

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MAY 16, 2017

PLACE: Room 204, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 5:53 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner John Gisler

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracie Moored, Thom Canny, Lisa Henthorn, Amanda Morse, Kristine Cunningham, Pat Crowley, Lotta Jarnefelt, Mary Balkema, Jeff Getting, Julie Pioch, Jim Rutherford, Tim Snow Dina Sutton

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

1. Introduction of Deputy County Administrators
2. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Amanda Morse, Deputy County Administrator stated claims for May 16, 2017 totaled \$1,558,146.44. She indicated there was a release of funds for Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health.

Commissioner Rogers inquired if the alcohol tax was going to be phased out and Ms. Moored indicated it was looking to be flat for 2018.

3. Farmland Preservation Presentation

Drain Commissioner Pat Crowley presented a Power Point presentation on Farmland Preservation Ordinance.

Commissioner Seals stated he felt the Planning Commission should have a seat on the Board.

Ms. Lotta Jarnefelt stated it would be easy to add that to the Ordinance.

Commissioner McGraw wanted to know where the Grant monies would come from and Drain Commissioner Crowley indicated she did not know.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Rogers indicated she wanted the Planning Commission be a part of this Board.

Ms. Moored indicated Administration had not had those discussions, however, she would work with Ms. Jarnefelt.

Discussion ensued.

4. Vicksburg Mill

Mr. Thom Canny indicated due to recent information obtained he would like to discuss during closed session.

5. Welcoming Michigan Presentation

Commissioner Wordelman introduced Ms. Megan Rouche and Ms. Christine Suave who presented a Power Point Presentation on Welcoming Michigan.

Commissioner Wordelman stated the previous Board passed a Resolution to join Welcoming Michigan and had not done much since. He stated he would like the Board to assign a liaison to this Group.

Commissioner Hall thanked Ms. Suave for the presentation.

Commissioner Hall asked her to elaborate about Macomb County. Ms. Suave stated they created a welcoming center.

Commissioner Rogers stated she supported this in 2015. She indicated some of the Commissioners participated in Colleagues International. She stated she was very eager to step up and renew the County's membership.

Commissioner Rogers suggested exploring a low cost video interpretive service, which would be an on demand call center.

Commissioner Seals stated in 1987 he moved to a new state and was welcomed and appreciated that and hoped the County of Kalamazoo could be like that. He stated there were people in the community that already did this work and would support the County's participation.

Commissioner Kendall thanked them for their presentation. He inquired Welcoming Michigan took advantage of the Michigan Office of New Americans and Ms. Suave indicated they did.

Vice Chair Moore thanked them for the presentation. She stated there were homeless individuals where language was a barrier and wanted to know if Welcoming Michigan reached out to organizations to work with indigent individuals. Ms. Suave indicated they did.

Ms. Moored indicated she and Ms. Rouche had met and had a great conversation and was looking forward to working together.

Chair Shugars thanked them for their presentation.

6. Enbridge Corporation Presentation

Chair Shugars indicated Commissioner Gisler was unable to attend today's meeting, however, he asked Enbridge to present at today's meeting.

Commissioner McGraw read a statement prepared by Commissioner Gisler.

Mr. Jason Manshum, Enbridge provided a history of Enbridge and its practices to the Board.

Commissioner Seals asked several questions in which Mr. Manshum answered.

Commissioner Wordelman thanked Mr. Manshum for his presentation. He stated he was concerned with global climate change.

Mr. Manshum stated Enbridge had seen reports of global warming around the world. He stated Enbridge invested in green energy efforts such as wind and geothermal.

Commissioner Rogers thanked him for his presentation. She inquired direct jobs associated with Line 5, Mr. Manshum stated around 120 employees, not including residual.

Commissioner Rogers inquired if there was an emergency plan if Line 5 would start leaking.

Mr. Manshum indicated Enbridge would shut the line down immediately. He stated there was an emergency response plan and had been reviewed by Coast Guard, US EPA, etc.

Commissioner Quinn thanked Mr. Manshum, he stated he agreed with what Mr. Manshum presented but his concern was with the pipe under the Straits. He stated the 2012 Drill performed at the Straits had issues and did not see a viable plan by Enbridge.

Vice Chair Moore thanked Mr. Manshum for his presentation. She inquired what would occur to those employees who worked on Line 5 if it were to be shut down.

Mr. Manshum indicated there would be two reports that would be available within the month and would be beneficial.

Commissioner Tuinier arrived at 4:57 p.m.

Chair Shugars thanked Mr. Manshum for his presentation.

7. Enbridge Pipeline 5 Resolution

Commissioner Quinn introduced Ms. Stephanie Mabie, Executive Director, Kent County Water Conversation.

Ms. Mabie presented a PowerPoint presentation to the Board.

Commissioner Kendall inquired about job capacity, private entity, and state grant entity.

Ms. Mabie stated her organization was a non-profit organization through donations.

Commissioner Kendall inquired what a holiday was and Ms. Mabie indicated she did not know.

Chair Shugars indicated if Kent County or the City of Grand Rapids passed this resolution and Ms. Mabie indicated they had not.

Vice Chair Moore inquired if Calhoun County had passed a resolution.

Vice Chair Moore indicated she was taken back that this had not been passed by others.

Commissioner Quinn thanked Ms. Mabie for her presentation.

8. Kalamazoo County Pride Month Resolution

Commissioner Hall indicated the resolution had been distributed to the Board.

Chair Shugars indicated it would be on the agenda at the next meeting.

9. Any other items
a. Resolutions

Chair Shugars asked if any Commissioners had any resolutions to discuss and there were none.

10. Executive Session

Commissioner Kendall 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 (e) 8 of the Open Meetings Act.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: All members present
Nays: None
Abstains: None
Absent: Commissioner Gisler

The motion carried.

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

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Shugars adjourned the meeting at 5:53 p.m.

Dale Shugars, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners