

Montgomery County Board

HWE Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, September 5th, 2013

Time: 8:30 AM – County Board Room

Members Present: Chairman Connie Beck, Chuck Graden, Earlene Robinson, Richard Wendel,
and Board Chairman Roy Hertel

Members Absent: Mike Webb

Others Present: Bill Gonet, Dawn Lutz, Sandy Leitheiser, Nancy Richardson

The committee met today to discuss the following:

- 1. Update/Approval Amend the County Food Ordinance regarding Inspections:** Chairman Hertel and Board member Plunkett attended the Health Department's Food Ordinance public meeting on September 4th, 2013. A press release was sent a week before the meeting because there was concern that the ordinance had not been mailed to all the businesses first. If the Health Department were to send out notices they would have to send out to 200 establishments. The amended Food Ordinance was also posted on the County website. Hertel reported the Health Department may change the words on the A,B,C score cards to eliminate Satisfactory, Needs Improvement, and Unsatisfactory, but they believe a letter on the door could be an incentive to change problems. Hertel stated businesses will be graded down if their floor is dirty, but it is really about cleanliness and safety of the food. Food has to be kept at 41 degrees in their refrigerators, and that is extremely important. Hertel reported 10 businesses out of the 200 have a B or C rating or 5%. There are approximately nine businesses that have B's and one that has a C and it is not a restaurant. An "A" score is a grade of 91-100. Hertel stated businesses have some time to fix the issues by January 2014 when the ordinance would take effect. If the ordinance passes the board, the Health Department would go out to all businesses prior to January and show the businesses how the old score and the new score would compare. They would then go back starting in January and inspect the premises. Robinson stated it is good that the Health Department is going out face to face with the businesses and doesn't believe a notice about the amendment needs to be sent out. Hertel reported an "N" on the door means New Business with no rating for 30 days, then an inspection will be done and a new letter put on. Hertel reported 23 counties have applied for the grant and believes are considering a letter grade. Hertel stated this is for public safety and doesn't see much wrong with the ordinance. Leitheiser stated we should make the inspection reports available on the County website. A change can be made during inspection before a rating is made. Schools, hospitals and grocery stores that cook food are included. Robinson stated it is our duty as an elected official to look after the citizens of Montgomery County. Beck stated she would vote yes for the amendment, but wants Satisfactory and Unsatisfactory removed. Hertel stated the Health Department doesn't announce when inspections occur. They just show up. Graden would like to ask the Health Department questions at Tuesday's Board meeting. Beck stated we will have an open discussion at the board meeting.
- 2. Update/Approval Elections:** County Clerk Leitheiser reported candidate circulation started September 3rd, 2013 for the March 18th General Primary Election and petitions will be filed between November 26th and December 2nd, 2013. She also stated there is no fall election this year in Illinois and she will inform the public by sending a press release and send a letter to the polling places. Leitheiser also attended a meeting recently with ROE Superintendent Marchelle Kassebaum and school superintendents concerning the potential public question regarding combining Panhandle and Morrisonville School Districts. She also attended a Legislative Committee meeting last week where various new Election laws were discussed. Hertel asked about the status of the Early Voting Room in the Historic Courthouse Basement, and Leitheiser said the project will be begin when walls are built by contractor Tim Lipe as his schedule permits.

3. **Update/Approval Recycling Program and Events:** Dawn Lutz gave her report.
 - **Electronics Drive Information:** October 10th at Noon-5p.m. and October 11th 8-3 p.m. Drive will be well publicized. Smaller communities can bring in dump trucks. This will be the seventh drive in four years.
 - **Fire Alarm Installation Information:** Lutz met with Russ Campbell at the Litchfield Recycling Facility and the wireless alarm system is complete.
 - **Program Update:** Lutz reported collecting 1.8 Million lbs. of material so far this year. We will be around 2.5 Million by the end of November. Material prices have gone down since last year. Every three months Lutz will give updates on how the recycling program is doing.
4. **Update/Approval Solar Panels at Recycling:** Dave Ronen will present grant information at the October meeting.
5. **Update/Approval EPA Report:** Gonet stated as soon as we get the EPA grant application, he will sign it and then it must be attested by the County Clerk. It does not need County Board approval. He hopes to get this by the end of this month.
6. **Update/Approval Animal Control Facility and Program:** Nancy Richardson gave her report.
 - **Animal Control Intake Summary:** Less than last month. 15 adoptions.
 - **Update on Revenues & Expenses:** Revenues are \$51,963. Expenses are \$62,854.
 - **Barking Dogs:** Beck reported that there was a complaint to Megan Beeler and Mike Webb about a neighbor's barking dogs in the rural Butler area. There is no County Ordinance that addresses barking dogs in the rural areas of the County. Hertel asked Richardson to check the dogs to see if they are being cared for properly. Richardson stated a complaint must be filed first as the State will not allow Richardson to make an anonymous complaint.
 - Richardson will be emailing information such as donation logs to committee members.
 - Richardson reported Litchfield will only bring in injured cats and not stray cats.
 - Richardson would like security cameras in the parking lot when money comes in. She will give a fine for abandoned pets at the front door of the animal facility.
 - Richardson hired a new part-time employee.
 - 3 Year Rabies Tag – Richardson asked if we will increase the three-year tag in January the same as the 1-year tag. \$15 & \$45 would go to \$20 & \$50. Beck stated we will look back in Full Board minutes and find out. Hertel stated if the motion made in the past doesn't specify 1-year then the increase can also occur for the 3-year tag.
 - Cat room - \$1,360 was spent from donations. We reimbursed PAWS donation.
7. **Update/Approval HWE Committee Priority List:** Beck sent a memo out to the three departments to ask for a priority list and waiting on information back.
8. **Update/Approval Other Business:** None at this time.

Motion by Wendel, second by Graden to pay the Bills. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Robinson, second by Wendel to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by acting secretary Chris Daniels as Deputized by the Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder, Sandy Leitheiser.