1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. INTRODUCTORY ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at: 9:00 AM by Chairman Jack D Franks.

PRESENT: Aavang, Acosta, Althoff (Remote), Barnes, Bates, Doherty, Gottemoller (Remote), Kears (Remote), McCann, Nowak, Parrish, Reinert, Skala, Smith, Thorsen, Vijuk, Wegener, Wheeler, Wilbeck, Yensen, Franks

ABSENT: Christensen, Jung Jr., Ness, Schofield

Also present were: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Scott Hartman, Deputy County Administrator; Joe Tirio, County Clerk; Sandra Salgado, Business Manager-Sheriffs Department; Melissa Adamson and interested staff and public

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Franks reviews the rules of public comment and the following members of the public speak:

Mark Justen regarding Coroner

5. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

6. NEW BUSINESS

Full comments can be heard on the McHenry County website audio

Chairman Franks makes opening remarks.

1. Review of the December 17, 2019 County Board Agenda Items

Chairman Franks asks for any items that will be removed in order to allow all staff that is not necessary for questions to return to their departments.

ITEMS REMOVED FOR DISCUSSION:

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
6.1. County Board - Regular Meeting - Nov 19, 2019 7:00 PM - removed by Ms. Barnes for discussion REPORTS
16.1.A - County Clerk Report - removed by Mr. Vijuk for discussion
16.1.E.2- Coroner Report - removed by Mr. Vijuk for discussion
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CORONER'S OFFICE
16.2.G.1. Resolution Placing a Binding Referendum to Voters to Abolish the Office of McHenry County Coroner - removed by Mr. Skala for discussion
DISCUSSION
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
6.1. County Board - Regular Meeting - Nov 19, 2019 7:00 PM
Ms. Barnes would like the amendment to advisory coroner referendum to be placed more prominently on the website.

REPORTS
16.1.A - County Clerk Report
Mr. Vijuk has questions on automation fund. Mr. Tirio responds and Mr. Wheeler adds comment.

16.1.E.2 - Coroner Report
Ms. Yensen asks about the increase in JourneyCare Hospice and Ms. Salgado responds. Ms. Parrish adds comment.

Mr. Kearns reminds members not to respond all on emails or we will have an open meetings violation.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CORONER’S OFFICE
16.2.G.1. Resolution Placing a Binding Referendum to Voters to Abolish the Office of McHenry County Coroner
Chairman Franks states that the version in the packet is not the amended version and he reads the amended version into record. Mr. Skala states that there is information we need to get a plan in place so voters can make an informed decision. Chairman Franks asks Mr. Austin to explain the suggested plan and we can use the current model for other appointed positions and the need keep this position as insulated from politics as possible.
Members continue to discuss the following items:
The proper way to hire/appoint this person
State Law from 2016 in regards to this office and training standards
Ms. McCann reads a letter from Robert Russell, Kane County Coroner into record
The need for an independent coroner that can speak for the dead
Seek information and assistance of other professional organizations to guide
The need for a plan before it is presented to the voters
Slow down process and add a job description to the resolution
Chairman Franks makes closing remarks
Outside group to evaluate and provide accreditations to add professionalism to the office
What are the inherent liabilities to the county
Oversight of the coroner's office
How the referendum will affect the County Board’s efforts

ORDINANCES
17.2.A. Proposed Changes to Public Health Ordinance Articles I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII
Ms. McCann makes comments and will be introducing an amendment to what was originally passed out of committee at the Tuesday County Board meeting.
Mr. Reinert makes states his concerns. Mr. Kearns makes comments regarding the amendments and resolution put forward. Chairman Franks responds.
Ms. Yensen sees this as a user fee.
Mr. Kearns states the resolution should have come thru as new and unfinished business. Mr. Wheeler says it was stated at the previous Committee of the Whole that the resolution was going to come thru as presented.
Mr. Reinert states that the law does not state McHenry County has to track every cat and that the cat owners should be responsible.
Ms. Adamson says this is public safety and it is rabies preventative

7. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT
Full comments can be heard on the McHenry County website audio starting at 01:24:27
Mr. Austin will present a written report on Tuesday and states there is information in everyone's mailbox from MPA report on dementia units.

8. OTHER

None

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION - (IF NECESSARY)

None

10. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Ms. Yensen made a motion, seconded by all to adjourn at 10:47 am Chairman Franks declared the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

-BMG

Full Comments on the above agenda items are included in the audio recording of this meeting, which can be found on the McHenry County Meeting Portal.