

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

APRIL 21, 2015

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 6:31 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners John Gisler, Jeff Heppler, Scott McGraw, Stephanie Moore, Larry Provancher, Julie Rogers, Michael Seals, Dale Shugars, John Taylor, Roger Tuinier and Kevin Wordelman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: John Faul, Thom Canny, Tracie Moored, Tim Snow, Pat Crowley, Randy Winterowd, Lisa Bradshaw, Matt Hansen, Rachel Grover, Jeff Getting, Paul Matyas, Kristine Cunningham, Rick Fuller, Dina Sutton

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

1. Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority Interview

The Board introduced themselves and interviewed Mr. Saura Sahu for the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority.

Commissioner Gisler stated Mr. Sahu would be a great asset to the Authority.

Commissioners Tuinier and Shugars concurred with Commissioner Gisler.

Commissioner McGraw inquired if any of the Authority members currently rode the bus and it was noted that there were.

Commissioner Moore stated he interviewed well, however she had concerns that the Authority was top heavy and not at the bottom. She stated the Authority needed more inclusion from the neighborhoods.

Commissioner Gisler stated not many individuals who utilized the services apply to serve on these boards.

Commissioner Provancher stated he agreed with Commissioner Moore; however Mr. Sahu would be a great asset to the Authority.

Commissioner Moore wanted to know what recruitment efforts were being made. Mr. Sean McBride stated he would work with the Board to diversify the Authority; he stated KCTA held public forums, and there was a variety of advertisement done with the local units of government, etc.

Chairman Taylor indicated there would be a motion under New Business at tonight's meeting.

2. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Tracie Moored, Finance Director stated claims for April 21, 2015 totaled \$1,360,830.10. She indicated there were some budget line item adjustments for the Human Resources Department.

3. Equalization Report

Mr. Matt Hansen, Equalization Director, presented the Equalization Report.

Commissioner Seals wanted to know how close the County was to its projection and Ms. Moored indicated the County was within a half of a percent.

Discussion ensued.

4. Workforce Development Update

Mr. Ben Damerow, Executive Director, Michigan Works! presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Commissioner Rogers asked Mr. Damerow to explain the PATH Program. Mr. Damerow stated it was a program that the State utilized for individuals who were receiving cash assistance; he stated those individuals were referred to Michigan Works! for various services. He stated this was affecting the graduation rate of the individuals.

Mr. Damerow stated a participant of Michigan Works! was receiving the Prosperity Award tomorrow.

Commissioner Provancher inquired if the applications individuals were completing had a reference to having a felony and Mr. Damerow stated it depended on the individual companies.

Commissioner Gisler wanted to know how involved they were with Southwest Michigan First (SWMF), Mr. Damerow stated Michigan Works! collaborated with SMWF on a daily basis and assisted

Commissioner Moore inquired about the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). Mr. Damerow stated the WIA monies were being transitioned.

5. Installation of Non-Contact Cooling Water Well in a Groundwater Use Restricted Zone

Mr. Thom Canny, Corporate Counsel, reviewed his memo as included in the packet. He stated Allnex Industries, Inc., was located within a Groundwater Use Restricted Zone and wishes to abandon an existing, non-contact, manufacturing process groundwater well system and replace it with a new non-contact, manufacturing process groundwater well. He indicated the existing well is producing at a reduced capacity due to "pumping formation sand."

Discussion ensued.

6. Legislative Agenda

Chairman Taylor reviewed the draft agenda for the Legislative meeting scheduled for Friday, April 24.

Commissioner McGraw wanted to know the concerns for the medical marijuana issue. Sheriff Fuller stated the Michigan Sheriff's Association wanted regulations from the Legislators.

Commissioner Gisler inquired about the non-medical marijuana issue and Sheriff Fuller stated he wasn't aware of the issues in Colorado. He stated the National Sheriff's Association was watching this issue closely.

Commissioner Gisler wanted to know about a bill in house concerning energy regulations. Chairman Taylor stated he didn't think it was an issue for the County to tackle at this point.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he would like a discussion on meth and the issues related to meth. Sheriff Fuller stated the County has had many discussions with the Legislators over the last six years.

Commissioner Rogers stated she didn't think the Board should just focus on marijuana but should focus on drugs in general.

Commissioner Rogers stated she would like a written bullet point of county's best practices to provide to the Legislators.

7. Any other items

Commissioner Wordelman stated a group of Commissioners along with Administration met concerning the responsible bidder policy.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Shugars stated he and Commissioner McGraw walked Colony Farms recently and stated it was in pretty bad shape and really needed to be cleaned up.

8. Executive Session

Commissioner Wordelman 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 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.

9. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Taylor adjourned the meeting at 6:31p.m.

John Taylor, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners