

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting * Wednesday, October 01, 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, Gideon Mitchell, Alan Devereaux, Gary Taylor, John Fuscone, and Bill Goodwill; Absent – None

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Remove - Item 1 - PUBLIC HEARING – CDBG Economic Development;
Added - Item 1 – Resolution 14-33, State Disaster Contingency Fund Grant; *Added* - Item 11 - Closed Session.

Approval of the Agenda

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

All in favor.

Employee Recognition

Jason Nehmer, Sheriff's Department Deputy, received a Certificate of Recognition for his 15 years of service for Wexford County.

Presentations and Reports - None

Public Comments

Larry Copley, Cherry Grove Township, thanked the Board for the temporary appointment of the CWTA Board. He believe the temporary Board members are a good group and have been working very hard. The temporary Board has been interviewing for an interim manager. Mr. Copley would like to see the team stay stable and the Board to consider leaving the temporary members in place.

Michael MacCready, Manton, touched on the new jail site.

Andy Schafer, Chairperson of the North View Seventh Day Adventist Church, addressed the Board to express his concern as to where the new jail may be build. It is very close to his school. He touched on the short timeline in which the County received the property to build the jail. He believe that most commissioners were unaware how close it was to his school. Board members were provided with a copy of the Department of Justice outline on what to consider when putting a new jail plan together.

Cara Brenza, Doctor of Psychology in the Cadillac areas, meets daily with mothers and children in the community that have problems in their personal life. She does not believe having a playground so close to the jail is a good thing. Schools and jails do not mix.

Kristi Schwartz, Tustin, is a mother and a School Board Member of the North View Seventh Day Adventist School. She too would like to see a separation of the school from the jail. The jail next to the school is not a safe environment and there will be an increase in traffic.

Gunther Schwartz, Tustin, invited Board members to come to the school to see how close the new jail facility will be to the school. He believes it will be easy for offenders to break their probation having children so close.

Bethany Buldock, is an alumni of the school and has children attending the North View Seventh School, is against the jail being built so close to the school. She is not against a new jail but would like the Board to consider a new location.

Mark Tuster, is from the Lincoln School area and is opposed to the new location and would like the county to consider locating it in a different location further out in the County.

Nancy Vogler, Manton, asked that the Board consider placement of the jail in a new area.

Don Boersma, Holbrook Street, questioned if the property evaluation in the area would increase or decrease due to the purchase of the Fawcett property.

Steve Lonna, Tustin, goes to the Church of the Nazarene, would also like the Board to consider another place for the new jail.

Emily Grame, Teacher and Principal, supports the comments made tonight. By placing the jail so close to the school causes her concern for the children.

Tony Fauble, 708 Garfield, also expressed concern about the traffic this new jail will bring into the school community. He believes property values will go down in the area where the jail will be built.

Pat Melligan, 908 Cardinal Drive, is the pastor of the Nazarene Church, has been involved in jail ministry in the past and understand the need for a larger facility. He believes there are better sights in the County that will fit the jail's needs.

Gary Schwartz is a grandfather to children that go the North View Seventh Day Adventist School. He was a former superintendent does not support the facility being built so close to the school.

Todd Neetling is a parent of two children attending the North View Seventh Day Adventist School and he would also like to voice his concern.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the September 17, 2014, Regular Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of re-appointment to the Construction Board of Appeals
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Howie to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. PUBLIC HEARING-CDBG Economic Development CANCELLED
RESCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 15, 2014
- 1-a. Resolution 14-33, State Disaster Contingency Fund Grant Resolution- Added
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Devereaux to approve Resolution 14-33, State Disaster Contingency Fund Grand Resolution, as presented.

Sarah Benson, Emergency Management Director, came before the Board to explain the process and how the County would benefit if the grant is received.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

2. Prisoner Re-entry (Residential Stability) Agreement Extension
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Fuscone to approve the prisoner Re-entry agreement modification extending the agreement to March 31, 2015, increasing the agreement by \$11,078, and authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the modified agreement, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

3. Interagency Agreement with Northern Lakes Community Mental Health
MOTION by Comm Devereaux, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve the agreement between Wexford County, various Wexford County and Missaukee County agencies and Northern Lakes Community Mental Health for the provision of services for certain individuals with serious mental illness, and authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the agreement on behalf of the County, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

4. Veterinary Technology Program Memorandum of Understanding
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Fuscone, to approve the agreement between Wexford County and Baker College of Cadillac Veterinary Technology Program beginning October 01, 2014 through September 30, 2015 and authorize the Sheriff to sign the agreement on behalf of the County, as presented.

All in favor.

5. Appointments to the CWTA
MOTION by Comm Goodwill, seconded by Comm Colvin to approve appointments to the Cadillac Wexford Transit Authority of Eleanor Sosenko, Northeast Quadrant, and Mike Mix, Northwest Quadrant, with terms expiring December 31, 2015, and Jennifer Johnson, Southeast Quadrant, and Larry Copley, Southwest Quadrant, with terms expiring December 31, 2014, as presented.

A commissioner suggested that the Board keep the temporary appointments. At the end of the year Jerry Bullock shall be replaced by Michael Mix. Another commissioner supported the idea of keeping the temporary CWTA Board in place.

A commissioner asked to call the question and a roll call vote was taken on the initial motion: Roll call: Motion failed three to six with commissioners Howie, Mitchell, Devereaux, Taylor, Fuscone, and Colvin voting against the motion.

A commissioner expressed concern that the Human Resources Committee interviewed for the board positions. The Human Resources committee filled their responsibility and now the Board is rejecting the recommendation of the Committee. Another commissioner expressed appreciation of the process but not the selection.

MOTION by Comm Howie, seconded by Comm Devereaux to appoint Rosanne Denny to represent the Southeast Quadrant with a term to expire on 12/31/2015.

Roll call: Motion passed five to four with Comm Goodwill, Colvin, Housler and Hilty voting against the motion.

MOTION by Comm Howie, seconded by Comm Fuscone to appoint Eleanor Sosenko to represent the Northeast Quadrant with a term to expire on 12/31/2015.

Roll call: Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION by Comm Howie, seconded by Comm Fuscone to appoint Jerry Bulock to represent the Northwest Quadrant with a term to expire on 12/31/2014.

Roll call: Motion passed five to four with Comm Goodwill, Colvin, Housler, and Hilty voting against the motion.

MOTION by Comm Howie, seconded by Comm Mitchell to appoint Michael Mix to represent the Northwest Quadrant with a term to run from 01/01/2015 to 12/31/2016.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

MOTION by Comm Howie, seconded by Comm Taylor to appoint Larry Copley to represent the Southwest Quadrant with a term to expire 12/31/2014 and a new term to run from 01/01/2015 to 12/31/2016.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

6. Bid Award for Engineering Services – Lake Street parking lot
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Mitchell to approve the bid for engineering services for the Lake Street parking lot to Prein & Newhof in the amount of \$5,450.00, as presented.

Adm. Hinton explained the engineering firm shall help put the bid in process.

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

7. Grant Administration Agreement for the CDBG
MOTION by Comm Mitchell, seconded by Comm Howie to approve the agreement between Northwest Community Action Agency and Wexford County beginning September 01, 2014 through August 31, 2016 for the administration of the Community Development Block Grant, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

8. Snow Removal and Storage Agreement
MOTION by Comm Colvin, seconded by Comm Goodwill to approve the agreement between Fox Motors and Wexford County for Fox Motor snow storage and removal at the Fair Grounds in the amount of \$300.00 beginning

October 15, 2014 through May 31, 2015 and authorize the Chairman of the Board of sign the agreement on behalf of the County, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

9. Citizen Participation Plan

MOTION by Comm Devereaux, seconded by Comm Taylor to adopt the Citizen Participation Plan dated October 01, 2014, for the CDBG Economic Development program, as presented.

Adm. Hinton explained the information lays out the timelines for posting notices and it was not met for this hearing. It shall be reposted by the CDBG and the Board will have the hearing.

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

10. Committee of the Whole – Jail Project – Nothing to report at this time.

11. Closed Session – 6:02 p.m.

MOTION by Comm Howie, seconded by Comm Fuscone to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing current litigation pursuant to Section 8 of the Open Meetings Act, Act 267, P.A. 1976, as amended, being MCL 15.268 Sec. 8 (e).

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

MOTION by Comm Colvin, seconded by Comm Devereaux to resume open session of the Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting and to accept the Minutes of the Closed Session as orally read by the Clerk.

All in favor.

MOTION by Comm Mitchell, seconded by Comm Taylor to authorize our attorney to negotiate a consent agreement within parameters discussed and authorize the Chairman to execute such documents upon approval of counsel.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

Administrator's Report

Adm. Hinton touched on the following:

- The Finance Committee will be completing their special meetings on the 2015 budget by Tuesday of next week;
- The insurance revised quotes have been beneficial for the 2015 budget;
- There will be a meeting on Monday with the Jail Administrator, City Planner and others to discuss the jail process;

Correspondence - None

Public Comments

Michael MacCready, Manton, questioned the quadrant representation for the CWTA Board. He suggested the County look at placing additional trees around a portion of the jail project to block the sight of the school.

Eleanor Sosenko came forward to explain that representatives to the CWTA Board do not have to live in the quadrant they represent.

Andy Schaffer, Cadillac, thanked the Board for listening to them tonight. He will be happy to e-mail the Department of Justice Jail Design to all commissioners. He then touched on where the jail may be located, in the City or in the County.

Dr. Brenzau of Tustin, is not anti- jail and recognizes the need for a larger jail. However, for the emotional wellbeing for the children in the area this Board should reconsider the location of the jail project. She would like all to work together to protect our children.

Dr. Arms is an alumni from North View Seventh Day Adventist and ask the Board to reconsider the location of the jail. He would like the Board to consider the impact the jail may have to the children of the school.

Guther Schwartz, Tustin, is part of a treatment team that works with sexual offenders and believes the noise coming from the children at the school may trigger the offenders. He stressed the need for this Board to look at other sites to keep the children safe.

Liaison Reports - None

Board Comment

Comm Fuscone understands the concern stated by the audience tonight. He explained that the property was not selected because it was free, but for the location. His decision was not based on the donation.

Comm Goodwill expressed concern that the school would be so close to the new jail structure. He believe this was not a good decision and it should have been brought to the attention of the Board before it got this far.

Comm Colvin plans on visiting the site after tonight's meeting.

Comm Hilty will be joining Comm Colvin.

Comm Howie walked by a jail when he was growing up and did not see a problem at that time. Inmates will not be allowed outside of the facility at all. He does not believe the location is bad.

Comm Mitchell doesn't see an issue with the building site for the new jail. No inmates will be seen. They will be behind double walls.

Comm Devereaux believes the new jail will be on a safe location. He reminded all that there are sex offenders living throughout the community.

Chairman's Comments

Comm Housler understands the concern expressed by the audience tonight. He has looked at the site, but not from the parking lot. The County needs a larger jail and he appreciates and understands their concern. The jail needs to be close to the County Courthouse due to transportation problems.

Adjourn

**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Howie to adjourn at
6:44 p.m.
All in favor.**

Leslie D. Housler, Chairperson

Elaine L. Richardson, County Clerk