HEW and Solid Waste Committee Meeting
***Special Meeting for HEW Funding Hearings**
Tentative Minutes
August 28, 2009 8:00 a.m.

1. Meeting called to order by Committee Chairman Jason Bauer at 8:03. Members present: Jason Bauer, Dorothy Bowers , Lynne Kilker, Jim Barnes, Dan Janes, Fred Horner. Also present; Meggon McKinley, Marcia Heuer, funding applicants.

2. Funding Hearings:

   a. 708 Board Hearing Recap of Discussion:
      - Currently have a .05 levy, with a max of 1.5. Kilker notes $101 per client, which is very low. Question is whether or not Sinnissippi is providing free screening, because we've heard it is moving to a fee – based service. 708 Board says there has always been a fee, but it's been based on the ability to pay. They are trying to take a tighter stance on collecting these fees.
      - What is Ogle County getting for our funding?
        - HOPE & VOP = primarily Ogle County
        - LSSI = many counties
        - Other
      - Kilker notes the data seems quite hidden and difficult because we don't get all the individual applications– please bring out the data regarding how we are receiving benefit to Ogle County. Would also like to see next year Ogle County funding as % of service next time.
      - 708 Board notes it is 100%
      - Horner notes we have oversight for the total 1.5 levy, but can't determine how 708 Board distributes the funds. Kilker wants to ensure the performance of each agency is strong. 708 Board clarifies that they have all the hearings in May, but doesn't think the HEW committee wants to go through that level of detail. Bowers notes the 708 board does a great job distributing the funds and do the best job they can in covering as many clients in Ogle County as possible.
      - 708 Board noted the Rochelle hospital emergency room had 78 mental health cases alone. Lots of suicide attempts.
      - Sheriff noted how important social services role in our criminal justice and jail is. We're seeing increase rate of suicide threats. Some are very violent, and many stay in our facility even if they are unfit for prosecution. State doesn't have beds for them. We're not counselors or psychiatrists, but we have to deal with them. We need support of HOPE, LSSI, probation dept, etc. It's important to us and to public safety and quality of life in this county. I'm advocate of funding these services.
      - Bauer suggested recruiting other mental health agencies to come support Ogle County too.
      - 708 board notes some agencies came to them for funding, but was denied because they didn't meet state statutes.
      - 708 Board is asking to increase the rate to support the budget being requested.

b. U of I Extension Recap of Discussion

- Levy max is .05. Broos says we are at .01 and expect to stay there.
- Extension Office is on the state fiscal year (July 1)
- State allows 100% matching, but usually get 95-100%. It was 94% in FY '08. This year, we've only received 70% and expect to get another payment that will come in FY 10 for 09. Broos noted efforts to keep their budgets streamlined, like eliminating a secretary, mailing costs (more email and less mass newsletter mailings particularly in agriculture), using the web site for kids and parents to get information which helps a lot. Internet switch to Comcast has helped too. Kilker commended Extension office for these efforts.
- Broos says matching funds are key - organizations that give us money without restriction can often be matched by the state. If we get money for the children's farm at the fair, or other dedicated funds aren't able to be matched. Best to give funds that are general. They can match all general funds given together. I've budgeted at less than 100% matching so we aren't assuming the max.
- Extension office still provides cooking for Ogle seniors in Polo and also in Rochelle, and it does tend to move around the county. Usually 20 turn out. The kid's cooking classes are more popular and we're now asked to give cooking classes to WIC clients, limited to low resource audience. Senior classes are open to everyone. And we go to all senior centers to give education about nutritious education.
- Bowers and Bauer thank Broos for all the reductions they've set.
- Broos clarified other programs like science siesta and health jam each happen once a year, and done with college of medicine in Rockford. Many of the 4h youth development programs are tailored to the school year. We hope to partner with larger companies for funding to do more of this. Same for robotics – popular and we've only done 2 after school programs and partner with companies to do more of that plus GPS after school programs.
- Barnes asks if you raise your levy to 2.5%, how much more would that bring in? 5% would be $700,000 or so and 2.5% would be about $350,000. Committee authorized $150k last year and Extension Office has been very pleased. Many of the Extension counties are butting up against their max. If we asked for a lot more, we could hire and do more programs. But in our county it seems we're meeting the needs that are out there. We wouldn't want to start something we couldn't sustain. Janes noted the Extension has done an excellent job.

c. Soil & Water Recap of Discussion

- Money from programs gives incentives to land owners
- Dept of Ag sends money to S&W agencies, and with the state funding programs, they cut our funding grand in half. This severely impacts us.
- Expenses are basically two employees- 95% of our money goes there. They've cut that in half, so not sure what we'll do. Our budget is $36,000 in the hole. This was half of what they set.
- Bowers – very well presented application.
- Horner – seems like you continue to struggle. Yes, S&W says, as the economy suffers it really impacts agencies like us. If things don't turn around, our existence will get pretty minimal. If this dept didn't exist, how would this affect the county? We're the only agency in the agricultural realm that can help the farmers get the cost share money from the fed and state governments. They pass those bills and we can get money out of those agencies, but they don't put money into the administration.

- State relies on agencies like us to administrate the programs. EPA will be asking us to do this. Winnebago is doing well, Lee County is struggling. Southern counties have already cut their staff hours. Some temporarily closed until more money comes. We can probably survive about 12 months. This area of state has been in top 10 of putting conservation on the land. The opportunities are still there, but the funding to allow it to be put on it is at risk. Lots of practices applied to the land, the cost share is an incentive to the farmer to put the practices in place. Many wouldn't do it if they didn't have incentive to do it. Waterways are an example. It takes a lot of design work to make this work and then work with the contractors to actually put it in place with the farmers. Most would have some waterways on their farms without this help, but poorly designed so that the soil does end of eroding and creating problems down stream.

d. Veterans Recap of Discussion

- Office expenses for rent, 2009 dropped to $2400- Marcy clarified these are to date numbers. Will be full amount in Nov. Also see months where Marcy hasn't taken a salary.
- Salary costs are $8.75/hour with Administrator at $4,000, always this way.
- On the rent, we're an insurance office, so that rent includes paper, postage, phone calls, equipment, everything. Purchased services, dropped down in 2008, what happened? Either the veterans are employed, or moving out of the county. Some move counties to get the funding. We have no idea what happened here. We were surprised. 2008 was a fluke. 2009 is higher and many more veterans are coming in. Transportation consists of supplying rides of veteran's hospitals. The VFW in Rochelle gets the drivers and we pay the expenses and the mileage. They can request rides from us, but we notify the Rochelle office. These are veterans that cannot provide for themselves.
- Kilker wonders why they are requesting less funds. Veterans say we will have money left over at the end of the year, so we thought we'd maintain our balance and not ask for more funds.
- Kilker is concerned that services will be more required because of Iraq soldiers coming back. Are you sure you want to drop it? Veteran's say our business was way down so we're projecting on this and then will see what happens next year for funding needs. Veterans know our services are temporary. Some have become homeless and they have found their way back to us. With transportation, drivers have passed away. This is changing things. Veterans are calling us and asking about transportation. Kilker would like to see a one page narrative about what you do. A story, what we provide. How you partner with VFW, etc.
- Bauer asks how do the veterans know the services are available. Veterans say it seems the VFW and legions know about us. They go there first and then they refer them to us. Word of mouth. Do you meet with district commanders? Marcy does. Part of our guidelines include that all requests go to governmental agencies first, then we are a last resort to fill in the government gaps. We are temporary. We've recently met with Leaf River legion to confirm services available to them. Kilker asks how can you communicate your services better? Marcy – they think we're responsible for federal programs. We've started presentations and word of mouth clarifications, but we have to be careful not to over advertise. McKinley says how about fact sheet of Q&A. Bauer asks if it was just an anomaly. Kilker asks where the phone number is. Veterans say it's not in the phone book, but in the veteran directors. Not every county in IL has the list. We have to be careful not to over advertise. Trying to get a veterans service officer for this county, and it keeps getting turned down. VA cut this position. They have to go to Rockford or Freeport. Nothing we can do. We've submitted the request to get an office at the courthouse.

- Horner – when you get $75k, do you get it in one chunk? No, it's sitting in the treasurer's officer. It's given to us quarterly. $41,000 still sitting in the treasurer's office and would be enough to help fund this year. Mileage, the vets get $15 reimbursement if they drive themselves. Driver gets the mileage only. It covers vehicle expenses and meals too out of expenses.
- Veteran present noted that we can get an officer if we can get to Springfield for training. It must be a veteran and they are the ones to be trained on all the paper work. Any veteran can do this. In Forreston, we haven't received any paper work. Marcy said he should have received it at the Mt. Morris meeting. I've talked with the regional superintendent and he says all he has to do is get a veteran go through the training and then go to county board to establish an officer. Bauer says this outside of today's hearing scope. Set it as an HEW Sept meeting discussion.
- Barnes asks – if I were a veteran, would I call Geist agency? Yes. No veterans assistance phone number? Do you track the amount of work you do? No, but we do track the services we provide. Kilker asks, Clint what is your job that you get paid $4,000? I supervise the office. If Marcy needs help, she calls. If there is a problem, I support her. Salary has always been this, set by the county board.
- Kilker – do you have a board of directors? Yes. When do you meet? Whenever there is a need. Marcy says 2x a year. Kilker would like to attend. Barnes says it's a good deal for Geist agency $400 a month. Marcy notes that rent has not been raised, and I didn't take pay when work was down. There are days this is all we do. Marcy says I can have as low as 5 active vets, inactive vets is 15-20 that I talk with regularly. Phone calls I get about 10 calls from non-qualified services that I have to refer out.
- Bauer – we need quarterly meetings with this group.

e. Forreston Friendship Club Recap of Discussion

- Barnes – what all do you do? Meet 2x a month at churches in town. Meal, programs like blood pressure checks, police dept comes in and does information for the seniors, gets seniors out of the house, gets them some social time, recreation after. 40 people per meeting.
- Kilker – did you get the Lions Club donation? Not yet, but it's $50.
- Bowers – 40 people attend, do you charge them any fee? No, we have a donation suggestion, but we don't monitor or assess? It's a pot luck. We furnish the meat and drink, and they bring the other dishes.
- Mel liked the other forum where we heard everyone else's input at once because I learned a lot. Is the county budget problem impacting us? The committee explained the levy process.

f. Rock River Center Recap of Discussion

- Bowers – when will you be in your new building? Spring of next year. We are so short of space for the amount of counseling that goes on in there. No privacy. 3 per room.
- Copeland presentation – I've not been able to convey to this committee (or any other committee!) to be the funded aging network. So I did a diagram to show the aging funded network in Ogle county.
- Our focus is on senior services, not activity centers like in the other counties. Between all our agencies, there is a constant referral flow, mutual training. Look up more details about our funding, being cut (% TBD), ask me for hard copy or online at NIA for pharmaceutical sites – in Ogle County there is only one, and it's Rock River Center.

- Kilker – we must not confuse our agency with the senior centers. Yes – Copeland says we provide information required by law, information on assistance for caregivers (we are the caregiver resource center), transportation (which has exploded), then we have activities in our center. Unfortunately for us, unlike other senior centers, we have to put most of our county tax money into making the matches to the federal grants – all of Ogle County taxes go to matching fed funds. We're not impacted by general fund. I've asked for a 2.5% increase, which I think is reasonable since we're taking a 10% reduction from NIA. We won't know until end of September. If we are cut 10%, 370 people would not be served out of 3,700 people served now. $ cuts translate to people served cut. Would have to be first come first served. With state and fed monies, we can't give or limit services based on ability to pay. Must offer it equally. We lost city of Oregon this year ($5,000). We also had reduction in United Way (13%). And in our building, we can lease space and believe we can help cover some of our losses. The current space is not efficient to operate. It's antiquated, there is no insulation, etc.
- Barnes – I'm on the board as is Marcia. I'm the co-chair for the building campaign. We're working with Rockford hospital to get an immediate care facility in there. Swedish has shown interest. This would help generate revenue for this building.
- Janes – what age do these services start? Depends on the service. Fed admin on aging = 60+. Caregiver service = 20 years old+. We have a larger % of grandparents raising grand kids. Transportation is for all ages. Title 20 – for seniors pay nothing.
- Thank you – good job of pulling information together.

g. Lutheran Social Services Recap of Discussion

- We serve 4 counties with Ogle County being our biggest.
- Janes – LSSI division for senior service? Emily says we do case management for seniors. We go into senior homes to keep them home as long as possible to avoid them going to a nursing home. We authorize services for the seniors. Also provide elder abuse and neglect investigations for senior.
- Kilker – no revenue generating operations? Emily says no. Funding from 708 and United Way, are we duplicating these dollars? Senior services don't receive 708 funding. Salary and benefit costs seem high when we look at the income and services performed. I assume you are competitive with market data. Emily says a few years ago we did a cross comparison and we were the lowest paid in what we do. For case management, there are 6 positions by the area we serve. We have 1 FTE covering Ogle County by herself. In elder abuse, we have 2 case workers and 1 open, but without being sure what state will cut, we're not filling that position yet. All certified with BS. Kilker asks what other centers we fund interact with you? Lifescape, town senior centers, Rock River, other agencies. Kilker – excellent application and answered all my questions.
- Bowers – what does $7,500 request cover for Ogle County? Our expenses are high in travel. The state has us go into the homes, but doesn't reimburse us for that. We have a large area and this helps us fund this. We do have a church satellite office in Rochelle, but mileage is most of it, and the salary of the person covering the area is the rest. How many people in Ogle County do you serve? 9,000 seniors in Ogle County. Of these we carry a case load of 200 ongoing. Some don't see monthly, but minimum of quarterly. 500 assessments done in Ogle County last year. Anyone going to a nursing home is required to have our screening. Minimum age was 60 into nursing facility, but if someone is in hospital under 60, we'll see them in the hospital as well.

- Horner – can you explain the screening? An individual can receive either home services, nursing services. We have a 30 page analysis that goes through health, religion, financial, nutrition, income level, etc. We can help them get linked to programs that can assist them like utility support, budget planning with Tri County, etc. Link them to the right program. Nursing home screening – they must meet a minimum point requirement. Cognitive ability (mini-mental exam), activities of daily living (15 – eating, grooming, etc.) We score on how their impairment and if it is being met. If not met safely in the community, then that is when we recommend a facility. And ensure this person has been told they are going into a nursing home. Many don't want to tell them. Nursing homes or families or hospitals contact us. The information then goes to the nursing home. They don't get the assessment tool. Also get involved in supported living and assistant living recommendations.

h. Lifescape Recap of Discussion

- Bowers – what fundraising do you do? Expo Sept 18 and 19 in Rockford – Sports Core 2
- Gross income we have over $60k from this and haven't stopped selling booths. Senior follies – directed to senior volunteer programs. Last year only cleared $8k and this year cleared $16k by moving venues – big bump. We send "don't clap just send cash" flyers.
- Reduced meals on wheels – why? What has hit us, in 2006, when gas went up to $4 gallon, we lost our volunteers. We had to add staff to deliver meals. With gas going up, our packaged products to deliver the meals went up. Killed us. We've joined a national buying consortium for meals on wheels association – purchase packaging and food through them for big savings. Government then said we're going to increase your nutritional program, so Oct 1 we have to provide more fresh foods and vegetables to improve daily intakes. Cost is $.20 per meal more. We sent this information to the Dept of Aging and we see this is consistent what others are seeing. State hired a dietician to support us in this, federal mandate of compliance by Oct 1. Increased 2010 projections because we received one year of stimulus funds so we can do more meals. Putting a breakfast site in Rochelle, which will increase the number of congregate meals. Trying to help get more seniors here so they don't go to McDonalds and other places. Maybe go to a breakfast or brunch place. There is a sea of senior men in these areas. We want to provide more nutrition to them. If it works, great. But if it doesn't work, won't have the funding after stimulus money.
- Bauer says this is a great organization that always looks outside the box. Great example. We give them 2 meals a day and with congregate program, maybe 3.
- 4 counties served – we get nothing from Boone County – no tax levy. Lee County gives us $8,000. Winnebago county = $0 no tax levy. We rent space. We use Rochelle – they don't charge us rent. Not in Polo either. But we do pay garbage, telephone, things we share in overhead, but not rent. We pay rent in Oregon- main kitchen and office. We do deliver to Byron – no congregate site. Other sites in Ogle – Rochelle, Polo, Mt. Morris prepackaged.
- Kilker – how spend the fundraising monies? Rock sports center = across all counties. Other fundraiser = Winnebago and Boone.
- United Ways in all counties is decreasing. Big hit to us. District solicitation- we don't compete with the senior centers that knock on doors here, so all we do is mail solicitation.
- Still using U of I for nutritious programs. Kilker commends on the interaction with the other agencies.
- $2,000 was saved in joining the food consortium. It's free to join. Just had to guarantee we'd purchase 85% of our food through them. Not a problem. Sysco is the biggest provider – no problem. We reserve the right to check other prices. We reserve the right to get out of the consortium at any time.

- Been with Lifescape for 14 years.

i. Tri County

- Kilker – program supervisor and director are from Ogle County. Appreciated your comprehensive report.
- Horner – are your fundraising efforts done annually through raffle? Yes. If we ask our workers to fundraise for us, we have to pay them and then it's a wash to see if we can cover our costs. We don't usually make much off of our raffles. Usually this is done in June and July. Our raffle isn't the best fundraiser, this year no one is buying. Tried raffling off baskets, and got $70 for it.
- Bowers – appreciate you breaking down the Ogle County portion. You're asking for $26k, and the expenditures are used for wages and fringe benefits. That's just for our funding? All money we get really goes to wages because that is our service. The reimbursement is only for the service the homemaker provides.
- We found out July 1 there is a rate increase. But doesn't put us ahead, just makes more money we're not getting from the state. Figures look good, but we're 3 months behind in getting us the money. They also said we have to find an operating reserve. We keep running behind because not getting reimbursed. We'll be paying out in September, so the financials will look different then.
- Janes – what do you do? We take care of seniors 60+ and go into their home for non-medical assistance. Help them up, get them meals, clean, dry, housework, laundry, errands. We're subsidized by the state for lower income seniors. We do have a self pay program too. We can take care of any senior that needs us. LSSI uses us to provide some services. They go in and set up a care plan for them. We do the implement what they recommended. If Lifescape gets meals delivered to home, we can help open the packaging. If they don't get that service, we'll provide the meal. We may sit down with them to ensure they are eating, which is often the case if they don't have company to eat with.

j. Polo Area Seniors Recap of Discussion

- Horner questions – how did it go with your new windows? We replaced them out of the savings, which is why we're hurting for funds. They said it was cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. Masons are still there and happy. This was funded out of CDs and savings. ($20k+) Didn't use any County money for this. Tried to fundraising, but economy is tight and our efforts weren't that successful. We are getting more members in. Supervisor is bringing more people in. Doing Lifescape meals with 16 people there one day. 3-5 per day, which is helping Lifescape out too. Brings people in. We have cable in now that is working. The only down thing is that we found out our roof is leaking. Getting bids on this. Big hole on the roof. We own the building. We are getting members that are coming back after dropping out. We have 180 members or so. We charge dues. We entice people to use the center – lowered the fees. Was $70 to rent, and now it's $40. Word of mouth gets more people in. Farmer market suppers and lions club and churches use it for fundraising and meetings. Handicap accessible. Reunions and birthday parties are new requests these days. American legion will be sold, and that building has been used as a community center for the town. When it goes, we'll be the next place for the community to come to for cooking and space needs. We have a card club who meets here too. Good social gathering and getting them out of their homes.
- We cut our budget $30k last year. My mistake was that I said we got $25k last year, but we really got $30k. We're asking for the same this year.

- $500 interest income is coming from CDs.
- $9,000 money market probably needed for the roof.
- Many open offices up stairs. We need to put dry wall up there and redo the electric. Don't want to do it until there is request for it.
- Kilker – can you redo it for loft apartments? Older folks downstairs will complain about the noise downstairs, and must take care of our seniors first. Could do offices, but right now, too many businesses moving out instead of moving in. Don't want to spend the money yet.
- Ogle County van service – we donate to their bus fund b/c we use them for getting doctor appointments and meals on wheels. This is $2,000 that goes to Rock River.
- Heating and electricity is high because of the high ceilings. We will be getting a new furnace in the basement and the upstairs conditioners are a problem with noise, so they'll put the one furnace and ductwork in. Will shut off heat to air conditioning units, and when the units die, we'll add it to the furnace for central air. We may need a second furnace in years to come to make the whole thing warmer and cooler. New windows should also help.

k. Byron Area Seniors

- Meetings are held at the Forrest Preserve.
- Note that the $1,200 dues should be in the credit column, not debit.
- Make $300 on the bus trips. The trips are all covered by charges for the trip. If we don't have enough attending, then the trip is cancelled. We've been to Rosemont to see the Rockets in Chicago, casino trips, etc.
- We don't give any donation to the Byron Civic Center, maybe pay advertising fees to their program when we put information in there.
- 1 trip to the casino per year.
- Asking for an increase of $500, because price of food- meat, coffee, pot luck items.
- Trips are paid for out of the fee we charge.
- Transportation is provided through a committee to those who can't get out for prescriptions or doctor visits. Made it an official committee this year.
- Rock River also comes through here.
- No funding from the City of Byron
- $6,000 in CD on reserve. If Forrest Preserve kicks us out, we'll need money for rent. This wouldn't go far.
- Horner suggests going to the township again or City of Byron and ask for funding again.

l. Hub City Recap of Discussion

- Barnes notes high cooperation with Rock River Center and have heard good comments about you and Hub City. We'll be doing a fundraiser for Rock River to help them succeed because we succeed if they succeed.
- We're doing well financially. A few years ago we almost went under, but we turned things around and if we can help Rock River succeed, we will.
- United Way donations went up for us – we asked for more and got it. Township and city funding is coming in as planned.
- Fundraisers for this year include luau for Rock River center only, and for us, we'll focusing on the advertising strategies with wrap around ads – clearing $8,000 per year by having the ads on our vehicle. Best revenue generator, Dave Eckhardt has been instrumental in this success.
- Van income is rider donations and money we receive through the state for 3B funding. LOTS bus includes the Rochelle bus. We don't use the Rochelle bus, we have our own. It's just local.

- LOTS buses are responsible for big increases in numbers using the service – it's turned into a huge paper work head ache, but it's the right thing to do. The buses are traveling everywhere and need to get more drivers so he isn't burned out.
- Stimulus package puts out transportation money out and they are giving us another van from this.
- Increase in $5,000 request – why? Just because. It wouldn't hurt us if left it at last year's.

m. Catholic Charities

- Requesting $2,500 – will provide visits to nursing home complaints to pay for our volunteer program. We have more volunteers in ogle County than anywhere. They visit 4 out of 5 nursing homes in Ogle County. Supports mileage for our staff.
- Long care facilities can't donate funds to us. Ombudsman program of Catholic Charities is an advocate program, and the federal act and state acts let us provide advocacy services.
- Each facility gets $312 from Ogle County. We inform them of their rights, and advocate for their participation. Only advocacy group authorized to do this
- CMP grant - $22,000 was cut, impact will be $2,700 to us. Volunteer program is critical, especially in face of these cuts. Must watch our mileage and operation and prioritize most critical needs; services provided are over and above of what state requires, so we may have to cut back on these.
- United Way looks like they'll keep our funding this year.
- 9 counties in NW Illinois, Kilker would like to know which counties and what they are contributing (for next year.)
- Some counties provide more funding than others, so they are all different.
- We ensure abuse and neglect is handled properly, although we don't do the investigation.
- We ensure discharges are being handled correctly.
- We aren't the first responders, or the investigators – we ensure the proper authorities have been notified and that the resident is getting the support they need and the process is happening. All with their consent.
- Visit the facilities minimum of monthly, although the state requires quarterly. Assisted and supportive living is an annual requirement.
- Hospice is not something that falls under us. Some skilled care hospital facilities fall under us in Freeport and Morrison.
- Advocated 2 complaints per month in Ogle County regarding facility complaints, family problems, financial exploitation, etc.
- Our job is to ensure the resident gets to stay in the facility if that is their wish. If the facility needs help in getting payment, they will often call us for help.
- Kilker sees 8 facilities, 583 beds, resulting in 304 services for the 583 beds.
- Volunteers are excellent and well trained.

n. Forreston Public Library Recap of Discussion

- Kilker notes last year's funding was actually $1,000.
- 13 libraries in the whole coop – includes Dixon, Franklin Grove, Ashton, Amboy, Rock Falls, sterling. Each county contributes equally. There is money coming from Whiteside and lee. If it's not enough, then the individual libraries have to kick in to make up. They contribute $250 per library.
- Size of whole collection is 3500 books. Each participating library has about 265 books that we each get and pass around.

- Lee and Whiteside counties – 7 libraries there. Whiteside and Lee aren't making contributions. Kilker would like to see what the other libraries are contributing. It's $200 per year. Also want to know why Lee and Whiteside counties are not doing any contributions.
- Each of the 7 libraries receives 75 books in large print, and they are rotated between the libraries. Some must repaired each year.
- NILS doesn't exist any more. We joined a consortium instead. 95 libraries in the consortium and now NIU is not a member.
- Only 7 participate in the large print program.
- Go call Cindy – what libraries in Whiteside and Lee are participating? If they are, how much are they funding? If no funding, what benefit are they receiving?

o. Mt. Morris Seniors

- Last year you received $32,000, not the $27,000 as on the application. Requesting $32,000 this year.
- 11 month CD due in October, just rolled that over for 3 months and asked the bank to help us manage the money so we can stay afloat for another year. Same for other CDs, which are ear marked for roof and furnace. Both are still functioning fine, but expect they won't last long because they are so old. Bids for roof were about $47,000.
- Memorial fund expenses for anything we do with memorials – like painting or other things. If they are designated by a giver, we do what they have designated. Otherwise we use it for what is needed.
- 1 FTE, 2 PTEs and 1 part time contractor of services.
- $7,000 cut (30% cuts)
- Townships haven't given us anything yet this year –
- Mt. Morris does nutritional and education services with Dept of Health and also U of I extension offices. Not Lifescape.
- Certified staff – we've always used them.
- Elevator fund paid for a plaque and the elevator is being used. People who couldn't use us before without an elevator are now coming back.
- Rooms on the upper floor include rooms Highland College uses for classes. They pay rent.
- Is column F of the budget right? If received $32k, it is $5k short.
- Classes are in services budget
- Balances are actually $6000 in the hole because must pull the elevator fund money out.
- Certifications I don't have because I don't get funding from them. I have inquired about certifications, but haven't pursued it.

3. Lunch Break 12:30 – 1:30

4. Funding Decisions

   a. 708 Community Mental Health: Motion by Bowers to approve $807,298 ($33,709 over last year; increase of 4.4%). Second by Fred Horner. Horner – y, Kilker – y, Barnes- y, Bowers- y, Janes- y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
   b. U of I Extension Office: Motion by Kilker to approve $150,000 (same as last year; 0% increase). Second by Dan Janes. Horner- y, Kilker- y, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes- y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.

c. Ogle County Soil & Water: Motion by Horner to approve $28,288 ($2571 over last year; 10% increase). Second by Bowers. Horner- y, Kilker- abstain, Barnes- y, Bowers- y, Janes- y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
d. Ogle County Veterans: Motion by Bowers to approve $67,425 (decrease of $7575; 10.1% decrease). Second by Kilker. Horner requests they come to the HEW committee meetings quarterly for updates and discussion. Horner- y, Kilker- y, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes – y, Bauer-y. Motion carried.
e. Forreston Friendship Club: Motion by Bowers to approve $1300 (same as last year; increase). Second by Barnes. Horner-y, Kilker- y, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes – y, Bauer- y.
f. Rock River Center: Motion by Kilker to approve $57,117 ($1394 over last year; 2.5% increase). Second by Bowers. Horner- y, Kilker- y, Barnes – abstain, Bowers- y, Janes y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
g. Lutheran Social Services: Motion by Bowers to approve $7,500 (same as last year; 0% increase). Second by Horner. Horner-y, Kilker- y, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes- y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
h. Lifescape: Motion by Kilker to approve $27,000 ($2000 over last year; 8% increase). Second by Janes. Horner-y, Kilker- y, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes- y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
i. Tri-County Opportunities: Motion by Bowers to approve $26,000 (same as last year; 0% increase). Second by Horner. Horner-y, Kilker – abstain, Barnes- abstain, Bowers – y, Janes – y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
j. Polo Area Seniors: Motion by Bowers to approve $30,000 (same as last year; 0% increase). Second by Horner. Horner-y, Kilker- y, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes – y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
k. Hub City Senior Center: Motion by Horner to approve $40,000 ($5,000 less than requested, but same as last year; 0% increase). Second by Bowers. Barnes asks why Horner made the motion for $5,000 less than requested. Horner clarified because in the interview, the Hub City representative said it wouldn't hurt them if the funding was left at last year's level. Horner-y, Kilker- y, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes – y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
l. Byron area Seniors: Motion by Kilker to approve $2,000 ($500 less than requested, but same as last year; 0% increase.) Second by Bowers. Horner-y, Kilker- y, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes – y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
m. Catholic Charities: Motion by Bowers to approve $2500 (same as last year; 0% increase). Second by Horner. Horner-y, Kilker- y, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes – y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
n. OWL Coop: Motion by Bowers to approve $1,000 ($1,000 less than requested, but same as last year. 0% increase.) Horner-y, Kilker- n, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes-y, Bauer- n. Motion carried.
o. Mount Morris Area Seniors. Motion by Kilker to approve $32,000 (same as last year; 0% increase.) Bowers second. Barnes then requested that this group bring more accurate accounting and financial reporting records next year. Horner-y, Kilker- y, Barnes- y, Bowers – y, Janes –y, Bauer- y. Motion carried.
p. Totals: Bauer reports a total of $1,279,428 total recommended HEW funding for 2010. This is an increase of $32,099 or 2.5% increase over 2009's $1,247,329 total.

5. New Business: None.

6. Final Comments: Chairman Bauer notes we'll approve today's minutes at next month's committee meeting and send all recommendations to the County Board. The 708 Board thanked the committee for their diligence. Bauer asked if the hearing participants liked the process better this year, as we have tried to improve it. The response was yes. The Ogle County Veterans asked why they need to meet with the HEW committee. Bauer indicated we want to touch base more often. Bowers also asked the Veterans to provide a newspaper article regarding what the Veterans Agency supports, since we have not seen one recently. Vicky Broos of the U of I Extension Office noted she was cautious of the hearing review process at first, but in the end really found our application process and interview questions to be a very good and helpful exercise. McKinley thanked all of those present for the work that they do, noting it is difficult, often thankless work in their fields. A member of the audience asked if next time, we could provide a sound system for a better ability to hear the conversations.

7. Meeting Adjourned by Chairman Bauer at approximately 2:45.

Respectfully Submitted,
Meggon McKinley, Ogle County Administrator

Jason Bauer – Chairman
Special Meeting Location – Farm Bureau Building 421 West Pines Road, Oregon, Illinois