

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

AUGUST 19, 2014

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 6:34 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Carolyn Alford and Dave Maturen

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Battani, John Faul, Thom Canny, Tracie Moored, Jeff Getting, Mary Balkema, Pat Crowley, Dave Reid, Lynne Norman, Lucinda Stinson, Jean Michaud, Lisa Bradshaw, Rick Fuller, Paul Matyas, Mary Balkema, Rebecca Liskovec, Chris Sieklucki, Dina Sutton

Vice Chairman Buskirk 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 August 19, 2014 totaled \$2,092,201.08. She stated there was one release of funds to the Michigan Department of Human Services – Child Care fund in the amount of \$200,000. She also indicated there were some budget adjustments as well.

2. Central County Transportation Authority (CCTA) Appointment Process

Mr. Peter Battani, County Administrator stated the appointment process for the new CCTA would be laid out and discussed. He stated there had been a lot of work from the Leadership Team on the various details of the process on the appointments.

Mr. Sean McBride, Executive Director, Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority reviewed his memo as included in the packet. He stated many members came from local jurisdictions. He stated letters had been sent to the local units of government. He stated it was recommended that the members would be appointed for a one year, two year or three year term. It was anticipated that some members would be appointed by the Board on September 16th.

Commissioner Iden arrived at 4:09 p.m.

Commissioner Rogers wanted to know why there were two appointment processes and Mr. McBride stated CCTA was anxious to get appointments.

Commissioner Rogers stated she was concerned why the County Board wasn't interviewing the candidates. Vice Chairman Buskirk stated the Leadership Team felt the local units had preference and their recommendations should be appointed. He stated the intent was to streamline the process.

Commissioner Rogers felt the three other members needed to be interviewed by the Board and shouldn't rely on the recommendation of the Leadership Team.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Seals indicated the City of Parchment expressed concerns with not having input or a member appointed. Mr. McBride stated the City of Parchment could have someone apply for one of the three county appointed memberships.

Commissioner Taylor stated he concurred with comments made by Commissioner Rogers. He stated he too felt the Board should have a say in who was pointed, particularly with the urban membership.

Commissioner Zull stated he appreciated all the hard work that went into this process. He stated he had concerns with representation from rural area membership. He stated the members were accountable to the Board, no matter if the members were selected and interviewed by the Board vs. on the recommendation by the eight local units of government.

Discussion ensued on the three memberships that would be appointed by the Board.

Commissioner Taylor moved and it was duly seconded to waive the full Board interview process for the three CCTA members and have the Board Appointment Committee narrow the candidates down to six and have the full Board interview those six at their September 16 meeting.

There being no further discussion, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Commissioner Rogers requested the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Item P. be pulled from the consent agenda and Sheriff Fuller addressed the Board concerning the grant. He stated the grant partially paid for the Emergency Management Director's salary. He stated it had been approximately 18 months since an update had been done by the Emergency Management Office to the Board and due to some unforeseen issues a presentation would not be ready until November.

Commissioner Rogers stated she appreciated the update, however, she was concerned and frustrated with issues concerning the Sheriff's Office and Emergency Management. She stated she felt the Business Continuity Plan needed to be updated and felt further discussion needed to occur.

3. Missile Defense Resolution

Mr. Lee Adams, Resource Director introduced Lt. Col. Mark Gorzynski, Commander of Ft. Custer Training Center and Col. Ron Wilson Commander of the Battle Creek Air National Guard and Jan Frantz, Battle Creek Unlimited.

Lt. Col. Gorzynski presented a power point presentation concerning the potential missile defense installation at the Ft. Custer Military Base.

Vice Chairman Buskirk inquired if the majority of the project was within Kalamazoo County and Lt. Col. Gorzynski stated yes.

Ms. Frantz stated Calhoun County passed a Resolution supporting this. She stated approximately 300 jobs would be created. She stated \$26 million of economic development would occur from this project.

Commissioner Seals stated he was in favor of this project.

Commissioner Taylor inquired if this was feasible and Lt. Col. Gorzynski stated he felt comfortable that this would be feasible.

Commissioner Rogers wanted clarification on what the Board was supporting and Lt. Col. Gorzynski stated that was up to the Board. She also expressed the traffic of heavy equipment on the roads and

Lt. Col. Gorzynski indicated most would be flown in, however some would be trucked in and he stated some road traffic would occur. Commissioner Rogers wanted to know if there would be any impact on the Battle Creek Airport and Col. Wilson stated the impact would be beneficial and would enhance Ft. Custer.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Jim Clark, Portage, addressed the Board concerning this issue.

Ms. Patricia Crowley, Drain Commissioner inquired if the Stormwater Guidelines were being followed and Lt. Col. Gorzynski stated he did not know but would find out.

4. Health Care Plan Recommendations

Mr. Battani stated in the packet there was a memo concerning healthcare plan design for employees and retirees. He stated the recommendations came from the Benefit Plan Review Team and it was for discussion only and no action was being taken at this time. He introduced Susan Culhane of Nulty Agency.

Ms. Culhane reviewed the memo and recommendations as included in the packet.

Commissioner Rogers thanked everyone on the Team for their hard work. She stated she was comfortable with these recommendations and supported these recommendations.

Commissioner Seals inquired what Stop Loss meant and Ms. Culhane stated currently it capped at \$150,000 but the change would cap it at \$200,000. Commissioner Seals wanted to know the impact of retirees and Ms. Culhane stated there would be premium savings.

Commissioner Iden inquired if the \$1.2 million savings would be for one year and Ms. Moored indicated it would be for 2015 and would be re-evaluated every year. Commissioner Iden indicated it was important to re-evaluate and Ms. Moored indicated the County would keep an eye on this and would be re-evaluated again in three years.

Commissioner Tuinier thanked everyone for their hard work on these recommendations.

Commissioner Heppler echoed Commissioner Tuinier's comments

Mr. Battani thanked everyone for their hard work on this.

5. Any other items

Commissioner Tuinier inquired about Lamar Construction and Mr. Canny indicated they did file for bankruptcy and a new vendor would provide those services.

6. Executive Session

Commissioner Rogers 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) and Section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing issues related to the County's labor negotiations and to consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with pending litigation in the matter of hotel.com v. Kalamazoo County because an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigation or settlement position of the County.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: All members present
Nays: None
Abstains: None
Absent: Commissioners Alford and Maturen

The motion carried.

7. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chairman Buskirk adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

David C. Maturen, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners