

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

NOVEMBER 12, 2015

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 7:55 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, Kristine Cunningham, Rick Fuller, Tina Becker, Tim Snow, Michelle Tombro Tracy, Greg Vlietstra, Peggy Bresnahan

Chairman Taylor convened the Committee of the Whole at 10:00 a.m.

1. Interview of County Administrator Candidates

Mr. Todd Surline of Hiring Solutions reviewed the assessment results of the candidates.

Commissioners Shugars and Moore arrived at 10:10 a.m.

Vice Chairman Heppler arrived at 10:26 p.m.

Discussion regarding the interview process ensued.

The Board of Commissioners interviewed the following candidates:

- Michael Overton
- Carolyn Burns
- Terrance Spryszak
- Mary Balkema

Interview questions will be attached to the official minutes of this meeting.

Following the interviews, the Chair called for Citizen's Time. The following citizens offered comments:

Mr. James Hilboldt, Kalamazoo, distributed a memo in support of Mary Balkema.

Mr. Frank Warren, Kalamazoo, stated he also supported Mary Balkema.

Ms. Mattie Jordon Woods, Northside Kalamazoo, stated she supported Mary Balkema as well.

The Board then entered into discussion about the process of selecting a County Administrator and the individual candidates.

Commissioner McGraw then moved, seconded by Commissioner Shugars to hire Mary Balkema as County Administrator.

Lengthy discussion ensued.

A motion to call the question was made and supported.

The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Gisler, Heppler, McGraw, Shugars, Tuinier

Nays: Commissioners Provancher, Rogers, Seals, Taylor, Wordelman

Abstains: Commissioner Moore

Absent: None

The motion failed.

Chair Taylor in response to a question, indicated that in his opinion this vote did not mean that Ms. Balkema could not be appointed County Administrator in a future vote.

After additional discussion, Commissioner Shugars moved, seconded by Commissioner McGraw to recess the meeting until 7:15 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Moore moved, seconded by Commissioner Shugars to request Hiring Solutions staff contact all seven candidates to ask them their personal position on the subject of LGBTQ.

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

Chair Taylor recessed the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

Chair Taylor resumed the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Chair Taylor recommended that each Commissioner select his/her 3 top candidates to discuss, which would allow the Board to decide on the County Administrator.

Several Commissioners offered comments regarding the process.

Commissioner Moore moved, seconded by Commissioner Provancher for each Commissioner to select up to 3 candidates by circling the number and name of up to 3 candidates on the list provided and to sign the paper.

Several commissioners offered many comments regarding the motion.

Commissioner Moore then moved, seconded by Commissioner Provancher to call the question.

The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Moore, Provancher, Rogers, Seals, Taylor, Wordelman

Nays: Commissioners Gisler, Heppler, McGraw, Shugars, Tuinier

Abstains: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

The candidate sheets were distributed, collected and tabulated by a representative of Hiring Solutions.

The vote was as follows:

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------|-------------------|---------|
| Bradley Wilcox | 1 vote | Carolyn Burns | 1 vote |
| Sean McCann | 5 votes | Terrance Spryszak | 3 votes |
| Terrence Neuzil | 7 votes | Mary Balkema | 6 votes |
| Michael Overton | 1 vote | | |

The top 3 candidates were: Terrence Neuzil, Mary Balkema and Sean McCann

Commissioner Rogers then moved, seconded by Commissioner Wordelman to hire Terrence Neuzil as the County Administrator.

Several Commissioners made comments regarding the various candidates.

The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Moore, Provancher, Rogers, Seals, Taylor, Tuinier, Wordelman

Nays: Commissioners McGraw, Shugars, Gisler, Heppler

Abstains: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

Commissioner Gisler moved, seconded by Commissioner Wordelman to cast a unanimous ballot for Terrence Neuzil as County Administrator.

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

When asked about the process, Corporate Counsel Thom Canny stated that the Board had authorized the Chair, Vice Chair, Search Firm, Finance Director and Human Resources Director to negotiate a contract with Mr. Neuzil.

2. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Taylor adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

John Taylor, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners