

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

August 5, 2009

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 5:00 p.m. – 6:50 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Carolyn Alford, Nasim Ansari, Robert Barnard, Deb Buchholtz, Dave Buskirk, Jeff Heppler, Brian Johnson, Dave Maturen, Ann Nieuwenhuis John Nieuwenhuis, Mike Quinn, John Taylor, Jack Urban, John Zull

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Jeff Balkema, Grady Biby and Frank Thompson

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Battani, John Faul, Thom Canny, Tina Becker, Lisa Bradshaw, Dave Artley, Dave Rachowicz, Linda Buzas, Jo Woods, Tim Snow

Chairperson Buskirk convened the Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m.

1. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Deputy Finance Director Lisa Bradshaw stated that claims for August 5, 2009 totaled \$3,141,287.82. Ms. Bradshaw reviewed transfers and disbursements on page 2.

2. Personnel Policy Recommendations

Ms. Jo Woods briefly reviewed three policy recommendations that were in the packet. First being the adoption of an Anti-Fraud and Abuse Policy. Secondly, the adoption of the revised Nepotism Policy; and third, the adoption of the revised Drug Free Workplace Policy. She stated these items were on tonight's Board of Commissioners consent agenda.

Commissioner Quinn had concerns if these policies were for everyone who drew a salary from the County. Ms. Woods replied yes that was the goal. Commissioner Quinn stated he concerns about Commissioners being included.

Commissioner Zull had concerns with the Nepotism policy; that commissioners should include relatives of Commissioners.

Corporate Counsel Thom Canny stated Commissioners relatives would be covered under the Nepotism Policy. He also stated there was nothing Commissioners could do to penalize Commissioner acts.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Ann Nieuwenhuis had concerns with the language in the Nepotism policy, item C. She stated this would lead to conflict of what employees would think they could be held responsible for. She had concerns about being sure not to open up the door for inappropriate or disciplinary action to be taken. She also had concerns about this item being on the consent agenda because several items she felt needed to be re-written and grammatical work corrections be sure the policies were crystal clear to employees as well as management.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Taylor stated Commissioners needed to have input on various levels. He also stated something should be put in place for Commissioners as well.

Many Commissioners concurred with Commissioner Ann Nieuwenhuis to have this item pulled from tonight's agenda.

Commissioner Thompson arrived at 5:50 p.m.

Vice Chair Buchholtz had concerns where this information was pulled from, i.e. governmental settings or private sector. Ms. Woods stated the policy information was gathered from National Society of Human Resource Management.

Discussion ensued.

Chair Buskirk took a vote by show of hands to remove this item from tonight's agenda. Consensus recommended this item be removed. He requested Commissioners submit concerns via email to Ms. Woods with specific changes and/or recommendations with the 3 policies.

3. Mobile Dental Clinic

Ms. Linda Buzas briefly reviewed her memo in the packet. She stated two bids for the purchase of a Mobile Dental Clinic Vehicle were awarded. The first bid awarded was for \$436,882 to Armor Mobile Systems for the construction of the mobile dental clinic vehicle. The second bid awarded was for \$63,063 to Henry Schein Dental for the dental equipment for the mobile clinic vehicle. She stated this item was removed from tonight's consent agenda due to contracts not being ready; however asked for Board approval to be able to negotiate all the contracts.

4. Budget Retreat

Administrator Peter Battani reviewed his memo in the packet and stated the Budget Retreat would be divided into two sessions. He reviewed the topics of each session.

Commissioner Alford had concerns with public participation and how the public be notified of these sessions.

Administrator Battani stated they would be open to the public and would offer citizen input as they normally do and would be notified via general news release to the media, emails, etc.

Chair Buskirk stated every elected official in the County should be invited.

Commissioner Urban had concerns where these meetings would take place. Administrator Battani stated he was envisioning a public place, i.e. Kalamazoo Public Library or KVCC Arcadia Campus perhaps. He stated the date, time and place would forthcoming.

5. Executive Session

Commissioner Johnson moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners acting 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 Balkema and Biby

The motion carried and the Board moved into executive session at 6:14 p.m. and returned to regular session at 6:50 p.m.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Buskirk adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

David Buskirk, Chair
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners