

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

March 4, 2014

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:02 p.m. – 6:05 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Dave Buskirk

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Battani, John Faul, Thom Canny, Tracie Moored, Randy Winterowd, Eric , David Reid, Lisa Henthorn, Pat Crowley, Lotta Jarnefelt, Tim Snow, Jeff Getting, Lisa Bradshaw, Mary Balkema, Kelly Ball, and Dina Sutton

Chairman Maturen convened the Committee of the Whole at 4:02 p.m.

1. Public Housing Commission Interviews

Commissioners introduced themselves and interviewed two applicants for the Public Housing Commission.

Commissioners Heppler and Tuinier arrived at 4:07 p.m.

Commissioner Iden arrived at 4:30 p.m.

Commissioner Taylor stated he felt Ms. White had real world experience; however, Mr. Artley had done such great work on the Public Housing Commission.

Commissioner Zull stated he supported the appointment of Mr. Artley.

Commissioner Tuinier state he felt both candidates had a passion for housing and would do a good job, but he too felt Mr. Artley would serve the Board well.

Commissioner Rogers stated she too would be supportive of appointing Mr. Artley although both candidates were good; she was concerned with Ms. White's attendance records.

Commissioner Alford stated both candidates were qualified candidates; she felt the Board should reappoint Ms. White.

2. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Tracie Moored, Finance Director stated claims for March 4, 2014 totaled \$2,403,806.21.

3. Workforce Development Board Update

Mr. Ben Damerow, Director, Michigan Works! presented the Board with an update on the Workforce Development Board. He provided a packet of material.

Commissioner Rogers indicated that participants in the PATH program were faced with barriers, particularly transportation and they were working on trying to resolve them.

4. Allocated Fund request for Duncan Aviation Project

Mr. David Reid, Airport Director reviewed his memo as included in the packet.

Commissioner Rogers wanted to know what landscape improvements were part of the project and Mr. Reid indicated originally there was going to be a lot of grass however, changes were made to have more maintenance free type of surfaces.

5. Drain Commission Office

Ms. Pat Crowley, Drain Commissioner reviewed her memo as included in the packet.

Commissioner Stinchcomb inquired if the \$100,000 request was for one specific job or multiple jobs and Ms. Crowley indicated it was for one job.

Commissioner Rogers asked Ms. Crowley to review the Revolving Drain Fund she distributed. Ms. Crowley did so. She indicated at times the fund did fall short. Commissioner Rogers requested she would like a report from the Drain Office on the status of the project and the fund in 2015.

Discussion ensued.

It was the consensus that further discussion needed to occur concerning the Revolving Drain Fund, particularly the process of the Drain Office and the Board would for an Ad Hoc Committee.

6. Bronson Park

Mr. Thom Canny, Corporate Counsel reviewed the letter in the packet from Mr. Clyde Robinson, City of Kalamazoo Attorney. He indicated he had no opinion on this matter, however, he did feel owning the park didn't hurt the County in any way.

Chairman Maturen clarified that the lease had expired. He stated he did not have a problem extending the lease for another year to allow the opportunity to review if the County should keep it, if the County should sell it, etc.

Commissioner Taylor indicated he had no issues with continuing the lease.

Commissioner Rogers asked why this wasn't brought to the Board sooner and Mr. Canny indicated discussions were ongoing with the City of Kalamazoo and therefore it was not ready to bring to the Board. She indicated she concurred with the Chairman's comments.

Commissioner Seals concurred with previous comments made.

Discussion ensued.

7. Meeting with Legislators

Mr. Peter Battani, County Administrator stated the Strategic Calendar indicated to host a meeting with the Legislators; he wanted to know if there was a desire to meet with them and if so, on what issues.

Commissioner Heppler indicated he would like to have a meeting and discuss infrastructure needs.

Commissioner's Zull and Taylor stated they too would like to have a meeting.

8. Any other items

Commissioner Seals stated he would like the Board to approve a Proclamation honoring Bill Wright at the next Board meeting.

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 6:05 p.m.

David C. Maturen, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners