



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance...

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

OCTOBER 17, 2017

PLACE: Room 204, County Administration Building

TIME: 5:00 p.m. – 6:55 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, Amber Beebe, Dina Sutton, Amanda Morse, Lisa Henthorn, Rick Fuller, Jim VanDyken, Kelley Clarke, Megan Buwalda, Mary Balkema, Kristine Cunningham, Jeff Getting, Judge Santoni, Ann Filkins, Thom Canny, Matt Hansen

Chairman Shugars convened the Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m.

1. Aeronautics Board Interview

The Board introduced themselves and interview Mr. Gil Collver.

2. Aeronautics Board Discussion

Vice Chair Moore asked the Board for their input who to appoint.

Commissioner Wordelman indicated he liked Ms. Kayleen O'Donnell.



Commissioner Wordelman also stated he felt the Board needed to look into term limits on the advisory boards.

Commissioner McGraw stated there were three outstanding candidates and he was impressed with Mr. Linden Buck.

Commissioner Hall indicated she was impressed with Ms. O'Donnell.

Commissioner Gisler stated all three candidates were good.

Commissioner Quinn stated all three candidates were good. He did feel Mr. Collver would continue to serve the Aeronautics Board well, however, he felt Ms. O'Donnell would do well.

Commissioner Seals stated it was a tough decision. He stated Mr. Buck had a lot of enthusiasm which was refreshing. He indicated Mr. Collver had been a great asset to the Aeronautics Board over the last decade.

Chair Shugars stated he had a concern with not reappointing Mr. Collver due to major Airport projects forthcoming in the near future.

Commissioner Rogers stated she would be supportive of appointing Ms. O'Donnell.

Commissioner Tuinier indicated all the candidates were good.

Commissioner Kendall indicated he would support Mr. Collver.

Discussion ensued. By a show of hands the majority supported reappointing Mr. Collver.

3. Land Bank Authority Interviews

The Board introduced themselves and interviewed Terry Dorgan and Becky Fulgoni.

4. Land Bank Authority Discussion

Vice Chair Moore asked the Board for their input on the two candidates.

Commissioner Wordelman indicated at the time of voting he would need to abstain from voting for Ms. Fulgoni.

Commissioner Rogers stated she support both candidates.

Commissioner Gisler acknowledged Land Bank staff in the audience.

5. Review of Transfers and Disbursements



Ms. Amanda Morse, Deputy County Administrator stated claims for October 17, 2017 totaled \$1,708,700.78. She also indicated there was a release of funds to the Public Housing Commission in the amount of \$76,431.

6. Indigent Defense Update

Ms. Amber Beebe, Assistant Corporate Counsel stated it was her recommendation to create a Public Defender Office as a non-profit.

Commissioner Kendall inquired of the standard practice with other units of municipalities.

Ms. Beebe indicated Kent County had a hybrid of this make up. She indicated there were other counties that had their own Public Defender office.

Commissioner Rogers stated Washtenaw County had a Public Defender's office and ran well and wanted to know if Ms. Beebe had the opportunity to review their office and Ms. Beebe indicated she had.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Hall asked for clarification on the reporting structure. Ms. Beebe indicated there would be a Board of Directors which answered to the County Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he wanted what was best for defendants.

Commissioner Gisler stated he had concerns this would be another unfunded mandate by the State.

Commissioner Kendall inquired if there were thresholds for defendants to dictate whether they would receive indigent defense and Ms. Beebe indicated there were.

Vice Chair Moore indicated direction was given by Board Leadership and Administration for the Corporate Counsel's Office to focus on Indigent Defense and work on a plan for the County.

7. Any other items

There were no other items.

8. Executive Session

Commissioner Wordelman 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 8 (c) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing issues related to the County's labor negotiations.



The roll call vote was as follows:

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

The motion carried.

9. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Shugars adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Dale Shugars, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners

