

## MINUTES

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

MARCH 21, 2017

PLACE: Room 204, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 6:35 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners John Gisler, Tracy Hall, Ron Kendall, Scott McGraw, Stephanie Moore, Mike Quinn, Julie Rogers, Michael Seals, Dale Shugars, Roger Tuinier and Kevin Wordelman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracie Moored, Thom Canny, Dina Sutton, Tim Snow, Kristine Cunningham, Lisa Robert, Judge Curtis Bell, Steve Burnham, Ann Filkins, Jim Rutherford, Sue Darling, Judge Alexander Lipsey, Judge Richard Santoni, Lotta Jarnefelt, Jeff Getting, Mary Balkema, Rachael Grover, Sheriff Rick Fuller

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

#### 1. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Lisa Robert, Finance Director stated claims for March 21, 2017 totaled \$1,923,864.26. She indicated there were several releases of funds for various items as well as some budgetary line item realignments.

Chairman Shugars inquired about the amount collected from the PSAPs and Ms. Robert indicated it was the annual collection per the Agreement with the Dispatch Authority.

#### 2. State of the Courts Address

Chair Shugars introduced Chief Judge Bell, who presented a PowerPoint on the Circuit Court and Probate Court State of the Court Address. He recognized Sue Darling and Steve Burnham for all of their work as well as Chad Kewish, the new Deputy Court Administrator.

Commissioner Seals inquired about the Veterans Court and how a Veteran could volunteer in that Court. Judge Bell stated the Veteran should contact the Veterans Court Coordinator and the meetings are held on Thursday afternoons. Commissioner Seals thanked Judge Bell and his staff.

Commissioner Gisler inquired about the specialty courts and the recidivism. Judge Bell indicated 60% have not reoffended between 2013 and 2016.

Commissioner Rogers stated she was glad to hear the Courts were going paperless.

Commissioner Rogers inquired about a snap shot of the Child Care Fund and Judge Bell indicated it was operating within the Courts budget.

Vice Chair Moore thanked the Judge and Court for working on the Indigent Defense issue and wanted to know if there was a way if a person was able to work off the fees and Judge Bell indicated there was a process in place that allowed individual to volunteer for fees, however, some fees were not able to be waived.

Vice Chair Moore inquired about accommodating individuals with disabilities, not necessarily physical disabilities. Judge Bell indicated the Court did have an ADA Policy and was compliant with the State of Michigan.

Chief Richard Santoni introduced Ann Filkins. Judge Santoni presented a PowerPoint on the District Court State of the Court Address.

Commissioner Wordelman thanked the Courts for the good work being done. He inquired about a pre-trial study the County may be able to participate in. Judge Santoni stated he did not feel pre-trial services were needed.

Vice Chair Moore thanked the Judge for his work on the eviction diversion program. She also stated she was impressed by the amnesty day event.

Chair Shugars thanked the Judges for the work on the consolidated Courthouse.

3. Brownfield Plan: 381 & 383 S. Pitcher Street, City of Kalamazoo

Ms. Rachael Grover, Resource Coordinator reviewed her memo as included in the packet. She indicated this was a Brownfield Plan for 381 and 383 S. Pitcher to be developed by PS383, LLC for use by a proposed tenant as an automotive performance shop/showroom for after-market performance vehicle upgrades as well as office use for up to four tenants.

Commissioner Rogers stated it was exciting to partner with the City of Kalamazoo on this project. She stated she was glad to be able to work with the developer without investing any funds.

4. ID Task Force Recommendation

Commissioner Hall thanked the Task Force for their work on this. She thanked Clerk Snow, Sheriff Fuller and Prosecuting Attorney Getting for their work as well. She indicated the Task Force was requesting additional time to make a recommendation to the full Board. She reviewed the packet of information included in the packet. She was asking the Board to accept the initial report and allow the Task Force an additional 90 days to finalize a recommendation.

Vice Chair Moore stated the Task Force had done a lot of work thus far and was supportive of allowing them additional time to present a recommendation.

Commissioner Rogers thanked everyone for the work thus far.

Commissioner Tuinier stated he too thanked everyone for their work so far. He stated he was supportive allowing additional time.

Commissioner Wordelman thanked Commissioners Hall and Kendall for taking charge on this issue.

Chair Shugars thanked Commissioners Hall and Kendall for their work.

5. Resolution Honoring WMU President John Dunn

Chair Shugars stated the County was asked to honor WMU President John Dunn.

6. Child Abuse Prevention Month Resolution

Chair Shugars stated the County was asked to support a Child Abuse Prevention Month resolution.

Commissioner Gisler had several questions concerning this resolution.

Chair Shugars indicated the intent of the resolution was to encourage individuals to call and report.

Ms. Sarah Joshi, Executive Director, CAN indicated it was an organization that focused on education and prevention within the community.

Discussion ensued.

7. College Signing Day Resolution

Commissioner Hall was asked to bring forward a College Signing Day Resolution.

Commissioner McGraw applauded Commissioner Hall for bringing this resolution forward.

Commissioner Hall thanked Commissioner Kendall for his work on this resolution as well.

8. Resolution Discussion

Ms. Tracie Moored, County Administrator wanted to make sure Administration and the Board was on the same page when it came to resolutions. She stated the process was, the wording was prepared by the Commissioner and Administration formatted the resolution, placed on the COW agenda, then the Board agenda two weeks later for approval.

Vice Chair Moore stated as the Board moved forward it should set parameters that aligned with the County's vision and mission. It should also take into consideration if a resolution had a monetary commitment tied to it as well as staff time.

Commissioner Seals stated past Boards had a criteria list that the Board had to follow to be able to pass a resolution.

Commissioner Wordelman stated resolutions were a special occasion for the agency or person who was being honored. He stated he agreed it should be written by the requesting Commissioner.

Commissioner Gisler stated he concurred with Commissioner Seals and Vice Chair Moore.

Chair Shugars indicated staff should contact Administration concerning resolutions and not contact a Commissioner.

Chair Shugars indicated Administration would work on a recommendation and bring it back to the Board.

9. Commissioner Funding for Continuing Education/Training

Ms. Tracie Moored, County Administrator indicated the Board had been discussing conference attendance, memberships, etc. She indicated the Board of Commissioners budget was \$11,000 and there was approximately \$5,500 available. She indicated the County were members of MAC and NACo and those were the conferences in which Board members attended. She indicated the Board needed to have a conversation.

Commissioner Seals stated he felt the Board's training budget needed to be increased. He stated he felt each Commissioner should be allowed to attend each conference. He also stated at minimum he felt Commissioners should be allowed to attend MAC.

Commissioner Rogers stated she would like to know how much was spent in 2016. She stated she would be supportive with increasing the budget in these accounts. She would like to know how many Commissioners were interested in attending NACo and MAC. She indicated it was important to have attendance at these meetings to voice opinions of Kalamazoo County.

Commissioner Tuinier stated he felt it was important to represent the County at these meetings.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Kendall inquired if the fund was set up to be utilized by the full Board. Ms. Moored indicated it was a combined budget for the entire Board to utilize.

Commissioner Quinn stated he felt more Commissioners should be attending these conferences and the Board should increase the budget to allow this to happen.

Commissioner Wordelman stated as elected officials there was a grey area with investing too much time and money into one Commissioner. He stated there was value in participating in MAC and NACo. He stated he would rather spend the money on staff.

Chair Shugars stated he would ask Administration to work on Performa's and bring that to the Board.

Chair Shugars stated he appointed Vice Chair Moore was the NACo representative and the previous Chair designated Commissioner Rogers.

10. Any other items

Commissioner Rogers distributed a resolution for the formation of the Kalamazoo Prisoner Reentry Coalition. She indicated Mr. Ben Damerow, Michigan Works! gave a presentation to the Board two weeks ago and his agency was struggling to get the data from the State of Michigan. She stated she would be amicable with changes as suggested by Prosecuting Attorney Jeff Getting.

Commissioner Quinn was requesting Item N. be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Rogers inquired about the appointment to the Public Housing Commission. She indicated the Board did interviews on March 7<sup>th</sup>.

11. 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 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.

12. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Shugars adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

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Dale Shugars, Chairman  
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners