

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

JULY 5, 2016

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 5:34 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners John Gisler, Jeff Heppler, Scott McGraw, Stephanie Moore, Larry Provancher, Julie Rogers, Michael Seals, Dale Shugars, John Taylor, and Kevin Wordelman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Roger Tuinier

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracie Moored, John Faul, Thom Canny, Dr. Gillian Stoltman, Charlotte Smith, Randy Winterowd, Eric McNamara, Paul Matyas, Mary Balkema, Jeff Getting, Rachel Grover, Lotta Jarnefelt, Tim Snow, Pat Crowley, Dina Sutton

Chairman Taylor 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 July 5, 2016 totaled \$2,304,763.72. She indicated there was a budget transfer to establish the 2016 Budget for Local Housing Assistance Fund.

2. 2017 Budget Meeting Calendar

Ms. Tracie Moored reviewed the proposed budget meeting calendar as included in the packet.

Discussion ensued; Budget meetings were scheduled for September 13 and September 15 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Moored stated Mr. Randy Winterowd, B&G Director was retiring and Mr. Eric McNamara was promoted as the new Director.

3. Five-Year Regional Prosperity Plan – Southwest Michigan Prosperity Region

Mr. Lee Adams and Mr. Brian Pittelko, Southcentral Planning Council & Regional Prosperity presented a Power Point Presentation to the Board.

Commissioner Moore arrived at 4:08 p.m.

Commissioner Provancher asked if there was any focus on vocational education and Mr. Adams stated there was focus on the skilled training program, but not necessarily vocational.

Commissioner Rogers stated funding was an issue and inquired of Mr. Adams if they were exploring federal funds for the Regional Prosperity and Mr. Adams indicated funding via the State was not looking promising but they were looking at Federal dollars.

Commissioner Shugars inquired of Mr. Adams if he was familiar with PA425 and if any research had been done on the issue.

Mr. Adams stated some work had been done on the issue. Commissioner Shugars suggested looking into the Eastern Hills Golf Course property and thought that might be a good project to look into.

Commissioner Shugars also suggested looking in the Business Research Park #2 as an option.

Commissioner Gisler inquired if the SMP hindered anything and Mr. Adams indicated it did not.

Commissioner Wordelman inquired about the economic impact of trails within the County and Mr. Adams indicated they had not, but would like to.

Chairperson Taylor inquired if any research had been done on the production rate and Mr. Pittelko indicated some work had been done on this issue but it was more difficult to track.

4. Gull Lake View Economic Development Project

Vice Chairman Jeff Heppler introduced Mr. Scott of the Gull Lake View Golf Course.

Mr. Scott indicated his family started with one and with the current project would make six. He stated golf was an economic development revenue piece to the community. He stated cooperation and partnership with local partners was vital.

Commissioner McGraw arrived at 4:40 p.m.

Commissioner Gisler inquired of Mr. Scott how he had being successful and Mr. Scott indicated that he and his family were committed to making it work.

Commissioner Moore left at 4:53 p.m.

Commissioner Shugars inquired if housing was going to be built on the course and Mr. Scott indicated at this time there were no plans to do so, but they were still evaluating long-term plans.

Vice Chairman Heppler thanked Mr. Scott for his presentation and his work in the community.

5. HCS Succession Plan

Mr. John Faul, Interim County Administrator reviewed his memo as included in the packet. He stated this position was complex as it served as both the Public Health Officer as well as the County Health Department Director. He stated that was why he was starting the process early and involved participants from the community.

Commissioner Rogers stated she appreciated the community partnership piece of it and she was glad it was being done again.

Discussion ensued on having Commissioners be included in the interview process.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he felt the Board should look at hiring a Deputy Administrator now.

Commissioner Wordelman inquired why the positions were held by the same person and Mr. Faul indicated it worked well for the County and the community since public health was a part of the various programs within the County Health & Community Services Department.

Commissioner Seals stated he felt the process used last time was a good model. He stated not only did the Board have to approve this appointment, the State did as well.

Commissioner McGraw stated he felt Commissioner involvement at the start of the process was not something he would support; he stated Mr. Faul could provide updates to the Board along the way.

Commissioner McGraw stated he would not support hiring a Deputy County Administrator at this time. He stated he would however support hiring an Interim County Administrator.

Discussion ensued.

6. Tiana Carruthers Resolution

Chairperson Taylor stated Commissioner Moore would like this resolution approved at the next meeting.

Commissioner Rogers stated there was a process for approving resolutions and straying away from those processes was not a good idea.

Commissioner Provancher stated he agreed with Commissioner Rogers and asked that this be placed on the July 19th Committee of the Whole meeting.

7. Any other items

There were no other items.

8. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

9. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Taylor adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

John Taylor, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners