



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance...

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

DECEMBER 5, 2017

PLACE: Room 204, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 6:53 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Roger Tuinier

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracie Moored, Amber Beebe, Lisa Henthorn, Amanda Morse, Kristine Cunningham, Tim Snow, Lotta Jarnefelt, Jim VanDyken, Jim Rutherford, Mary Balkema, Megan Buwalda, Dave Rachowicz, Steve Lawrence, Dina Sutton

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

1. Animal Services & Enforcement Shelter Project Preliminary Design Update

Mr. David Rachowicz, Parks & Expo Director presented a Power Point presentation.

Commissioner Gisler thanked Mr. Rachowicz for his presentation. He inquired how all the data was going to be tracked and Mr. Rachowicz indicated there would be workstations and terminals located in each work area of the building.



Commissioner Rogers requested to receive the presentation electronically. She stated she was very excited about this project.

Commissioner Rogers asked Mr. Rachowicz to expand on the design of the elevation, slope of the floors and the design to prevent disease, which he did.

Commissioner McGraw inquired about the square footage and Mr. Rachowicz indicated it was going to be approximately 15,000 square feet.

Commissioner Seals inquired about issues with flooding on the property and if that issue had been addressed. Mr. Rachowicz stated the Team has looked at this issue and indicated the elevation of the building would be higher than the current building.

Commissioner Rogers inquired if outside areas would be available and he indicated there would be outside areas.

Commissioner Rogers stated she would like the Building Authority to be involved with the project.

Commissioner McGraw inquired about how many animals were euthanized and Mr. Rachowicz indicated he would get a report to the Board.

Discussion ensued.

2. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Amanda Morse, Deputy County Administrator stated claims for December 5, 2017 totaled \$1,241,850.29. She indicated there was release of funds for the Consolidated Dispatch Authority in the amount of \$272,869.62. She also she indicated there were several department budget adjustments.

3. Opioid Presentation

Mr. Jim Rutherford, HCS Director introduced Dr. Will Nettleton, Medical Officer. He presented an update on the opioid epidemic.

Commissioner Rogers thanked Dr. Nettleton for his presentation. She stated she was glad to see so many community partners that attended a forum earlier today.

Commissioner Gisler inquired if Dr. Nettelon could send the link to that forum.

Commissioner Hall thanked Dr. Nettleton for his presentation.



Commissioner Kendall inquired what could be done to help spread the word to emphasize how dangerous this drug was. Dr. Nettleton indicated awareness with patients and families is important and community coalition is also vital.

Commissioner Wordelman inquired about how many drugs were legally prescribed vs. illegal. Dr. Nettleton indicated he would get those numbers to the Board via the report.

Commissioner McGraw inquired about the opioids and the makeup and Dr. Nettleton gave an overview.

Commissioner Rogers inquired which counties were pursuing litigation what and the details of the lawsuit were.

Mr. Rutherford indicated he did not know how many counties were pursuing litigation. He indicated many communities tried to recoup costs associated with emergency intervention, emergency room visits, police, medical officers, medical examiners, etc.

Vice Chair Moore thanked Dr. Nettleton for his presentation and stated this was a very important issue. She indicated she would like to see map of where the drug is permeating at. She stated she was interested in access to treatment options. She also stated Attorney Mark Bernstein was here and brought information on the lawsuit for the Board which she distributed.

Chair Shugars thanked them for their presentation.

4. Discover Kalamazoo/Southwest Michigan First Update & County Option

Chair Shugars stated this was an ongoing issue and information was distributed on both entities and their roles. He asked Commissioner McGraw to provide an update.

Commissioner McGraw stated Discover Kalamazoo filed for a trademark on 269 as well as SWMF. He stated both entities had filed for trademarks for 269 but neither had been issued one.

Commissioner Hall stated the case was set to be heard in February 2019.

Commissioner Rogers asked Chair Shugars to provide an update to the Board.

Chair Shugars indicated in June a meeting had been held with Discover Kalamazoo, SWMF and Kalamazoo County and listened to both sides and encouraged both of them to work it out because it was in the best interest of all parties. He indicated if the two parties didn't work it out the County would need to seek alternatives. He stated he would have Administration look at options for the County.

Commissioner Hall inquired if any Commissioner served on the SWMF Board and none did.



Commissioner Wordelman urged the Board to use caution and be judicious and what role the County had.

5. Any other items

Commissioner McGraw mentioned it was dog licensing season and he urged everyone to renew their license.

Chair Shugars indicated he would ask Administration to have the Treasurer's Office provide a report on dog licenses.

Commissioner Rogers indicated she would like to have a conversation on NACo conference.

Chair Shugars inquired if any Commissioner was interested in attending the NACo conference.

Commissioner Seals indicated he would like to attend.

Chair Shugars indicated Vice Chair Moore was attending as the County's representative.

Chair Shugars indicated he felt it would be beneficial to allow all three Commissioners to attend so they could meet with representatives and focus on local needs.

Commissioner Wordelman thanked Ms. Moored for the update on the Senior Millage.

Commissioner Rogers indicated she would like to schedule an update to the Board in February.

6. Executive Session

Commissioner McGraw 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 (c) and (h) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing issues related to the County's labor negotiations and to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state statute.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: All members present, except
Nays: None
Abstains: None
Absent: Commissioner Roger Tuinier

The motion carried.

7. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.



There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Shugars adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Dale Shugars, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners

