exchange is a spinoff of TUR Partners that aims to invest private equity in public sustainability projects. This group presented to the Environment Committee 1 ½ years ago and has been meeting individually with municipalities to line up projects. It also succeeded in securing a pledge of \$500,000/ year for 3 years from the Chicago Community Trust (CCT). The Exchange has stalled in its efforts to get off the ground recently. There is an opportunity for the Mayors Caucus to step in and recalibrate the program so it is more responsive to municipal needs.

Mr. Bennett has been meeting with the Trust, the Sustainability Exchange, Rita Athas, and Bill Abolt, now with AECOM for the past few months to develop a strategy for a new program that can assume leadership in funding municipal sustainability projects. With Abolt and Athas, he has been strategizing about a comprehensive program to provide technical assistance and resources to municipalities to support environmental sustainability initiatives. He expressed frustration with private investments and efforts needed to chase various public and private grants. He proposed bringing it all together and talking to the CCT about supporting the revised approach with greater emphasis on being responsive to municipal needs. Mayor Schielke suggested Caucus environmental staff lead the effort and Mr. Bennett concurred.

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X. Housing Initiatives

Allison Clements, Director of Housing Initiatives, explained that the Caucus partners with CMAP and the Metropolitan Planning Council on the *Homes for a Changing Region* project. In February 2015, the partners will be releasing a toolkit that will allow municipal staff to chart future demand and supply trends for housing in their community and develop their own long-term housing policy plans based on sound market research and input from local residents. This will allow more municipalities to utilize the project moving forward. The Caucus and its partners will also be releasing a web-based update to "Home Grown: Local Housing Strategies in Action." Home Grown is a compilation of housing case studies from across our region. Each case study covers a housing policy, development, program, or financing strategy; how it works; why it was successful; and how it was funded. Case studies address a range of community housing issues, from affordability to accessibility and from property management to demolition.

Ms. Clements stated that the Housing and Community Development Committee will be meeting the second Tuesday of every other month with its first meeting on Tuesday, February 10th at 9:30a.m. at CMAP/MMC. The Committee will be discussing the future direction of the group as well as strategies for rental property maintenance/landlord engagement in communities. Allison noted that Brent Denzin of Ancel Glink will attend to answer questions about non-home rule municipalities' ability to monitor and regulate rental property.

Chairman McLaughlin noted that his municipality recently passed an amended crime free housing ordinance. Orland Park worked with the Shriver Center to address some concerns the group had with its ordinance regarding domestic violence victims. Allison asked that Mayor McLaughlin send a representative to the Committee meeting to learn more about how the ordinance was changed to address these concerns. Mayor Weisner noted that Aurora has a requirement that a landlord attending a training course. Mayor Schielke stated his municipality has had a positive experience with their crime free ordinance. President Bullwinkel stated that she would like to attend the meeting to discuss the concerns that she has regarding non-home rule municipalities' ability to implement crime free housing programs.

XI. Scheduling Next Quarterly Caucus Meeting

Dave Bennett queried the group about preferred days for the next Quarterly meeting and early to mid-March was recommended.

XII. Other Business

Mayor McLaughlin reported that Orland Park has signed up as commemorative city with Department of Defense to honor Vietnam Veterans. The Village will host a traveling wall and 2 commemorative events in 2015.

XIII. Next Executive Board Meeting: March 9, 2015, CMAP Offices, 9:30 a.m.

Chairman McLaughlin announced that the next Board meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on March 9, 2015 at CMAP in downtown Chicago.

XIV. Adjournment

Mayor Bennett moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m. Mayor Schielke seconded and the motioned carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Holland
Executive Board Secretary
and Mayor, Village of Frankfort

