

## MINUTES

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

APRIL 15, 2014

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 6:33 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner John Zull

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Battani, John Faul, Thom Canny, Tracie Moored, Adrian Gregor, Mathew Hanson, Lisa Bradshaw, Chris Sieklucki, David Reid, Lee Adams, Lotta Jarnefelt, Jeff Getting, Mary Balkema, Tim Snow, Lisa Thompson, Tammy Lahman, Pat Crowley, Rick Fuller, 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 April 15, 2014 totaled \$2,286,295.07. She indicated there was one release of funds.

Commissioner Rogers inquired about the allocation for the parking ramp; Ms. Moored indicated that those funds were in the capital improvement account and this summer Administration along with Buildings and Grounds would begin the process of reviewing the parking needs and options.

Mr. Peter Battani, County Administrator asked if the Board would like an update on the status of the ramp and several commissioners indicated they were interested.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Rogers inquired about 911 Public Safety Training account and if those funds were coming forward from 2013 and Ms. Moored indicated these were different funds.

#### 2. Equalization Report

Mr. Mathew Hansen, Equalization Director presented the 2014 Equalization Report.

Commissioner Taylor wanted to know how that compared with our projections and Ms. Moored indicated this was above the projections made.

Commissioner Stinchcomb inquired if taxes were being raised in the City of Portage and Mr. Hansen indicated they were being equalized.

#### 3. Information Systems Departmental Update

Mr. Battani stated that during one of his Administrator's Report he had indicated that some positions were difficult to fill due to compensation and Information Systems positions was one of those departments facing those issues.

Ms. Lisa Thompson, Information Systems Director reviewed her memo as included in the packet.

Commissioner Iden arrived at 4:36 p.m.

Vice Chairman Buskirk inquired if the County was 20% complete installing Windows 7 and she indicated that was correct.

Commissioner Taylor indicated he supported these requests.

Commissioner Rogers thanked Ms. Thompson for the presentation. She asked for clarification on her requests, which Ms. Thompson did. Commissioner Rogers stated she supported these requests.

Commissioner Heppler inquired about a Market Study and Mr. Battani stated he had been working with departments with identifying the needs.

Commissioner Rogers stated she would like an update on nursing staff as well.

Mr. Battani stated he appreciated the receptiveness of the Board on this issue.

Commissioner Seals stated he supported this request.

#### 4. Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Update

Ms. Lotta Jarnefelt, Planning & Community Development Director and Mr. Lee Adams presented a Power Point presentation for the 2013 Activities of the Brownfield Development Authority.

Commissioner Stinchcomb thanked the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for all their work and thanked them for their presentation.

Vice Chairman Buskirk inquired about the General Mills project and Mr. Adams indicated they were renting space currently.

Commissioner Rogers thanked Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for all their work and thanked them for their presentation.

#### 5. Facilities Master Plan Update

Mr. John Faul, Deputy County Administrator reviewed his memo as included in the packet.

Commissioner Seals inquired how many local bidders submitted proposals for the Gull Road Court Facility (GRCF) Project and Mr. Faul did not have the exact numbers but indicated there were a lot.

Commissioner Rogers inquired about the land locked piece of property for the GRCF and Mr. Faul indicated the County has had discussions with the property owners. She also inquired if the Group was working with MDOT on the road construction and he indicated discussions had occurred.

Commissioner Rogers asked to be kept in the loop on the property purchased by the Kalamazoo County Humane Society.

Commissioner Taylor inquired about the needs of archive space. Mr. Faul indicated there was still a great need for paper storage.

Commissioner Heppler stated part of the GRCF was to move HCS into the existing Family Court Facility and wasn't sure if that was the best use of space; he indicated he wanted to get away from renting.

Commissioner Seals stated there are a lot of changes needed to the Facility Master Plan.

Commissioner Rogers encouraged any Commissioner who hadn't toured County buildings, to do so.

Commissioner Tuinier inquired if in the end would the County be renting space for the Nazareth operations and Mr. Faul indicated it was the intent not to rent.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Faul indicated he would like to ask Arcadia Collaborative to take another look at the Facility Master Plan and prepare a proposal and to bring that proposal back to the Board.

#### 6. Next Generation E911 Dispatch Discussion

Commissioner Heppler stated the Dispatch Steering Committee had been working on a consolidation plan and the Committee had identified areas of concerns. He indicated there would be a cost associated with this. He stated Corporate Counsel was working on a Consolidation Agreement with the other PSAPs on how the E911 would be structured. He stated the Committee would be asking the Board to levy the \$.42 to generate funds to hire a Director and staff to allow Dispatch to come to fruition.

Commissioner Seals indicated the County needed to pass a Resolution by May 15, 2014 and get it to the State of Michigan in order to levy that \$.42 for this year, which he indicated was too short of a time to do so. He indicated there were still a lot of unknowns, but an agreement was necessary to consolidate.

Mr. Thom Canny, Corporate Counsel indicated the process to pass a Resolution and send it to the State only occurred once a year. He stated there were two issues, one would be to create an Authority of the 5 PSAPs and the other issue was how to distribute the levied funds. He indicated it was not possible to come to an agreement before the May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Sheriff Rick Fuller stated the process was going well and was encouraged by the work of the Committee.

Ms. Ann Nieuwenhuis, Comstock Township Supervisor stated upgrades to Fire dispatching desperately needed to be upgraded. She stated she was frustrated that the Steering Committee wasn't ready to ask the Board to levy those funds; however, encouraged everyone to keep moving forward.

Mr. Ron Reid, Kalamazoo Township Supervisor stated the Council discussed this topic at a work meeting last night and was encouraged and supported the County.

Mr. Battani indicated he wasn't at the meeting last week and knew the Committee was frustrated that a Resolution couldn't be adopted by the Board by May 15<sup>th</sup>. He indicated many members were frustrated with the slow progression. He stated he was encouraged because all five entities were at the table and still engaged in conversation.

Commissioner Taylor stated he was hopeful this would come to fruition and stated it was absolutely necessary to do.

Commissioner Alford inquired how the \$.42 would be collected and Mr. Battani indicated the Board had to adopt a Resolution.

Mr. Canny indicated the Board had to adopt a Resolution to impose a \$.42 for each person who had a phone service and the phone company collects those funds and sends those funds to the Treasurer's Office for distribution. He said if the County wanted to collect more than \$.42 it would be a question for the voters.

Commissioner Alford wanted to know how citizens would be notified of the levy. Mr. Battani indicated that there was interest in hosting some type of educational meeting once all internal questions were answered.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Taylor left the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

7. Any other items

Commissioner Rogers indicated she would like the Board to approve the National Train Day Resolution at the next meeting.

8. Executive Session

Commissioner Seals moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners, functioning as a Committee of the Whole, go into a 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 Taylor and Zull

The motion carried.

9. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Maturen adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

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David C. Maturen, Chairman  
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners