

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting * Wednesday, July 20, 2016

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Leslie Housler.

Roll call: Present – Commissioners Michael MacCready, Leslie Housler, Robert Hilty, Mark Howie, Julie Theobald, Gary Taylor, John Fuscone, and Bill Goodwill; Absent – Commissioner Gideon Mitchell

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Added - 12. Notice of Award

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the agenda, as amended.

All in favor.

Employee Recognition - None

Presentations and Reports

1. Network Northwest Annual Report

Elaine Wood, Executive Director of Network Northwest, provided the Board with a handout of their Annual Report for 2015. They focus on three things: talent, business and community.

Commissioner Gideon Mitchell arrived at 5:35 pm.

Ms. Wood touched on the success they have had over the year. Another area they have had success in is prisoner re-enter into the community. They work towards reducing recidivism.

Public Comments

Randy Miles, Cherry Grove Fire Chief, ask the Board what plan they were going with for the 911. He feels there has been some confusioning information on the 911 Dispatch Center, whether Dispatch would stay in the County or it would be out sourced.

Michelle Hoetinga, candidate for State Representative - 102 District, introduced herself to the Board. She discussed her background and asked for their support on August 2, 2016.

Jason Brison, candidate for State Representative - 102 District, introduced himself to the Board. He believes this community needs someone to advocate for them and he would like to be part of that.

Duane Alworden, Wexford County Dispatch Supervisor and Fire Chief for Haring Township, questioned the Board on the cost savings the county would see if 911 Dispatch was taken out of the County. He has heard several different savings amounts. He would like to have a Fire Chief on the recently formed 911 Committee.

Tony Latizio, representing South Branch Fire Department, cautioned the Board about moving 911 Dispatch out of the area. Fire Departments have difficulty with their radios in the area and if dispatched is moved out they will realize more problems.

Thomas Betsey, Boon Township Fire Chief, believes it is very important to keep 911 Dispatch in the area.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the July 6, 2016, Regular Meeting Minutes
MOTION by Comm Mitchell, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

A Commissioner questioned the motion made on page five. After some discussion the vote was called for.

All in favor except Comm MacCready voting against the motion.

Agenda Items

1. Committee of the Whole Jail Project
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Goodwill to resolve into a committee of the whole for the purposes of discussing the jail project.

All in favor.

Ms. Vogler appeared before the board to update them on the Jail Project. She presented the Board Chair with the notice of award to Granger Construction for his signature. This step will allow Granger to take their next steps on the project and to also work on pulling the permits. The next step is for the Board to sign the Bond Resolution prepared by our bond counsel, Paul Wyzgoski. This is just an acknowledgement that the bonds will be issued in conjunction with the jail project which will be needed for the USDA closing.

Ms. Vogler pointed out that because the County is requesting an additional \$500,000 loan from USDA we will end up with three loans from USDA - \$9,000,000; \$2,000,000; \$500,000 and that will cause for three Bond Resolutions to be signed. She is asking for a Special Meeting. Board members agreed with the 27th of July at noon.

The Finance Committee has discussed her agreement in the position of Owner's Representative. If there are any questions, please let her know.

A commissioner questioned if the county reduced the size of the jail by having less beds could we realize a saving and not have to borrow such a large amount. Other Board members pointed out that the structural frame is set and cannot be changed at this point. Another commissioner questions if the cells could be changed to dorms. Ms. Vogler felt that would be a question for the architects.

Ms. Vogler explained that the County dollars are spent first then the loan money from USDA is spend secondarily. If all the dollars are not spent from the USDA loan they then can back out of the loan, reducing the payment schedule.

It was pointed out that the delay in the progress has been a benefit to the County. The cost savings the County will realize due to a decrease in interest rates will be approximately \$40,000 per year.

A commissioner questioned what the county will be calling the jail. It was suggested that it will be discussed at a later time.

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded to Comm Goodwill to rise and report the findings for the Committee of the Whole.

All in favor.

2. Independent Contractor Agreement – LVJ Management
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Goodwill to approve an increase of \$25,000 to the Independent Contractor Agreement with LVJ Management, as presented.

Roll call: Motion passed seven to two with Commissioners MacCready and Howie voting against the motion.

3. MERS Officer and Employee Delegates
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Goodwill to approve Patrick Jordan as the Officer Delegate and the Employee Delegate, to be determined by secret ballot, to attend the MERS conference scheduled for September 28-29, 2016, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved five to four with Commissioners MacCready, Howie, Mitchell, and Fuscone voting against the motion.

4. Never Down for the County Youth Services Bid Proposal for the Former Mitchell Corporation Building
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Goodwill to accept the bid received from Dana Wilson, Never down for the Count Youth Services, in

the amount of \$1.00 for the former Mitchell Corporation Building located at 207 E. River Street, Cadillac, Michigan and require a performance bond prior to proceeding with any demolition/construction or refurbishing, as presented.

Dana Wilson appeared before the Board to discuss the problems he was facing in purchasing a performance bond. After further discussion, Board members agreed to a friendly amendment to the motion.

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Taylor to accept the bid received from Dana Wilson, Never Down for the Count Youth Services, in the amount of \$1.00 for the former Mitchell Corporation Building located at 207 E. River Street, Cadillac, Michigan and once they take possession, put liability insurance on the building naming the County also as an insured party, as amended.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

5. Resolution 16-25, FY 2016 Emergency Management Performance Grant Agreement

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Mitchell to approve Resolution 16-25, Approving the Agreement Between Michigan Department of State Police and Wexford County for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Agreement, for the period of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016, in the amount of \$23,036, and authorize the Chairman to sign the grant on behalf of the County, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

6. Amended Escrow Agreement

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve Amended Escrow Agreement in the amount of \$250,000, and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement on behalf of the County, as presented.

Board members discussed why the County was only moving \$250,000 from the Escrow Account. Other commissioners thought the escrow money was ear marked for Landfill purposes only. There is more in the trust account and some felt it should be in returned back to the County rather than stay with the escrow account. The Escrow account was put in place for waste relocation at the Landfill a few years ago. The relocation has been completed and the DEQ has approve it. Some Board members thought the liability will be with the County for a long period of time and the remaining balance in the escrow account can be used if something comes up that is under the liability of the County.

Roll call: Motion approved five to four with Commissioners Fuscone, MacCready, Howie, and Mitchell voting against the motion.

7. CDBG 2015-2016 Program Guidelines

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Fuscone to approve the 2015-2016 CDBG Program Guidelines, as presented.

It was pointed out that now loan repayments will go directly to the State rather than stay with the County and used for other CDBG loans. This is a new requirement by the State.

All in favor except for Commissioners MacCready and Mitchell.

8. Soldiers and Sailors Relief Position

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Taylor to eliminate the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Position and send a letter of sincere appreciation for the past years of service and authorize the Chairman to sign the letter on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, as presented.

All in favor.

9. Budget Amendments

7/20/2016

**Wexford County Board of Commissioners
Amendments to the 2016 Budget**

Adj #	Acct	Acct Description	Revenue	Expense
20160704	101.101.699.00	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 90,000	(a)
	101.290.800.01	Contracted Services		\$ 90,000

To fund the Windemuller, VoIP, phone system installation approved by the BOC on April 4, 2016.

Roll call: Motion passed eight to one with Commissioner Howie voting against the motion.

10. Resolution 16-26 Bond Resolution

MOTION by Comm Goodwill, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve Resolution 16-26, Capital Improvements Bonds, Series 2016 for the construction of the new jail in the amount not less than \$13,647,794, as presented.

Roll call: Motion passed seven to two with Commissioners MacCready and Mitchell voting against the motion.

11. (Nothing added.)

12. Notice of Award (*Added*)

MOTION by Comm Goodwill, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the Notice of Award to Granger Construction Company, For RD Guide 19 – Attachment 7, as presented.

Roll call: Motion passed seven to two with Commissioners MacCready and Mitchell voting against the motion.

Administrator's Report – No report

Correspondence

Comm Howie played a recording from his cell from a constituent from his area who is against repairs/refurbishing Octagon building.

Public Comments

Judy Nichols, Haring Township, discussed a situation that recently happened at the WEX. A special needs person comes to the WEX and does some work for the Fair Board at their request. A commission was present and called the police. The special needs person was very upset. Ms. Nichols assured the Board that this person is of no threat to the community.

Sara Benson, EMS Director, thanked the YMCA for partnering with the community and offering their space as a cooling center.

Liaison Reports

Comm Theobald stated that the Airport Board is working on finding a new manager. They are also looking for a job description.

Comm Taylor explained that the Fair Board is getting things ready for the fair next month.

Comm Fuscone informed the Board that Community Action Agency would not held in July. The CDBG is not happy with the change in the CDBG loans to the community. He and Comm MacCready are working on getting public input on the Octagon as to what should done with the building. Comm Fuscone provided the Board with some history on the Octagon building.

Comm Housler attended a Road Commission meeting and they have spent ½ of their budget.

Comm Howie stated that the CWTA continues to spend less and providing more service to the community. They are looking at extending service time.

Board Comment

Comm Theobald received a call from the mother of the special needs person and she was very upset. She also thanked the Board for helping out “Never Down for the Count”. It will be a positive influence for the community. Ms. Theobald also visited the 911 Dispatch facility in Gaylord.

Comm Fuscone touched on the comments made by the Fire people today and 911 surcharge failing. This may become a Finance Committee matter to continue funding.

Comm MacCready explained that he was the person that approached the special needs person after he disappeared at the WEX. He has apologized to the mom. He feels that with three large Fire Departments coming before the Board asking for 911 Dispatch to stay local, the Board should give some thought to it. He also questioned why the owners of American Waste did not come before the Board and discuss the escrow money. Mr. MacCready would like three RFP to be put together on the Octagon building: one to stabilize the building; refurbish the exterior; refurbish the interior.

Comm Howie would like the Board to look into the MacKenzie study. He would be happy to see the 911 surcharge fail. He believes it is unfair to collect additional tax payer dollars. The Board should be looking at ways to lower the public’s taxes.

Comm Mitchell believes the escrow money discussed earlier in the amount of \$250,000 was ear marked at an earlier meeting.

Chairman’s Comments

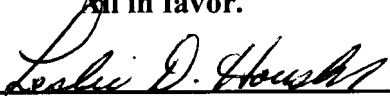
Comm Housler touched on the 911 Dispatch and the committee members. He talked about the large dollar amount the County may save if they look at out sourcing the service. He believes they are here to look out for tax payer dollars in the County and out sourcing may be something the County could realize as a cost savings.

A special meeting will be held on 7/27/2016 at noon to approve additional paperwork on the jail project.

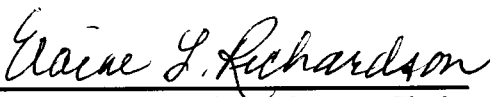
Adjourn

**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to adjourn
at 7:20 p.m.**

All in favor.



Leslie D. Housler, Chairperson



Elaine L. Richardson, County Clerk