

## MINUTES

### KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

JANUARY 15, 2013

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 6:23 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Carolyn Alford, Dave Buskirk, Jeff Heppler, Brandt Iden, Dave Maturen, Julie Rogers, Michael Seals, Phil Stinchcomb, John Taylor, Roger Tuinier and John Zull

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Battani, John Faul, Thom Canny, Tracie Moored, Lisa Bradshaw, Mary Balkema, Jeff Getting, Tim Snow, Pat Crowley, Lotta Jarnefelt, Lee Adams, Judy Sivak, Marc Meulman, Linda Vail, Paul Matyas, Dina Sutton

Chairman Maturen convened the Committee of the Whole at 4:00 p.m.

1. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Tracie Moored, Finance Director stated claims for January 15, 2013 totaled \$1,391,035.83.

2. Board Bylaws

Mr. Thom Canny, Corporate Counsel reviewed his memo included in the packet.

Commissioner Alford stated she had a concern with wording in recommended changes in Section 2.6C.

Commissioner Rogers stated she concurred with Commissioner Alford's comments. She stated she would like a decision made today on which ones the Board would interview and which ones they wouldn't. She stated she felt the Road Commission interviews should be interviewed by the entire Board. She also stated she had concerns with changes to Section 4.1.

Commissioner Zull stated he had felt wording in Section 2.6C allowed the option of interviewing or not to interview candidates.

Chairman Maturen stated he felt this would streamline the process for those candidates who wanted to be reappointed. He stated the Board would make the decision to interview candidates on a case by case basis.

Commissioner Stinchcomb stated he concurred with Commissioner Zull's and Maturen's comments. He stated he didn't agree with changes to Sections 4.1, he didn't feel the need to have this in writing.

Vice Chairman Buskirk stated Section 4.1 was being misinterpreted; the intent was that if a Board member speaks to an employee/department head about an issue to notify Administration so they were aware of what was going on.

Commissioner Seals stated the wording should be changed to state that.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner's Heppler and Taylor arrived at 4:23 p.m.

Commissioner Taylor stated the Board needed to discuss this issue at a retreat and take the time to think about it.

### 3. Board Committee Assignments

Chairman Maturen stated he had spent a lot of time reviewing all the Boards and Commissions and determined which Boards were required, permitted, or allowed. He asked the Board to review the list and let him know which Boards they wanted to serve on or didn't want to serve on. He stated his focus was on the required Boards.

Commissioner Zull stated he felt any Commissioner should be allowed to attend the SMART Counties meetings.

Commissioner Seals inquired if the County had a mechanism to be kept informed about the Human Services Department Board, and Ms. Moored indicated that the County received monthly reports.

### 4. Team Building & Retreat

Chairman Maturen stated he along with the Vice Chairman and Mr. Battani had met with Dr. Lew Bender and felt it was a good idea to hold a Board Retreat.

Mr. Battani, County Administrator stated he had met Dr. Bender at an event he had attended and stated he came highly recommended and had a vast experience and felt it would be beneficial to the Board to allow to work on team building and maybe at a later time have a session on strategic planning, maybe prior to the budget process.

Commissioner Alford inquired who would be participating and Mr. Battani stated the Board and himself.

Commissioner Iden stated he was not opposed to a retreat, but had reservations due to the cost.

County Administrator Battani stated Dr. Bender's cost would be \$4,500; plus food and facility.

Commissioner Stinchcomb stated he wasn't sure of the benefit of having a retreat. Mr. Battani stated the benefit of having an outside person was the person would tell the Board and Administrator what it needed to do without stepping on toes.

Commissioner Rogers stated she felt it would be beneficial, but the cost was prohibitive.

Commissioner Zull stated he felt it would be beneficial particularly for the new Commissioners.

Commissioner Tuinier concurred with Commissioner's Rogers and Zull.

Commissioner Seals stated he didn't want to sacrifice quality, effectiveness due to cost.

Discussion ensued.

Proposed dates: March 15 and 16; April 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20.

Commissioner Stinchcomb stated he preferred a Saturday.

### 5. Strategic Calendar

Mr. Peter Battani, Administrator reviewed his memo included in the packet. He stated the calendar was a working, fluid document and issues may not happen in the scheduled month, but would be discussed at some point.

Commissioner Heppler inquired about indigent defense.

Commissioner Seals inquired about that transit authority annual report.

Commissioner Alford wanted to know how Administration prioritized when an issue was going to be discussed and Mr. Battani stated he tried to spread out the issues. She also inquired about security not only at the Courts, but the Administration Building. Mr. Battani stated a discussion about security could be added to the calendar.

Commissioner Rogers stated she would like to have a discussion on security and Administration could use their discretion when to place it on the calendar.

Commissioner Taylor stated he was in agreement with this schedule.

Commissioner Seals stated discussion on security should occur at the end of the year to coincide with the Facilities Master Plan and the moving of departments to other locations.

#### 6. Retirement Plan Amendments

Ms. Moored reviewed her memo included in the packet and outlined changes to the Retirement Plan Resolution.

Discussion ensued.

#### 7. County-Wide Public Transit

Mr. Battani reviewed his memo and "White Paper" included in the packet. He stated the purpose of the paper was to make an initial proposal on the next steps of County Wide Transportation. He stated the paper was prepared by staff and was assisted by Tim Fallon.

Chairman Maturen urged the Board to review the paper; he stated Kalamazoo County was very fortunate to have a unified transportation system. He stated he had concerns without a plan, particularly with transfer of assets.

Commissioner Seals stated he had concerns with the transfer of assets, as well as leadership change at the City of Kalamazoo, not only on the Board, but the City Manager as well.

Commissioner Taylor inquired what the holdup was or the issue was and Mr. Battani stated there were several issues; mainly the City of Kalamazoo had a financial hardship to deal with.

Discussion ensued.

Vice Chairman Buskirk stated the process had been long, but felt taking the extra time was necessary and he felt it would happen.

Mr. Sean McCann, Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority (KCYA) Coordinator stated now was the time to act, for a lot of reasons. He stated that the City of Kalamazoo, KCTA, and the County of Kalamazoo needed to work together.

#### 8. Area Agency on Aging Custom Care Program Presentation

Ms. Judy Sivak, Director Area Agency on Aging reviewed her memo included in the packet.

Commissioner Rogers stated she supported this.

Commissioner Seals thanked Ms. Sivak for her work on this and stated he supported this.

Commissioner Stinchcomb inquired if there were any Professional Geriatric Managers locally and Ms. Sivak stated there were none.

9. Any other items

There were no other items.

10. Executive Session

Commissioner Seals moved that the Board of Commissioners, functioning as a Committee of the Whole, go into a closed session pursuant to Sections 8 (h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes:	All members present
Nays:	None
Abstains:	None
Absent:	None

The motion carried.

The motion carried and the Board moved into executive session at 6:02 p.m. and returned to regular session at 6:23 p.m.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Maturen adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

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David C. Maturen, Chairman  
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners