

**KENOSHA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY BOARD CHAMBERS COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

**October 4, 2011**

The **Regular Meeting** was called to order by Chairman Molinaro at 7:30 p.m., in the County Board Room located in the Administration Building.

Roll call was taken.

Present: Supervisors Grady, Zerban, Rose, Celebre, Kubicki, Hallmon, Grulich, J. Gentz, Arrington, R. Frederick, Johnson, Michel, O'Day, Singer, B. Frederick, Kohlmeier, Molinaro, G. Gentz, Esposito, Clark, Noble, Underhill, Decker, Breunig, Haas, Elverman,

Excused: Supervisors Goebel, Ekornaas.

Present: 26.           Excused: 2.

At this time the County Executive presented the 2012 County Budget.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Jim Kennedy, 7819 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., stated he has worked for Kenosha County for 26 years and is currently completing his county service as Assistant to the Director in the Department of Human Services. He came to work for Kenosha County in 1985 because the county had made a commitment to modernizing and improving a mediocre public social service agency to make it a first rate organization. We have a fiscal challenge the County Executive mentioned and it is very important for the board to keep in mind Kenosha County has a very high quality community human service system that is based upon a partnership between county government and private non-profit agencies that they have contracts with. It is very important when the board considers the budget this year to not gut the contracted services thinking money will be saved; ultimately that could back fire.

Jack Rose, 4315 68<sup>th</sup> St., stated Mental Illness Awareness Week is October 2 - 8<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year is changing attitudes and changing lives. NAMI - Kenosha County is here to improve the quality of life for people affected with mental illness through advocacy, support and education. They stress recovery and fight stigma. Mental Illness Awareness Week is especially important this year as severe budget cuts threaten mental health services throughout the county. When cuts are made people who do not receive the services end up in hospitals, shelters, jails or dead. Treatment works, but only if the person gets it.

Shirley Varnell, 6603 15<sup>th</sup> Ave., stated she is concerned about the anticipated employee contribution to the employee health care. Some people at Brookside don't earn enough to be able to afford a high employee contribution. She hopes the board considers the work they do is a laboring job and they do need their health insurance.

**There were no Announcements of the Chairman**

**SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

Supervisor Elverman stated all construction projects reported on at the last meeting are still ongoing. Kenosha County parks were a major draw for people over the weekend. Oktoberfest was a huge success, KD park was very busy and Fox River Park had a huge cross country meet.

Supervisor Clark stated the Finance Committee budget hearings will be October 25, 26 27 (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday) and likely to carry over until Monday.

Supervisor Breunig stated she attended Oktoberfest Saturday at Old Settlers Park. It was very well attended and thanked the county staff and everyone from Heidi's Bakery for helping out.

Supervisor Noble stated Human Services Committee will have a joint meeting with the Human Services Board. The Human Services Committee has asked the Sheriff's Department to work together with them regarding inmates receiving FoodShare while incarcerated. There were 59 inmates who received FoodShare, 19 of them voluntarily reported they were in jail which is what all of them should have done. Some of the inmates were on Huber and were entitled to the benefit, 18 were ineligible to receive the benefit and the other 18 had families so the benefits were reduced. They found in a 3 month period \$10,400 was overpaid and those inmates will have to pay the county back or have their benefits reduced until it is paid back. They will now compare on a weekly basis the jail population with the people on public assistance.

Supervisor Michel stated the Judiciary & Law's meeting date has been changed.

#### **SUPERVISOR COMMENTS**

Supervisor Underhill thanked Jon Rudie's crew and the Park & Highway Departments for their help with Oktoberfest which was a huge success. Hospice Alliance will be having an "All that Jazz Fund Raiser" on Friday October 21<sup>st</sup> and encourages everyone to attend.

It was moved by Supervisor Noble to approve the September 6, 2011 minutes. Seconded by Supervisor Grady.

It was moved by Supervisor Clark to adjourn. Seconded by Supervisor Michel.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Prepared by: Edie LaMothe  
Deputy Clerk  
Submitted by: Mary T. Schuch-Krebs  
County Clerk