

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 6, 2009

ITEM 1     Call to Order: The annual meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by Board Chairperson Dave Buskirk, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioner's Room, second floor, County Administration Building, 201 West Kalamazoo Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan, on October 6, 2009.

ITEM 2     Invocation: Commissioner Ann Nieuwenhuis gave the Invocation.

ITEM 3     Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Ann Nieuwenhuis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 4     Roll Call: Commissioners Jeff Balkema, Rob Barnard, Deb Buchholtz, Dave Buskirk, Jeff Heppler, Brian Johnson, Dave Maturen, Ann Nieuwenhuis, John Nieuwenhuis, Michael Quinn, John Taylor, Frank Thompson and Jack Urban.

Members Absent: Commissioners Carolyn Alford, Nasim Ansari, Grady Biby and John Zull.

Administrators Present: Peter Battani, County Administrator; John Faul, Deputy County Administrator; Thom Canny, Corporation Counsel; Tracie Moored, Finance Director; David Artley, Resource Development; Jo Woods, HR Director; Anne Conn, Deputy HR Director; Marc Meulman, Deputy HCS Director; David Rachowicz, Parks Director; Lotta Jarnefelt, Planning Director; Tim Snow, County Clerk; and Sheri Stiger, Administrative Assistant.

ITEM 5     Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Taylor moved and it was duly seconded that the Minutes of the September 15, 2009 and September 22, 2009, Board Meetings be approved as distributed.

ITEM 6     Communications:

Commissioner Nieuwenhuis presented the following communications, all of which are on file in the Administrative Services Office unless otherwise noted:

- a) A Resolution from U.P. Association of County Commissioners Supporting Project 2020.

- b) A Resolution from the City of Kalamazoo approving an application from Pharmacia & Upjohn Company for a PA 198 Industrial Facilities Tax Exempt Certificate.
- c) A Letter from Oceana County to Governor Granholm urging her to oppose the merger of Michigan Department of Agriculture with another State department
- d) A Resolution from Oakland County in support of continuing the State Fair.
- e) A Resolution from Huron County encouraging the State to fund mandated services.
- f) A Letter from Michigan Association of Counties announcing the creation of the MAC Agriculture and Tourism Subcommittee.
- g) A Report of gross revenues and concession fees due from Vanguard Car Rental USA Inc. for the year ending June 30, 2009.
- h) A Letter to Chairman Buskirk thanking the assistance of Veterans Services Office in Kalamazoo County, especially Sue Weir and Don Jarzambek.
- i) A Notice of Hearing on Application for Amended Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate from Township of Schoolcraft.
- j) A letter regarding the Arena Project from Mr. Douglas Innes.

Commissioner Brian Johnson asked that the names of all those who had e-mailed the County regarding the Arena Project be added to the Communications List: Ms. Beth Underwood, Ms. Shirley Houtman, Ms. Stephanie Peters, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Vail, and Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Kenz.

ITEM 7      Citizens' Time:

Chairperson Buskirk stated that Citizens' Time was when any citizen could address the Board on a non-agenda item. He said anyone wishing to address the Board on a non-agenda item should come to the podium, give their name and address, and limit their remarks to four minutes. He said if anyone would like to speak about an item that was on the consent agenda, they could ask that it be removed from the consent agenda at this time or he would provide an opportunity just prior to that section of the agenda.

No citizens came forward.

ITEM 8      For Consideration

A. Request for Approval of a Resolution Honoring Judge J. Richardson Johnson  
Commissioner Johnson moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Judge J. Richardson Johnson has faithfully served as a Circuit Court Judge Representative on the Community Corrections Advisory Board (CCAB) since 2000; and

WHEREAS, Judge J. Richardson Johnson has served as chairperson of the Community Corrections Advisory Board since January 2003; and

WHEREAS, Judge J. Richardson Johnson, in his role as CCAB Chairperson, successfully guided the first community corrections strategic planning sessions in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Judge J. Richardson Johnson, in his role as CCAB Chairperson, provided technical guidance and support to the staff of Community Corrections.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners does hereby acknowledge with gratitude the many years of dedication and service Judge J. Richardson Johnson has imparted to the citizens of the County and offers its best wishes for many more years of mutual association.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: All members present  
Nays: None  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Commissioners Alford, Ansari, Biby and Zull.

The motion carried.

Judge Johnson thanked the Board for the resolution, and stated it was an honor to serve on the CCAB.

B. Request for Approval of 25-Year Resolution Honoring Katherine Flack  
Commissioner Maturen moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Katherine B. Flack has served the citizens of Kalamazoo County for twenty-five (25) years as of September 24, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Katherine B. Flack has faithfully served as an Administrator in the Family Court Division of the Kalamazoo County Circuit Court; and

WHEREAS, the County of Kalamazoo wishes to acknowledge and honor employees who have longevity under the umbrella of County Government, since it is through longevity that expertise in the employee's particular field is achieved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners does hereby acknowledge with gratitude the many years of dedication and service Katherine B. Flack has imparted to the citizens of the County and offers its best wishes for many more years of mutual association.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: All members present  
Nays: None  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Commissioners Alford, Ansari, Biby and Zull.

The motion carried.

C. Affordable Housing Partnership Report on the HUD Stimulus Funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

Mr. David Artley gave a brief presentation on the Housing Stimulus dollars coming to Kalamazoo County and the process of determining how to best use those dollars under the guidelines that the federal government imposed.

Ms. Michelle Schneider followed up with information regarding the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program (HPRP) in Kalamazoo County.

Discussion ensued.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Buildings & Grounds

D. Request for Approval to Apply for Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Funding in Collaboration with the Townships of Alamo, Cooper, and Kalamazoo

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to Submit an EECBG to the State of Michigan in the amount of \$501,500 for energy efficiency work within the County of Kalamazoo and the Townships of Alamo, Cooper and Kalamazoo; a copy of said Application to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

Circuit Court

E. Request for Approval of Amendment #1 to FY 2009 Byrne JAG Contract

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute Amendment #1 to FY 2009 Byrne JAG Contract for an additional award amount of \$20,000 to be expended by December 31, 2009; a copy of said Amendment to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

F. Request for Approval to Apply for Grant Funding to the Fetzer Foundation for the Youth Offender Transitions Program

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to Submit a Grant Application to the Fetzer Foundation for the Youth Offender Transition Program in the amount of \$7,500 for the period of November 2009 through November 2010; a copy of said Application to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

G. Request for Approval of Trademark License Agreement for Member Programs – Court Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA)

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute a

Trademark License Agreement for Member Programs to be in compliance with National CASA Guidelines effective immediately; a copy of said Agreement to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

Clerk/Register of Deeds

H. Request for Approval of the Appointment of Mary Eagle and Jo Kent to the Board of County Canvassers

That the Board of Commissioners approve the Appointment of Mary Eagle and Jo Kent to the Board of County Canvassers for the period of November 1, 2009 through October 31, 2013.

District Court

I. Request for Approval of Elimination/Creation of Positions (grant funded) Effective October 1, 2009

That the Board of Commissioners approve the Elimination/Creation of the following Positions, effective October 1, 2009:

**Create:**

<b>Acct #</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>FTE</b>
245-099-704.00	Probation Officer	P358	\$40,268.80-\$51,875.20	2.0

**Eliminate:**

<b>Acct #</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>FTE</b>
245-080-704.00	Program Specialist	P282	\$35,172.80-45,739.20	1.0

Health & Community Services

J. Request for Approval of a Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) Training Agreement with Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency (K/RESA) for Job Placement

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute a YOU Training Agreement with K/RESA for job placement of high school and post secondary students at various HCS program sites for employment experience for the period of October 6, 2009 through October 5, 2011; a copy of said Agreement to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

K. Request for Approval of a Service Agreement with Management Information Technology USA, Inc. for the ChildPlus Software

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute a Service Agreement with Management Information Technology USA Inc. for the ChildPlus database software system for the Head Start Program in the amount of \$4,181 effective November 1, 2009 with automatic annual renewals; a copy of said Agreement to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

L. Request for Approval of a Professional Services Contract with a Consultant for the Volunteers in Tax Assistance (VITA) Program

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute a Professional Services Contract with Kelly Linton to assist with the operation of the VITA Program at the rate of \$23/hour for a maximum of 960 hours during the contract period of October 7, 2009 through May 14, 2010; a copy of said Contract to be attached to the

official Minutes of this meeting.

M. Request for Approval of Notice of Funding Action #3 to the 2009/2010 Community Services Block Grant Agreement (CSBG) from the Michigan Department of Human Services (MDHS)

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute NFA #3 to the Agreement with MDHS for the CSBG in the amount of \$166,293 for the period of October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2010; a copy of said Agreement to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

N. Request for Approval of Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) Agreement with Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute a BCCCP Agreement with Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings to provide laboratory services for several of our current BCCCP providers effective October 1, 2009 with automatic annual renewals; a copy of said Agreement to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

O. Request for Approval of Long Term Care Ombudsman Contract with Branch-St. Joseph Region IIC/Area Agency on Aging

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute a Long Term Care Ombudsman Contract with Branch-St. Joseph Region IIC/Area Agency on Aging for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2012 and the award amount for 2009-2010 is \$2,000; a copy of said Contract to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

P. Request for Approval of 2009/2010 Comprehensive Planning, Budgeting and Contracting (CPBC) Agreement with the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH)

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute the 2009/2010 Comprehensive Planning, Budgeting and Contracting Agreement with MDCH in the amount of \$3,655,992 for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010; a copy of said Agreement to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

Q. Request for Approval of A Special Comprehensive Planning, Budgeting and Contracting (CPBC) Amendment from the Michigan Department of Community Services (MDCH) for H1N1 Funding and the Creation of Positions

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute a Special CPBC Amendment from the MDCH for H1N1 funding in the amount of is \$473,253 for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 and the Creation of a Positions for same; a copy of said Agreement to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

Create:

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Position/#</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Pay Range</u>	<u>Effective</u>
690-002	Public Health Nurse #10799-007	P388	0.4	\$42,266-\$54,954	10/7/09

690-002      Program Coord.      P342      0.5      \$39,187-\$50,939      10/7/09  
 #10380-TBD

R. Request for Approval of Temporary Employment Agreements with Two (2) Nurses – Krisanne Leonard and Linda Turner for the H1N1 Flu Clinic

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute Temporary Employment Agreements with Krisanne Leonard and Linda Turner for the H1N1 Flu Clinic at a rate of \$21.34/hour effective April 7, 2009 through April 9, 2010; a copy of said Agreements to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

S. Request for Approval to Use Two (2) Temporary Employment Agencies for Temporary Staffing for the H1N1 Flu Clinics

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to use temporary employment agencies for temporary staffing of the H1N1 flu clinics for the period of October 7, 2009 through April 9, 2010.

T. Request for Approval of Position Creations in the HCS/Region IIIA Area Agency on Aging (grant funded)

That the Board of Commissioners approve the Creation of the following positions:

**Create:**

Account #	Position/#	Pay Range	Grade	FTE	Effective
280-093	PH Nurse #10798-001	\$39,541-\$51,397	P351	0.3	10/7/09
248-092	PH Nurse #10798-001	\$39,541-\$51,397	P351	0.2	10/7/09
280-093	Program Specialist #10718-001	\$27,976-\$33,904	T17	0.125	10/7/09

U. Request for Approval of Acceptance of Program Improvement Fund Amendment #3 & #4 from the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) for the Head Start Program

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute Acceptance of Program Improvement Fund Amendment #3 & #4 from the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) in the amount of \$150,000 to purchase three (3) 28 passenger vehicles for the Head Start Program in the FY ending October 31, 2009; a copy of said Amendment to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

Human Resources

V. Request for Approval of a Contract Renewal with Holtyn & Associates for the Kalamazoo County Wellness Program and Approval of the 2010 Wellness Incentive Proposal

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute a Contract Renewal with Holtyn & Associates for the Kalamazoo County Wellness Program for the period of November 1, 2009 through October 31, 2012 in the amount of \$600,000 and Approval of the 2010 Wellness Incentive Proposal; ; a copy of said Agreement to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

W. Request for Approval of Group Life, Short & Long Term Disability Insurance with

Reliance Standard Insurance Company

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute an Agreement for Group Life, Short & Long Term Disability Insurance with Reliance Standard Insurance Company for the period of March 1, 2008 through December 13, 2010; a copy of said Agreement to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

MSU Extension

X. Request for Approval of Transfer of Funds from the General Fund Communication Line to the MSU Extension Line to Fund the Kinship Care Program through December 31, 2009

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to Transfer of Funds in the amount of \$5,000 from the General Fund Communication Line to the MSU Extension Line to Fund the Kinship Care Program through December 31, 2009

Parks & Expo Center

Y. Request for Acceptance of the Master Plan for Prairie View Park

That the Board of Commissioners accept the Master Plan for Prairie View Park as submitted.

Z. Request for Approval of the Master Plan for Scotts Mill Park

That the Board of Commissioners accept the Master Plan for Scotts Mill Park as submitted.

AA. Request for Approval of the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail – Trail Usage Study

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute a Contract with Michigan State University to conduct a 3-year study of trail usage on the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail in the amount of \$59,256; a copy of said Agreement to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

BB. Request for Approval Amendments to the Kalamazoo County Park Rules

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to execute Amendments to the Kalamazoo County Park Rules as submitted to be effective November 1, 2009.

Sheriff

CC. Request for Approval to Submit and Accept a Multi-Agency Traffic Safety Grant from the Office of Highway Safety Planning

That the appropriate County officials be authorized and directed to Submit and Accept a Multi-Agency Traffic Safety Grant from the Office of Highway Safety Planning for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010; a copy of said Application to be attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

Board of Commissioners

DD. Request for Approval of Transfers and Disbursements

That the Transfers and Disbursements as defined and set forth in the document entitled, "Recommended Transfers and Disbursements, dated October 6, 2009," noting claims in the total amount of \$3,419,313.81 with the exception of Balkema Excavating, Inc. claim in the amount of \$55.00, with the exception of Best Way Disposal Claims in the amount of \$5,890.20, with the exception of Kalamazoo Electric, Inc. claims in the amount of

\$3,256.21 as provided to each Board member, be approved; that the County Clerk be authorized to certify to the County Treasurer that the Board has approved on this date the disbursements in the list dated October 6, 2009, and the County Treasurer is therefore, authorized to make those disbursements, and the Director of Finance be authorized to make budgetary transfers, as listed.

Commissioner Ann Nieuwenhuis moved and it was duly seconded that Items D. through DD. be voted on at one time by a roll call vote and be considered as consent agenda by the Board.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: All members present  
Nays: None  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Commissioners Alford, Ansari, Biby and Zull.

The motion carried.

**NON-CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

EE. Request for Approval of Balkema Excavating, Inc. Claim

Commissioner Quinn moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners approve payment of claims from Balkema Excavating, Inc. in the total amount of \$55.00 for work provided to Kalamazoo County, and authorize the County Treasurer to make said payments.

Commissioner Balkema made the following Disclosure Statement for Items EE. and FF.:

On the Claims List for October 6, 2009 are claims from my business enterprise Balkema Excavating, Inc. and Best Way Disposal. Since I have a conflict of interest as an owner/employee of Balkema Excavating, Inc. and Best Way Disposal, I would like to make the following disclosure pursuant to 1968 P.A. 3116, as amended:

The parties to this agreement/payment are the County of Kalamazoo and Balkema Excavating, Inc. and Best Way Disposal

The purpose of the agreement is for Balkema Excavating, Inc. and Best Way Disposal to provide certain services as noted below:

Gravel for Prairie View Park, Waste Removal and Portable Restrooms at Fairgrounds

The amount of the payment to Balkema Excavating, Inc. and Best Way Disposal totals:

\$5,945.20

(Invoice is listed on Pages 37, 52, and 53 of the Claims List for October 6, 2009.)

I will receive an indirect financial benefit from this project.

No County employees were assigned to this project.

I would request that this disclosure be made a part of the official minutes of the Board meeting of October 6, 2009. Please keep in mind that it will take a two-thirds' vote of the full Board to approve this payment.

There being no discussion, the motion carried by a voice vote, with one abstention.

FF. Request for Approval of Best Way Disposal Claims

Commissioner Quinn moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners approve payment of claims from Best Way Disposal in the total amount of \$5,890.20 for work provided to Kalamazoo County, and authorize the County Treasurer to make said payments.

There being no discussion, the motion carried by a voice vote, with one abstention.

GG. Request for Approval of Kalamazoo Electric, Inc. Claims

Commissioner Taylor moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners approve payment of claims from Kalamazoo Electric, Inc. in the total amount of \$3,256.21 for work provided to Kalamazoo County, and authorize the County Treasurer to make said payments.

Commissioner Buskirk made the following Disclosure Statement:

On the Claims List for October 6, 2009 is a claim from my employer, Kalamazoo Electric, Inc., a local electrical contractor. Since I have a conflict of interest as an employee of Kalamazoo Electric, Inc., I would like to make the following disclosure pursuant to 1968 P.A. 317, as amended:

The parties to this agreement/payment are the County of Kalamazoo and Kalamazoo Electric, Inc.

The purpose of the agreement is for Kalamazoo Electric, Inc. to provide certain electrical services described as follows:

Labor and Material

The amount of the payment to Kalamazoo Electric, Inc. totals:

\$3,256.21

(Invoice is listed on Pages 28, 30, 42 of the Claims List for October 6, 2009.)

I will not receive a direct financial benefit from this project.

The term of the agreement is until project completion.

No County employees were assigned to this project.

I would request that this disclosure be made a part of the official minutes of the Board meeting of October 6, 2009. Please keep in mind that it will take a two-thirds' vote of the full Board to approve this payment.

There being no discussion, the motion carried by a voice vote, with one abstention.

**ANNUAL MEETING ITEMS**

HH. Annual Public Hearing Re: Proposed 2010 Budget for Kalamazoo County  
(Public Hearing to be postponed to a future meeting)

Commissioner Thompson moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners postpone the 2010 Budget meeting until a future meeting time.

II. Request for Adoption of the 2010 Budget for Kalamazoo County  
(Approval of Budget will be postponed to a future meeting)

JJ. Request for Approval of Resolution to Levy  
Commissioner Urban moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the County Administrator of Kalamazoo County has submitted to the Board of Commissioners of Kalamazoo County estimates of the anticipated expenditures for the various departments and functions of Kalamazoo County for the year 2010 together with the estimated revenues from said departments and from taxation for the year 2010; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners to discuss, consider and authorize an annual appropriation to cover such expenditures as are determined by the Board of Commissioners to be necessary; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that a 4.6871 mills tax to cover such estimated expenditures would be necessary plus a 1.4491 mills operating levy for special law enforcement as approved by the voters on August 3, 2004 plus a .1850 mill debt service levy for the Juvenile Home construction bond issue as approved by the voters on August 8, 2006.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a 4.6871 mills operating tax be spread on the taxable value of the property of the County of Kalamazoo on July 1, 2010 to cover the estimated expenditures for the various departments and functions of Kalamazoo County for the year 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that 1.4491 mills for special law enforcement operations and .1850 mill for debt service be spread on the taxable value of the property of the County of Kalamazoo on December 1, 2009 to cover the estimated expenditures for

the various departments and functions and to cover the estimated Juvenile Home bond Issue debt service of Kalamazoo County for the year 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator, as the duly appointed Budget Director, is hereby empowered to administer such duties as may be from time to time delegated to that office by the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Budget Guidelines as adopted by the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners at the October 6, 2009 meeting and such amendments as from time to time may be adopted, shall be incorporated by reference into this Resolution and the County Administrator is hereby authorized to implement those guidelines for fiscal control of the County revenues and expenditures.

There being no discussion, the motion carried by a voice vote.

KK. Report from the Equalization Director Re: Apportionment of Taxes  
(Report will be postponed to a future meeting)

LL. Request for the Adoption of Resolution to Apportion Ad Valorem Taxes  
(Approval of Resolution will be postponed to a future meeting)

MM. All Other Items to be Considered at the Annual Meeting

There were no other items brought forward.

ITEM 9 Old Business

There was no old business.

ITEM 10 New Business

Commissioner Ann Nieuwenhuis moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners approved the following Resolution:

WHEREAS Project 2020 is a three pronged approach to addressing long-term care needs through implementation of person-centered access to information; evidence-based disease prevention and health promotion; and enhanced nursing home diversion services; and

WHEREAS Project 2020 Legislation has been introduced in both the United States House of Representatives and Senate (co-sponsored by Sen. Stabenow); and

WHEREAS Older American Act program budgets have failed to keep pace with inflation or the growing number of older Americans and Americans with Disabilities in need of services; and

WHEREAS older adults and individuals with disabilities have been placed on waiting lists for supportive services resulting from reduced service capacity; and

WHEREAS Federal and State budgets are in critical shape; and

WHEREAS countless studies have demonstrated that older adults and adults with disabilities would prefer to live in their own homes and in their communities for as long as possible; and

WHEREAS investing in home and community-based care is far more cost effective in both economic and human terms than paying for expensive Medicare health care claims and Medicaid nursing home care; and

WHEREAS funding Project 2020 will mean consumers (older adults as well as adults with disabilities) will have more long-term care options that empower them to make informed choices and better conserve and extend their own resources using lower cost, evidence-based programs, including consumer-directed options for community-based care; and

WHEREAS the proposed Project 2020 Federal outlay of \$2.5 billion over the next five years has the potential to reach over 40 million Americans and reduce Federal Medicare and Medicaid costs by approximately \$2.8 billion over that same five year period;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners supports Project 2020 Legislation.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: All members present  
Nays: None  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Commissioners Alford, Ansari, Biby and Zull.

The motion carried.

ITEM 11 County Administrator's Report

County Administrator Battani passed.

ITEM 12 Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Buskirk commented that there were several Commissioners are absent tonight due to personal illness or illness in the family. He thanked Commissioners for the amount of time spent on the budget discussions.

ITEM 13     Vice Chairperson's Report

Vice Chairperson Buchholtz stated the Wellness Program had done above and beyond initial expectations and had demonstrated both financial savings and life-styles changes which were benefitting employees and their families.

ITEM 14     Members' Time

Commissioner Ann Nieuwenhuis thanked the efforts of Southwest Michigan First, especially Jill Bland, and the many persons within the Galesburg City government who worked hard to qualify the City of Galesburg for a \$614,000 grant from the State. She thanked the owners of the 4 farms who graciously offered tours to the public for their education. She noted that Agriculture was the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading industry in the State of Michigan. She stated the Kalamazoo County Senior Expo had taken place earlier today and expressed thanks to Bronson and Borgess Hospitals for their participation.

Commissioner Quinn commented on the Kalamazoo Gazette Editorial on raising elected officials salaries in Kalamazoo County. He commended the 5 persons for the work they were doing and stated he felt the County should be viewed as a good employer, who was taking care of its' own. He noted these positions were crucial and these persons deserved our support.

Commissioner Taylor echoed Commissioner Quinn's comments.

Commissioner Thompson expressed his sympathies to the families of those who recently died in house fires. He thanked Ms. Kelly Layman for her excellent work in the Soil Erosion program. He thanked Dave Artley for all his work on behalf of the homeless in Kalamazoo County.

Commissioner Urban also echoed Commissioner Quinn's comments.

Commissioner Heppler commented that this was Fire Prevention Week and asked persons to check their smoke detectors and thank those who daily strive to keep us safe.

Commissioner Johnson thanked Judge Johnson for his work on the CCAB. He also thanked former Sheriff's Edmonds and Anderson for all their work on this Board; as well as Judge Gary Giguere and current Sheriff Rick Fuller.

Commissioner Maturen noted the International Right of Way Association for 75 years of service to America's population.

ITEM 15     Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairperson Buskirk

[Type text]

Chm Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
Clk Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
28642

adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

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Timothy A. Snow  
Clerk/Register of Deeds

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Dave Buskirk  
Chairman, Kalamazoo County Board of  
Commissioners

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