

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 3:30 p.m. – 6:35 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: Tracie Moored, John Faul, Thom Canny, Julie Pioch, Kristine Cunningham, Paul Matyas, Pat Crowley, Eric McNamara, Lynne Norman, Lisa Robert, Mary Balkema, Lotta Jarnefelt, Tim Snow, Sue Darling, Charlotte Smith, Dr. Gillian Stoltman, Jeff Getting, Dina Sutton

Chairman Taylor convened the Committee of the Whole at 3:30 p.m.

1. Community Mental Health Interviews

The Board introduced themselves and interviewed:

- Karen Longanecker
- Lynn Hotrum

Chairman Taylor asked the Board for their input.

Commissioner Seals stated he would like to appoint Ms. Longanecker.

Commissioner Tuinier concurred.

Commissioner Gisler inquired if one or the other would benefit the Board.

Commissioner Rogers stated she would be fine with either one and whoever wasn't selected their application should be kept on file.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Moore stated both interviewed well, but she was leaning towards Ms. Hotrum for different reasons.

2. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Tracie Moored, Finance Director stated claims for September 6, 2016 totaled \$1,802,880.36. She indicated there were release of funds to Kalamazoo Community Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services and Kalamazoo County Public Housing Commission. She also indicated there were Allocated Fund Balances as well as Departmental adjustments for approval.

Commissioner Shugars inquired about the revenue transfer for the Sheriff's Office and Ms. Moored indicated that revenue was part of a grant.

3. K Band Restructure – FLSA

Ms. Moored reviewed her memo as included in the packet.

Commissioner Wordelman inquired about overtime issue, and Ms. Moored indicated the cost would be \$200,000-\$250,000 but was also an administrative issue.

Commissioner Tuinier inquired if this affected salaried employees and she indicated it was for non-exempt employees.

Commissioner Rogers wanted to know how this was going to stop overtime.

Ms. Moored indicated it was to track employees who do work outside the normal working hours.

Commissioner Rogers indicated she was not a fan of the K Band structure and would like to look at this in the future.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner McGraw arrived at 4:13 p.m. due to attending Road Commission meeting.

4. Health Benefits Plan Design: 2017

Ms. Kristine Cunningham, Human Resources Director introduced members of Nulty who presented a Power Point presentation to the Board.

Discussion ensued.

5. Consolidated Dispatch Update

Mr. Jeff Troyer, Executive Director provided the Board with an update.

Commissioner Rogers inquired if there would be an additional cost of the Text-to-911 and Mr. Troyer indicated there would not be an additional cost to the citizens.

Commissioner McGraw inquired about the money collected by the PSAPs and Mr. Troyer indicated it would be up to each of the PSAPs to decide.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Wordelman inquired about the space requirements necessary and Mr. Troyer indicated it was 12,500 square feet.

Commissioner Tuinier thanked Mr. Troyer and the Dispatch Authority for all of their hard work.

Commissioner Seals urged caution and reminded the Board that everyone on the Authority was behind this.

Vice Chairman Heppler thanked Mr. Troyer and the Authority for their hard work. He reminded the Board it was going to be their decision on funding and the citizens would be better served by a consolidated dispatch.

Chairman Taylor thanked Mr. Troyer and the Authority for all of their hard work.

Discussion ensued.

6. HCS Alcott Update

Mr. Thom Canny, Corporate Counsel reviewed a memo he distributed to the Board. He indicated the environmental reports had been received and the projected cost for building a new facility would be \$18.5 million. He indicated the County had only budgeted \$13.5 million.

He stated at this time, there appears to be four (4) options for the Board to consider in regards to finding a new and efficient location for the Health and Community Services Department (HCS):

- Build a new building for HCS on Alcott Street.
- Build a new building for HCS at an alternate location. The Nazareth Campus would be a logical alternate location. While we have not discussed purchasing land with the Congregation of St. Joseph, we believe that they would be interested in selling the County a suitable building site.
- Lease sufficient space for HCS' Operations in the Illinois Envelope Building on Alcott Street-if the space is available.
- Renovate, remodel, and repurpose, existing unused space in current County buildings to house HCS' Operations.

Chairman Taylor stated he attended the meeting last week and it was his recommendation to direct Administration to negotiate a land purchase with the Congregation of St. Joseph.

Commissioner Gisler inquired if the additional cost for the project would need to be bonded and Chairman Taylor indicated that he did not feel that would be the case; he did indicate the County may need to bond for the Court or Animals Services facilities.

Commissioner Rogers stated she was not surprised by this news and was supportive of pulling back on this project and support the Chair's recommendation to explore the Nazareth Facility.

Commissioner Seals inquired about the cost associated with moving the Administration Building occupants to the old Gull Road Court Facility and Mr. Canny stated he was not sure.

Commissioner Seals stated the Board should explore this option as well as the Nazareth Facility.

Commissioner McGraw stated he was surprised by the \$18.5 million cost to building at Alcott Street vs. \$16.3 million building at another site. He stated he felt this was an astronomical cost. He stated a further comprehensive look needed to be done on the Facilities Master Plan.

Commissioner Wordelman stated the \$16.3 million cost did not include the purchase of land. He stated he felt building at the Gull Road location was not optimal.

Commissioner Rogers stated she didn't feel the Board had the luxury to sit back and wait. She felt the Board needed to make a decision soon.

Commissioner Shugars stated he thought it to be important to be located with Community Mental Health as well as the Family Health Center; however he felt the County also needed to look at the Nazareth Facility as well as the Illinois Envelope building as well as looking at consolidating the Courts and Administration.

Commissioner McGraw stated he would be supportive of keeping costs down without bonding.

Vice Chairperson Heppler stated he felt \$18.5 million was too high of a cost to move forward on Alcott. He suggested maybe forming a small committee to meet with Administration.

Chairman Taylor stated he felt a Retreat was in order within the next month.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Canny stated he would suspend any further design development plans for the HCS building.

7. Any other items

Ms. Moored indicated the budget workbooks were in the Board's mailboxes and the first meeting was September 13.

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 6:35 p.m.

John Taylor, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners