

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

August 18, 2009

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 4:58 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Carolyn Alford, Jeff Balkema, Robert Barnard, Deb Buchholtz, Dave Buskirk, Jeff Heppler, Dave Maturen, Ann Nieuwenhuis, Mike Quinn, Jack Urban

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Nasim Ansari, Grady Biby, Brian Johnson, John Nieuwenhuis, John Taylor, Frank Thompson and John Zull

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Battani, John Faul, Thom Canny, Tina Becker, Tracie Moored, Lisa Bradshaw, Jimyo Ferworn, Lotta Jarnefelt, Linda Buzas, Sheriff Rick Fuller, Jo Woods, Bonnie Dykehouse, Tammy Lahman, Rik Tooker, Tim Snow, Deb Cardiff, Dave Artley, Marc Meulman

Chairperson Buskirk convened the Committee of the Whole at 4:00 p.m.

1. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Finance Director Tracie Moored stated that claims for August 18, 2009 totaled \$2,884,138.36. Ms. Moored reviewed transfers and disbursements on page 2.

Commissioner Taylor arrived at 4:04 p.m.

2. Dental Clinic

Ms. Linda Buzas, Director of Health & Community Services requested Board approval at tonight's Board of Commissioners meeting of two contracts. One being The Armor Mobile Systems contract for \$436,882 for the construction of the mobile dental clinic vehicle and the second contract with Henry Schein Dental for \$63,063 for dental equipment for the mobile clinic vehicle.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Anne Nieuwenhuis requested this item be taken off the consent agenda.

Commissioner Alford commended the team that put this together and the great progress they had made.

3. Nurse Family Partnership Update

Ms. Buzas reviewed her memo and gave a brief overview of the program. She stated the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) was funded through a combination of state grant dollars that draw matching federal Medicaid funds and additional local dollars completed the budget in order to cover the full annual expenses of the program. She stated due to Executive Orders released in May 2009, funding from the state was eliminated for NFP effective July 1, 2009. She stated the State obtained permission for the County to use local dollars to draw the federal match. She stated that would allow the County to run the program through September 30, 2009 and HCS would recommend using money from the contingency funds to carry NFP through the end of the year.

Administrator Peter Battani recommended to the Board that the County fund what was needed for the match out of contingency monies for the remainder of the year until such time as the state budget becomes clearer in the program.

Commissioner Taylor thanked Administration for the important program.

4. Body Art Law & Inspection Fees

Ms. Linda Buzas reviewed her memo in the packet. She stated this item was for information only and a request for approval would be submitted for consideration at the September 1, 2009 Board Meeting. She stated the Legislature passed a law that all body art facilities obtain a State license to operate. She stated local health departments (LHD) perform the inspections of body art facilities. She stated owners of the facilities would be charged \$500 by the State of Michigan to obtain a license. She stated Body Art business owners would need to pay for the LHD inspection in addition to the State licensing fee. She stated it would cost a facility \$500 to obtain a 3 year license and LHD would charge \$155/yr to do the two inspections per year.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Taylor had concerns this was an exact definition of unfunded mandate. He stated the State required the County to do something no money would get recouped from doing it, and the County would be charged a fee on top of that.

Chair Buskirk stated he would prepare a letter of protest for the unfunded mandate license fees to the State and Legislators on behalf of the Commissioners.

Discussion ensued.

5. Budget/Retreat

County Administrator Peter Battani stated Administration was looking at the dates of September 9 & 10 at the conference room at the Juvenile Home.

Commissioner Alford stated she would be out of town those dates.

Chair Buskirk stated Dina Sutton would email Commissioners with 2 different dates and go with the date the majority could attend.

6. Indigent Defense

Administrator Peter Battani gave a brief update the Indigent Defense. He stated David Carroll, Author of the State Study was scheduled to come to the County to conduct an evaluation of our County. He stated they did have a date set, but for family reasons he couldn't make it and now he was saying he's not willing to come at all.

Commissioner Urban stated this was a state problem. He stated we should have uniformity of Indigent Defense quality throughout the state. He stated this was another victim of state of our economy.

Commissioner Taylor requested from Finance copies of how much the County actually spends for Court Appointed Attorneys.

Discussion ensued.

7. Discussions on Presentations

Chair Buskirk stated he asked for this item to be put on the agenda. He recommended having a vetting process similar to the Resolution process. He stated there needed to be a process so the whole board would be involved with making decisions.

Commissioner Urban stated it might be helpful to decide what the vetting process should be, i.e. what the criteria was for whether a presentation was necessary or not. He stated one of the key requirements would be that it be relative to what the County Government dealt with.

Commissioner Alford stated she enjoyed presentations however, she felt a time limit should be considered.

Chair Buskirk had concerns about the invocation; he stated it is meant to be just an invocation and a prayer.

Discussion ensued.

8. Executive Session

Commissioner Barnard moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners functioning as a Committee of the Whole, go into closed session pursuant to Section 8 (c) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing issues related to the County's labor negotiations.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: All members present
Nays: None
Abstains: None
Absent: Commissioners Nasim Ansari, Grady Biby, Brian Johnson, John Nieuwenhuis, Frank Thompson and John Zull

The motion carried and the Board moved into executive session at 4:50 p.m. and returned to regular session at 4:58 p.m.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Buskirk adjourned the meeting at 4:58 p.m.

David Buskirk, Chair
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners