

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting * Wednesday, April 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, Julie Theobald, Gary Taylor, John Fuscone, and Bill Goodwill; Absent - Commissioners Howie and Mitchell.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Added - 11. Letter of Agreement; 12. Octagon Building; 13. DPW Discussion

Approval of the Agenda

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

All in favor.

Employee Recognition

1. 25-year Service Award, Mistine Stark, Community Correction
Chair Housler presented Mistine Stark her 25 year Service Award. Ms. Stark was there to accept it.

Presentations and Reports

1. 9-1-1 Feasibility Study Presentation
Scott Patton, Plante and Moran, appeared before the Board to present them with a 9-1-1 Report the County requested. Mr. Patton began by providing the Board with some background on Plante & Moran. He then explained the County does have some dispatch choices. The three options are: A. Status Quo - \$4.0 Million; B. Create an Authority - \$4.7 Million; C. Contracting with another jurisdiction - \$3.4 Million. The start date for each of the options is 01/01/2018 and runs for a five year period.

He outlined the differences, pros and cons, between each option.

Comm Mitchell arrived at 5:50 p.m.

After discussion the Board decided to schedule a work session for April 27, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. after the Finance Committee meeting.

Public Comments

Fred Osborn, 403 Barbara Street, questioned the millage rate of \$3.00 the County may be requesting in the ballot language. He explained that Kalamazoo could not pass a \$3.00 millage. He suggested it be lowered to \$1.50.

Kelly Whitehead, E. 12 Road, Fire Chief, also felt a \$3.00 millage rate was too high. He suggested it was very important to get the word out as to how the County intended on

spending the millage if it was passed. Let the public know which option would be selected.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the April 6, 2016, Regular Meeting Minutes
2. Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore Request approval
3. Approval of Resolution 16-16, EPA Army Corp of Engineers
4. Approval of Resolution 16-17, Opposing HB 5016 MDOT One Year Notice
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. L-4024 Equalization Report
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the 2016 Equalization Report, Form L-2024 and authorize the Chairman of the Board and the County Clerk to sign the report on behalf of the County, as presented.

Joe Porterfield, Equalization Director, appeared before the Board to ask them to approve his L-2024 Equalization Report. He provided the Board some background on what goes in to putting this report together.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

2. Slagle Township Assessor's Service Contract
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Fuscone to approve the Slagle Township Assessor's Service Contract beginning April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017 and authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign on behalf of the County, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

3. Resolution 16-14, Authorizing Demolition of Dangerous Buildings
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Fuscone to approve Resolution 16-14, Resolution Authorizing Demolition of Dangerous Buildings, as presented.

Anthony Wolff, Fire Marshall for the City of Cadillac informed the Board that the City has received some grant dollars for the demolition of three buildings that have been foreclosed on by the County. The demolition of the buildings would be at no cost to the County. The lots would be completely cleaned up to allow new buildings to be constructed.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

4. Resolution 16-15, 9-1-1 Surcharge – (Removed from the agenda after the work session was scheduled for April 27, 2016)
5. Resolution 16-18, Animal Control Millage
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve Resolution 16-18, Authorizing Election of an Animal Control Fund Millage Proposal and Certifying the Ballot Language, as presented.

Some commissioners questioned having the millage running for 4 years rather than one or two. Some felt that the Animal Control was operating better with more volunteers to help out.

Roll call: Motion passed seven to one with Comm MacCready voting against the motion.

6. Pescador's Agreement
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Fuscone to approve an increase in the amount of \$15,620 to Pescador's agreement for additional monitoring wells required by DEQ, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

7. Lutke Proposal
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Hilty to approve Jason and Lonny Lutke's proposal for an additional monitoring well, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

8. Update to Policy A1.0
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Goodwill to approve the changes to Policy A1.0, as presented.

The policy change requested would have the Board Chair voting last on all motions. The current policy has a rolling roll call.

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

9. Budget Amendment – None
10. Committee of the Whole – Jail Project – No Report
11. Budget Amendment – None

12. Budget Amendment – None

13. Committee of the Whole – Jail Project – No Report

14. Letter of Agreement – *Added*

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the Letter of Agreement with the TPOAM General/Courts, as presented.

Adm. Jordan explained that the contract was ratified by both the Board and the Union in December 2015. Concern was raised by the Union about taking away benefits for Part Time employees, including sick leave, bereavement leave and personal leave. Even though it was part of the negotiations, the Board agreed to put it back into the contract with an expiration date of January 1, 2017.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

15. Octagon Building – *Added*

The Octagon Building located at the Fair Grounds is in need of repair. In order to make these repairs revenues are needed. The State is involved but we cannot get enough, more dollars are needed. A millage was suggested to support the upgrades to the building. Some Board members felt that a millage to the public was a way for commissioners to get out of making a decision. It was pointed out that the building is 107 years old and there are two others in the State.

After further discussion it was decided that it should go to the Building and Recreation Committee for further discussion.

16. DPW Discussion – *Added*

Now that the Executive Committee is overseeing the DPW there are still many matters that need to be addressed. A commissioner felt that some of the sensitive information should not be broadcasted. Another commissioner disagreed.

MOTION by Comm MacCready, seconded by Comm Fuscone to place DPW on the agenda directed to the Committee of the Whole.

Roll call: Motion failed three to five with Commissioners Taylor Goodwill, Housler, Hilty, and Theobald voting against the motion.

Administrator's Report

Adm. Jordan explained that the County is waiting for a proposal from the Plaintiff on the jail project law suit. We should receive it tomorrow. The Phone bids will come before the Board of Commissioners at the May 3 meeting. Board members were also provided with a written Administrator's Report for their review.

Correspondence – None

Public Comments - None

Liaison Reports

Comm Taylor reported that the Soil Conservation is wrapping up their tree sales. Also, the COA should be in their new building by the middle of next month.

Comm Fuscone explained that the Octagon building has some structural engineering problems that were recently discovered. The report will be updated soon and presented to the committee. The Community Action Agency changed policies regarding transporting of clients in personal vehicles. They are now looking at leasing a vehicle for that purpose.

Comm Housler attended a North Flight meeting Friday and they are moving forward with their joint venture with Spectrum; however, the cost is higher than expected. They are looking at locating the helicopter hangar in Traverse City rather than Big Rapids.

Comm Theobald attended an Airport meeting and they have not heard back from the City regarding the easement. She also touched on the possibility of answering e-mails being a violation of the "Open Meetings Act".

Board Comment

Commissioner MacCready thought it was nice to see the direction this board is taking by moving away from the Board's overall mission.

Comm Theobald attended a fire training at Cherry Grove Township which was very informational. She thanked the fire departments and their spouses for their service and dedication. The position demands a lot out of both the fire fighter and their spouses.

Chairman's Comments

Comm Housler explained that the County looked at a joint 911 venture with Benzie County, but they were not interested because the county has no secured funding. The County must secure funding and not take additional monies from the General Fund. Comm Housler also thanked Comm Fuscone and MacCready for all their work on the Octagon building.

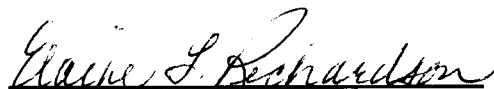
Adjourn

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to adjourn
at 7:15 p.m.

All in favor.



Leslie D. Housler, Chairperson



Elaine L. Richardson, County Clerk