

## WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting \* Wednesday, May 07, 2014

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Housler.

Roll call: Present - Commissioners Robert Colvin, Leslie Housler, Robert Hilty, Mark Howie, Alan Devereaux, Gary Taylor, John Fuscone, Bill Goodwill; Absent – Commissioner Gideon Mitchell.

Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

*Added* – 10. Jury Board Appointment; 11. Lift Hiring Freeze; 12. Committee of the Whole for the Jail Project; *Removed* – 5. Resolution 14-08, Commemorating 100 Years of MSUE.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

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

**All in favor.**

### **Employee Recognition**

1. 10 Year Service Award, Doyle Owens, Deputy Sheriff  
Chairman Housler read the recognition document to those present.

### **Presentations and Reports** - None

### **Public Comments**

Gordon Maxwell, Cadillac, received information that CAHA is about \$1500 behind in their payments. He would like the Board to look into it.

Jill O'Donnell, MSU Extension, informed the Board that MSU was celebrating their 100 year anniversary. Shari Spoelman, District Coordinator, is in Washington D.C. as a part of the celebration. There will be an Open House at the Courthouse on May 21, 2014 where the history of extension will be displayed.

### **Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of the April 16, 2014, Regular Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of the April 30, 2014, Special Meeting Minutes
3. Acceptance of Resignation of the Housing Council

**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Goodwill to approve the consent agenda, as presented.**

**All in favor.**

**Agenda Items**

1. Public Hearing on the Application for the 2014-2016 Community Development Block Grant Housing Program

**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Devereaux to open a Public Hearing on the Application for the 2014-2016 Community Development Block Grant Housing Program.**

**All in favor.**

The Public Hearing began at 5:06 p.m. and no one approached the Board. The Public Hearing was closed.

2. Resolution 14-11, Application for Funding the CDBG

**MOTION by Comm Devereaux, seconded by Comm Fuscone to approve Resolution 14-11, Resolution for Funding the CDBG Housing Program for the period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$100,000.**

Cathy Odom, Director of CDBG, explained to the Board that they recently applied for a \$100,000 grant through MSHDA. One of the requirements for this grant is to spend 100% of it in Cadillac, Mesick, and Manton area. If they spend 75% of the grant they can apply for another grant. When questioned how many community members could be helped by this grant, Ms. Odom thought maybe five projects could be done with loans up to \$40,000. The dollars that are paid back by the recipients stay with the County to help others in need. Ms. Odom also explained the process on how the loans are awarded to members of the community.

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

3. Approving the Wexford County's Fair Housing Policy Statement

**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Howie, to approve the Wexford County's Fair Housing Policy Statement, as presented.**

**Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.**

4. Approving the 2014 Wexford CDBG Program Guidelines

**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Fuscone to approve the 2014 Wexford County CDBG Program Guidelines with the denoted changes, as presented.**

Cathy Odom, Director of the CDBG, appeared before the board to get approval of the CDBG Program Guideline. She drew their attention to a portion of the policy which allows spending up to \$7500 for emergency purchases without taking it to the council or

the Board. She explained how difficult it may become to help people in need with emergency purchases when she has to first come to the Finance Committee and then the Board for approval. With the recent changes that have been made in order to receive their grant funds, they believe it provides extra layers of bureaucracy. This Advisory Committee is formed to advise the Board of Commissioners on how the grant money is being spent. Jason Helm, Chairperson of the Housing Council, expressed concern about their role in the future with this project. He requested that the Board give some thought to amending the resolution to allow them to continue with their past practice. Adm. Hinton explained that the Board was unable to delegate their authority according to County Counsel. He suggested that they eliminate Step 3 on page 5.

Another change to the guidelines is that an RFP must be sent out every three years for an administrator to the CDBG.

After further discussion the Board amended their motion to change Step 3, page five by adding at the end .....subject to Board of Commissioners approval.

**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Fuscone to amend the motion by adding to the end of Step 3 .....subject to BOC approval.**

**All in favor.**

Comm Mitchell arrived at 5:30 p.m.

A roll call vote was call for on the motion as amended.

**Roll call: Motion passed eight to one with Comm Devereaux voting against the motion.**

5. Resolution 14-08, Commemorating 100 Year of MSUE – *Removed*
6. Resolution 14-09, Opposing HB 5097 and SB 850  
**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Devereaux to approve Resolution 14-09, Opposing House Bill 5097 and Senate Bill 850, as presented.**

**Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.**

7. Salvage Inspection Vehicle Agreement

**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Devereaux to approve the Salvage Inspection Vehicle Agreement renewal with a new expiration date of April 30, 2015, as presented.**

**Roll call: Motion passed eight to one with Comm Mitchell voting against the motion.**

8. Request to Waive the Hiring Freeze – FOC  
**MOTION by Comm Devereaux, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve the request to waive the hiring freeze for a full-time position to the roster to allow for the hiring of a replacement, as presented.**

**All in favor except for Comm Howie.**

9. Budget Amendment  
**Wexford County Board of Commissioners  
 Amendments to the 2014 Budget**

Adj #	Acct	Acct Description	Revenue	Expense
20140501	101-890-999.05	Transfer - Other		\$ (1,600)
	101-965-999.12	Transfer Out - Civic Center		\$ 1,600
	208-000-695.00	Transfer In/General	\$1,600	
	208-000-934.00	Building Maintenance and Repair		1,600
		The Northern District Fair Association would like to upgrade the lighting on the grounds.		

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

10. Jury Board Appointment – *Added*.  
**MOTION by Comm Devereaux, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve Mr. Thomas Taylor for appointment to fill an unexpired term ending April 30, 2015 on the Jury Board, as presented.**

**All in favor.**

11. Lifting the Hiring Freeze – *Added*  
 It was pointed out that the hiring freeze was put in place several years ago to help control cost. The County currently has 131 full/part time employees with 42 positions filled

since the hiring freeze was implemented. The hiring freeze was put in place to help shrink the roster. The freeze is causing problems for some departments.

**MOTION by Comm Devereaux, seconded by Comm Goodwill to eliminate the hiring freeze for the County.**

**Roll call: Motion passed six to three with Commissioners Howie, Mitchell and Fuscone voting against the motion.**

12. Committee of the Whole – Jail Project - *Added*

It was felt by some Board members that the jail building project may be shortened and more efficient if the Board discusses it as a Committee of the Whole. Questions and concerns can be taken care of after discussion of the full board. Some Board members supported having it added to the agenda of the regular meetings, maybe the last agenda item.

**MOTION by Comm Howie, seconded by Comm Fuscone to establish a Committee of the Whole to expedite the jail project ideas.**

Board members agreed to make it as the last agenda item until completion.

**All in favor.**

**Administrator's Report**

Adm. Hinton reported on the following:

- The 2013 Financial Audit draft should be ready for presentation at the May 28<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee meeting and presented to the Board on the June 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Additional bids are expected on upgrading the security at the Courthouse and at Lake Street. The current Security Company in place now has submitted a bid.
- RFP responses for the Architectural and Engineering services will be brought to the Committee of the Whole for review on May 21, 2014.
- On May 15 from 2:00 to 5:00 and into the evening there will be a presentation on regional prosperity and building community solution which will be held at Baker College.
- The Administrators' Annual meeting will be held at Crystal Mountain on May 21-23. Adm. Hinton plans on being there most of the day on the 21<sup>st</sup> and the first half on the day on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Correspondence**

1. NWMCOG Memorandum
2. Annual Report of Balance in Land Sale Proceeds - provided to the Board by the Treasurer
3. Cash/Investment Report – provided to the Board by the Treasurer

**Public Comments** – None

Wexford County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting \* Wednesday, May 07, 2014  
Page six (6)

**Liaison Reports** - None

**Board Comment**

Comm Fuscone was happy the Board had approved the Housing Council request. He believes they do a good job.

**Chairman's Comments** - None

**Adjourn**

**MOTION** by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Devereaux to  
adjourn at 5:55 p.m.

**All in favor.**

---

Leslie D. Housler, Chairperson

---

Elaine L. Richardson, County Clerk