 **Jim Holland**

Mayor, Village of Frankfort

Executive Board Chairman

**Rahm Emanuel**

Mayor, City of Chicago

Executive Board 1st Vice Chair

**Robert J. Nunamaker**

President, Village of Fox River Grove

Executive Board 2nd Vice Chair

**Joseph Mancino**

Mayor, Village of Hawthorn Woods

Executive Board Secretary

**MINUTES**

**Executive Board Meeting**

**Monday, September 12, 2016**

1. **Call to Order and Welcome**

Frankfort Mayor and Executive Board Chairman Jim Holland, representing the Will County Governmental

League, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. at the Offices of the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference at 1220 Oak Brook Road in Oak Brook, Illinois. Others in attendance included:

*Directors*

President Karen Y. Darch, Barrington – via teleconference (representing the Northwest Municipal Conference)

Mayor Gerald R. Bennett, Palos Hills (representing the Southwest Conference of Mayors)

Mayor Paul S. Braun, Flossmoor (representing the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association)

Mayor Joseph Mancino, Hawthorn Woods (representing the Lake County Municipal League)

Mayor John A. Ostenburg, Park Forest (representing the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association)

Mayor Jeffery D. Schielke, Batavia (representing the Metro West Council of Governments)

Mayor Jeffrey T. Sherwin, Northlake (representing the West Central Municipal Conference)

*Others*

Mark Fowler, Executive Director, Northwest Municipal Conference

Edward Paesel, Executive Director, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association

Suzette Quintell, Deputy Executive Director, Du Page Mayors and Managers Conference

Mary Randle, Executive Director, Metro West Council of Governments

Victoria Smith, Executive Director, Southwest Conference of Mayors

Benjamin Brockschmidt, Vice President of Policy, Illinois Chamber of Commerce

Doug House, Construction Analyst, Indiana, Illinois Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting

Michael Sturino, President, Illinois Road and Transportation Builders Association

David E. Bennett, Executive Director, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

Allison Clements, Director of Housing Initiatives, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

Edith Makra, Director of Environmental Initiatives, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

1. **Approval of Minutes**

David Bennett noted a correction to the minutes for the July 11, 2016 meeting that had been sent via email. In section VIII under the Regional Housing Market Segmentation Analysis Project Update the program was funded by a grant from The Chicago Community Trust, not the Attorney General’s Office. Mayor Schielke moved to approve the minutes with the noted change and Mayor Sherwin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**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**

**233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, Illinois 60606**

**Tel: 312.201.4505 Fax: 312.258.1851**

[***www.mayorscaucus.org***](http://www.mayorscaucus.org)

**MINUTES**

**Executive Board Meeting**

**September 12, 2016**

**Page 2**

**III. Presentation: Safe Roads Amendment**

Mayor Holland welcomed our guests Benjamin Brockschmidt, Michael Sturino and Doug House to discuss the Safe Roads Amendment. This amendment would require all transportation-related revenue to be dedicated solely to public highways, roads, streets, bridges, and mass transit and will prevent future sweeps of these funds by Springfield. Michael noted that every editorial board that has met with their group has supported this amendment. There were zero votes against it in the Illinois Senate and only 4 votes against in in the Illinois House. The next step is for the Secretary of State to send every voter a blue book with language about the amendment which will arrive later this month. The website saferoadsamendment.com provides more information. They will need 60 percent approval on Election Day for it to pass. Benjamin then reviewed a PowerPoint presentation. He noted that Illinois has the third largest inventory of public roads and bridges and the third largest transit system in the country, however the lack of investment threatens our safety. Congestion may prevent people from accepting jobs in the area. Our public transit system is falling behind. Every $1.3 billion in infrastructure investment provides a return of $2 billion in growth. The value of dollars collected has generally stayed the same over time, however the cost of equipment and work to be done has gone up. Federal funding has also fallen short – the Highway Trust Fund has been flat funding at a lower value with no increase in sight. The Safe Roads Amendment won’t solve the local funding problem, but it will ensure that no future sweeps affect local MFT formula funds. It will ensure that revenues collected from transportation sources are reinvested in transportation assets. It will allow for the funding of transit, pedestrian, rail, road, bridge and other supporting transportation assets including safety. It will provide for expenditures of the operations that support transportation assets including safety. It provides accountability and certainty of revenues. The Amendment will not enact any new taxes or fees. It does not change state or federal allocation of funds to different regions of the state or units of government. It will not prevent a government from spending money as it sees fit.

Doug House then introduced himself and explained he has had experience working in municipal government and is the past president of the IL Public Works Association. He noted that often local governments will need to pull funding from other sources to accomplish their transportation projects. Communities often have to delay projects or will have to delay other purchases such as squad cars and park system enhancements in order to fund these projects on their own. He noted that this Amendment has virtually no opposition and that the mayors should help in supporting it, as well as educating residents about the Amendment so that they support it on the ballot.

Mayor Sherwin noted his concern that if the amendment passes then the state legislature will have even more reason to go after the Local Government Distributive Fund. Mayor Bennett asked why there is a constitutional amendment if the state legislature is so supportive. Michael said that the current political environment may mean that Springfield wants to make residents feel like they have a choice. Benjamin pointed out that of the 12 proposed constitutional amendments of the legislature only this amendment made it out and he is not sure why. Some state elected officials say that it holds the Legislature accountable and prevents sweeps moving forward. Mayor Mancino asked if it is good government to use constitutional amendments to tie future elected officials’ hands. He noted the position we are in now with the constitutional amendment regarding pensions. He stated that funding roads is a good thing and is the right thing to do, but he doesn’t think its good government to use this method. Mayor Bennett stated that these funds are being taken for other uses and if we do not tie legislators’ hands then we are not protecting ourselves. Michael noted that if the general public thinks that their user fees are going to support transportation investment then they will be willing to pay those fees; without this amendment we may lose the public support for transportation investments. Mayor Holland asked them to read the exact language that will be on the ballot, and then also asked if his community gets $1 million in MFT funds, what his community would receive under the amendment. Michael said the community would get $1 million, but this past year they did not. According to IDOT the budget for this current fiscal year is $2 billion (construction/engineering). This year there was a 25 percent cut across the board. Doug noted that over 30 other states have this type of amendment in place. Without being able to rely on these funds for “slush”, Springfield will not be able to make budget “indecision” as they have been in the past. Mayor Schielke said that in a study completed in Batavia, the results show that 25% of residents dislike government and will not support any new

**MINUTES**

**Executive Board Meeting**

**September 12, 2016**

**Page 3**

initiatives, the other 25% love the community and will support any additional investment and 50% do not have an opinion. It’s those 50% we have to get to in order to get support. Mike noted that they are trying to raise $3 million for education/advertising and have raised $1.5 million thus far and plan to have TV commercials.

Dave Bennett asked them to explain how local governments got involved in drafting the amendment. Benjamin explained that they worked hard to engage local governments through the process of legislative intent and laid out scenarios in various areas and did everything they could within the time constraints. Dave noted local communities’ biggest concern is the use of vehicle sticker funds – many communities put those funds back into their general revenue fund. Benjamin said that the one area that will not be impacted is general sales tax on motor fuel. He also noted that Chicago is supportive of the amendment. Mayor Holland asked what the speakers want from the Mayors Caucus at this point in time. Ben asked for a special statement supporting the amendment from the organization. Dave Bennett explained the Caucus’ process of taking a position on legislation and thanked them for attending.

1. **Next Mayors Caucus Quarterly Business Meeting**

Dave Bennett explained that the Caucus’ next Quarterly Business Meeting will be held at Studio Xfinity, 901 W. Weed Street, Chicago from 12pm – 3pm. Lunch will be included at the meeting and there may be food trucks. Parking is challenging in the area and Comcast is working to secure reserve spots at one of the local lots. Possible agenda items are 1) Joint Legislative Strategy, 2) Lead in Drinking Water and 3) Coping with Public Safety Radio Bandwidth Mandates. Mayor Holland asked if anyone had other suggestions or feedback on the agenda items.Mayor Bennett noted that he would like to possibly see a discussion on the constitutional amendment on transportation. Mayor Schielke noted that there are many strapped cities and villages out there and they will struggle if they do not receive their LGDF, and we should include this as a part of our legislative discussion. Mayor Ostenburg asked about unintended consequences from constitutional amendments. Mayor Braun asked if we really want to budget by constitutional amendment, and Mayor Mancino also questioned if we want to govern in this manner. Mayor Schielke said the list of agenda items for the meeting is appropriate and we should spend the most time on the legislative discussion.

**V. Proposed Preliminary FY 2017 Annual Budget**

Dave Bennett presented the proposed preliminary FY2017 annual budget. Dave noted that in recent years we delayed the approval of our budget to the November 2016 meeting. In previous years we had not resolved our Public Sector Energy Efficiency grant approval which was why the budget had been delayed. Now we have been approved for half of the amount that we hope to have this year. We also do not have word yet on the Chicago Community Trust Go Grant amount and should have an answer on that later this month. For these reasons Dave is asking the Board to approve a preliminary budget which will be finalized once we have word on those two grants. He is asking to approve a preliminary budget that includes half of the proposed DCEO amount. Mayor Schielke made a motion to approve the FY2017 preliminary budget and Mayor Bennett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Policy Area: Environment**

**A. Extended Producer Responsibility Policies - Pharmaceuticals & Electronic Disposal**

Mayor Ostenburg explained that Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) policies bring manufacturers back into the role of managing societal impacts from their products. The Environment Committee is addressing EPR initiatives on both electronic waste and unwanted pharmaceuticals. Electronic manufacturers, recyclers and solid waste agencies are participating in the upcoming meeting to find solutions to the electronics waste disposal problems caused by market and state policy factors. Park Forest had an event with over 232 televisions and over 8,000 pounds of recycling. The Committee is also supportive of a proposed Cook County pharmaceutical disposal ordinance using the EPR model. Committee member- Mayor Pulia of Westchester and Mayor Alsberry of Hazel Crest testified at a County hearing on the topic. MWRD is also a proponent of this ordinance.

**MINUTES**

**Executive Board Meeting**

**September 12, 2016**

**Page 4**

***B. Greenest Region Compact 2***

***1. Sustainability Network Conversations with COGs***

**2. Executive Board Member Adoption of GRC 2**

Dave Bennett discussed plans to gather feedback on the proposed Sustainability Network from COGs. Mayor Ostenburg reported that about half of the communities represented by the Executive Board have adopted the Greenest Region Compact 2. He asked all Executive Board members to endorse the GRC2 through municipal resolution and report adoption to Edith Makra, Director of Environmental Initiatives. It is important to the funding agencies and program partners to show unity in the GRC2.

Mayor Ostenburg invited participation in these Environment Committee meetings.

**C. Upcoming Environment Committee Meetings**

**1. September 15: Special Meeting with French Delegation, Hoffman Estates Village Hall**

**Topic: Sustainability, Smart Cities, Sister Cities, 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.**

**2. September 27: Kane County Government Center**

**Topic: Electronic Recycling, 10:00 a.m.**

**3. October 18: ComEd Training Facility**

**Topic: Energy Efficiency for Residents and Small Businesses, 10:00 a.m.**

**D. Public Sector Energy Efficiency Grant Program Re-Launched**

Edith Makra invited municipalities to apply for funds for energy efficiency upgrades in public buildings. The DCEO has relaunched the program after a year of inactivity. The Caucus will make grant awards until funds are exhausted.

**E. ComEd Powering Safe Communities 2016 Grant Recipients**

Edith Makra reported on the success of the Powering Safe Communities grant program. The Caucus awarded $170,000 in funding, provided by Com Ed, to support vital public safety initiatives in 24 communities.

**VII. Policy Area: Housing and Economic Development**

1. **Diversity Issues Task Force Meeting: September 13, CMAP/Mayors Caucus Offices, 9:00 a.m.**

Mayor Sherwin noted that there is a Diversity Task Force meeting on September 13th at 9:00am at the CMAP/MMC offices. The Task Force will hear a presentation from the Metropolitan Planning Council on their Cost of Segregation study, as well as information from the Latino Policy Forum on the Supreme Court’s indecision on President Obama’s Executive Actions on immigration. Board Members are encouraged to attend.

**B. Housing & Community Development Committee Meeting**

Mayor Sherwin noted that the next Housing and Community Development meeting is on September 20th at 9:30am at the CMAP/MMC offices. The new Executive Director of the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA), Audra Hamernik, will attend the meeting to talk about IHDA’s programs and the resources they have available. The Committee will also have a strategic planning discussion.

**C. Anticipated Release of IHDA Abandoned Properties Grant Program Application**

Mayor Sherwin noted that IHDA will be releasing their application for the Abandoned Properties Grant program on September 16th pending IHDA Board approval.

**MINUTES**

**Executive Board Meeting**

**September 12, 2016**

**Page 5**

**VIII. Policy Area: Transportation**

**A. Update re USDOT/FHWA Rulemaking on MPO Consolidation**

Mayor Schielke noted that the Caucus has concerns around the proposed rulemaking on MPO consolidation and handed it over to Dave Bennett to explain further. Dave noted there were 515 comments that were made on the proposed rulemaking and the Chicago region was well represented in those comments. US DOT has brought on some extra staff to respond to the comments. There were not a lot of members of Congress tuned in to this issue during the rulemaking but they are weighing in now, and many Caucuses are telling DOT they will write legislation prohibiting the consolidation of MPOs. The National Association of Regional Councils is considering a lawsuit. Mayor Bennett noted that our region had the most comments. Mayor Mancino asked where this originated from and Mayor Bennett explained that the head of US DOT had conflicts between the Carolina’s MPOs. Dave Bennett noted that there was only one comment in support of the consolidation.

**IX Other Business**

There was no additional discussion on other business.

**X. Next Executive Board Meeting**

Mayor Holland noted that the next Executive Board meeting will be held on November 14th at the CMAP/Mayors Caucus offices at 9:30am.

**XI. Adjournment**

Mayor Braun made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mayor Bennett seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:45am.