

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

JANUARY 21, 2014

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner John Taylor

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Battani, John Faul, Thom Canny, Tracie Moored, Dina Sutton, Rick Fuller, Jean Michaud, Lisa Bradshaw, Jeff Getting, Mary Balkema, Paul Matyas

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 21, 2014 totaled \$1,499,307.26. She indicated there were two release of funds to the State of Michigan, Department of Human Services (DHS) and one release of funds to the Land Bank Authority.

Commissioner Seals inquired if Finance had met with DHS yet and Ms. Moored indicated she had not.

2. Continuation of Board Bylaws

Mr. Thom Canny, Corporate Counsel indicated at the January 7, 2014 Board meeting the Board approved temporary bylaws. He stated the Board had the ability to make changes to their bylaws at any time, however it was practice for the Board to approve their bylaws at the beginning of the year; he also indicated Administration did not have any recommended changes. He stated adoption of the bylaws would be on the consent agenda for February 4, 2014.

3. Commissioner Assignments to Advisory Boards

Chairman Maturen reviewed the Commissioner Assignments to the Advisory Boards. He indicated there was an opening at the Parks Commission as Commissioner Zull now had a conflict.

Commissioner Heppler stated as a requirement he needed to complete an application to the Community Corrections Advisory Board and would require appointment by the Board.

4. 2014 Strategic Calendar

Mr. Peter Battani, County Administrator reviewed his memo as included in the packet as well as the draft calendar. He stated this was not an all inclusive calendar, but had major issues on it.

Commissioner Rogers had a few comments concerning a presentation on early education; an update on the HR Director position; and the Workforce Development presentation.

5. Addendum to Co-Located Dispatch Agreement

Sheriff Rick Fuller stated the County had been working with the City of Kalamazoo for several years as part of a co-located dispatch and part of the 2003 User Agreement with the City of Kalamazoo the Sheriff's Office needed to pay a portion of an upgrade to the dispatch console hardware and software systems.

Commissioner Rogers inquired if there was a forecast for this agreement over the next few years. Sheriff Fuller stated he was working with the City of Kalamazoo on a forecast and how this will affect the consolidated dispatch.

Mr. Battani indicated Finance was working on information concerning the various upgrades over the last several years.

6. Letter of Intent – Real Estate Exchange Agreement

Mr. John Faul, Deputy County Administrator reviewed his memo included in the packet. He stated there was no action necessary tonight.

Commissioner Rogers stated she supported this request, but did have concerns with environmental issues.

Mr. Joseph Mirro, CEO of the West Michigan Cancer Center (WMCC) stated environmental assessments had already been conducted and this Letter of Agreement allowed the WMCC to move forward with purchasing the property and moving forward with a facilities master plan.

Discussion ensued.

7. Legacy Costs

Mr. Battani indicated the memo was pretty self explanatory and wanted to have a place holder on the agenda for further discussion. He indicated Administration would like to act on the recommendations at the next meeting.

Commissioner Tuinier stated the statement on page 3 summarized the end goal.

Commissioner Tuinier inquired if a current retiree, who paid 12% or 16%, would they be paying 20% if the Board adopted this policy, and Mr. Battani stated this was correct; however, there were employees who retired under contract that would not pay anything.

Commissioner Heppler inquired if retirees had been notified and Mr. Battani indicated Administration had.

Commissioner Iden arrived at 4:24 p.m.

Commissioner Stinchcomb stated he would prefer to do this at one time vs. in pieces. Mr. Battani indicated to make the change to contracts would be time consuming and would like to get the other changes made to the rest of the employees and retirees now.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Rogers indicated this would be the hardest decision she would make as a Commissioner this year. She stated she wanted to have further discussion on the 13th ad hoc check.

Commissioner Alford wanted to know if retirees had an opportunity to respond and Mr. Battani indicated all retirees were notified and employees were represented by their Department Heads and Elected Officials.

Commissioner Seals wanted to know what the inflation was from 2001 to current and would like that

information. He inquired what retirees had Humana and Blue Care and were they comparable. Ms. Moored indicated when a retiree was Medicare eligible the retiree switched to Humana.

Commissioner Seals stated he would like to review the plans and get educated.

Commissioner Rogers asked to see the letter that went out to the retirees.

Commissioner Rogers stated there were so many changes to health insurance, Affordable Care Act, etc. and stated there were still a lot of unknowns.

Commissioner Iden stated he didn't see in the memo concerns with the Affordable Care Act and the poverty individuals and Mr. Battani indicated yes the County was working on this.

8. Any other items

Chairman Maturen indicated the MAC Legislative Conference was upcoming March 24-26.

Vice Chairman Buskirk stated he would like to attend and wanted to know if the County was paying for overnight for the conference.

Commissioner Rogers inquired if anyone was planning on attending the NACo Legislative Conference as she was interested in attending.

9. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

10. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Maturen adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

David C. Maturen, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners