



MINUTES
OF
STANDING COMMITTEES

NAME

Ways and Means Meeting

DATE(S)

December 5, 2007

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Prepared for **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** approval at the meeting on **January 9, 2008**.

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WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

December 5, 2007

Chair Bergman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Administration Building, 220 North Main Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comms. Bergman, Grewal, Gunn, Irwin, Ouimet, Ping, Lovejoy Roe, Schwartz, and Smith.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comms. Peterson and Sizemore

OTHERS PRESENT: County Administrator, Robert Guenzel, Deputy County Administrators David Behen and Verna McDaniel, Corporation Counsel Curt Hedger; Peter Ballios, Finance; Diane Heidt, Human Resources; Patricia Denig, Jeff Krcmarik, Planning and Environment; Ellen Clement, Public Health; Alan Israel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Mike Score, MSU Extension; Jennifer Watson, Budget; Gordon Burger, Jim Zwolensky, Ben Toole, ITS; Scott Patton, Kerry Sheldon, Administration; Jason Brooks, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation

None

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation

None

New Business:

Health Community of Interest:

Public Health:

Hiring a Public Health Medical Director above the Maximum Salary for the Position Grade

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Schwartz moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the hire of a Public Health Medical Director at an annual salary of \$125,000, effective February 1, 2008 be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Peterson and Sizemore). Motion carried.

Land Use & Environment Community of Interest:

Planning and Environment:

Annual 2008 Survey and Remonumentation Grant

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Schwartz moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the submission of the grant application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth for the 2008 grant fiscal year, in the amount of \$144,869, authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award; amending the budget; authorizing the Administrator to sign delegate contracts be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Peterson and Sizemore). Motion carried.

Annual Environmental Health Services Contract

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Schwartz moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the signature of the County Administrator on the contract with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for the period of October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008, in the amount of \$521,109 be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Peterson and Sizemore). Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation:

Creating/Eliminating Positions

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Schwartz moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the elimination of the Aquatic Programmer position and the creation of a Park and Facility Supervisor position be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Peterson and Sizemore). Motion carried.

Administration:

2007 Year End Budget Adjustment

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Schwartz moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution approving a budget adjustment to allow for the proper close out of the 2007 fiscal year be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Peterson and Sizemore). Motion carried.

Report of the Administrator

Kerry Sheldon gave an informational presentation on the biomass central plan proposal (on file in County Clerk's office).

Comm. Ouimet asked about bonding \$4 million separately. Sheldon stated that the Court bond would be expanded.

Comm. Grewal requested that a copy of this presentation be sent to jurisdictions that may be affected by the project. Comm. Grewal asked about the preliminary financials and savings calculations. Sheldon reported that modeling done by Chevron was the source of the information and added that she could contact Chevron for a more detailed background. Comm. Grewal asked about an emissions monitoring system, and whether DEQ does monitoring. Sheldon reported that the County would likely take responsibility for monitoring.

Comm. Smith asked about where Exelon natural gas originates. Sheldon reported that she could find out and provide the information. Comm. Smith stated that he would like to know the cost/benefit to residents of Washtenaw County. Comm. Smith asked about how much heat is being pumped up the stack. Sheldon reported that combustion temp is 1800 degrees and stack temp is around 200 degrees. Sheldon reported that additional controls are used in addition to boiler operation, and stated that this helps a lot with particulates. She stated that the tipping point to switch to natural gas could be used. Comm. Smith stated that getting these things in place will help form procedures before construction starts.

Comm. Bergman asked about road trip impact and storage of burning materials. Sheldon reported that there would be about three deliveries a week in peak season.

Comm. Ping asked about geothermal use and why it is not being discussed more. Sheldon reported that other forms of renewable energy do not look feasible. She added that site constraints are the reason not to look at geothermal for this project. Zwolensky reported on the cost inefficiencies of geothermal use in this project.

Comm. Schwartz stated that he appreciates the broadening out on this project. He asked about the addition of cooling and hot water use to this project. Sheldon reported that biomass would not be used for chilling, but discussed uses for hot water. Comm. Schwartz asked about the factoring in of natural gas costs in this project. Sheldon reported that natural gas was figured in to the whole picture. Comm. Schwartz commended Sheldon for work done so far on this project.

Comm. Lovejoy Roe asked about the roof and windows. Sheldon reported that the roof has not been added at this point, and stated that it will not help the performance. Comm. Lovejoy Roe asked about the 1.26 tons of particulate being added to the air, and whether the multi-clone system was being used. Sheldon reported that further research can be done. Comm. Lovejoy Roe requested a report on electro-static use.

Comm. Irwin thanked Sheldon, and stated that on a financial basis this project looks like a winner. He asked about the provision for heating for the largest facility used by the County compared to heating a home with a fireplace or wood burning stove. She reported that emissions would be equivalent to 4 or 5 homes using these sources. He asked about disposal issues for ash. Sheldon reported that they can go in the dumpster or they are good for gardens. Comm. Irwin suggested in companion with this, the Board adopt a policy on burning materials. Comm. Irwin asked about assumptions for required heat, and whether a contingency factor is thrown into that equation. A Chevron representative responded that it is anticipated that 40 hours of gas heat will be needed at the coldest hours of the year.

Comm. Gunn asked about obtaining comparability figures of particulate matter. Sheldon reported that these figures could be obtained.

Comm. Ouimet asked about who would order materials, and how the process will be managed. Sheldon reported that facilities would be responsible for this, and bids would be done periodically.

Bob Guenzel reported that the Executive Session tentatively scheduled for December 10 does not need to be held, and requested that the Board not approve the resolution setting the meeting. He also reported that there would be no across the board pay raises for non-union employees this year, and added that Human Resources is making preparations to implement a hiring freeze beginning in January.

Report of the Chair of the Board

Comm. Irwin reported that there would be a ten minute break before the start of the Board of Commissioners meeting.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

Comm. Lovejoy Roe inquired about incentive to purchase locally through the County purchasing policy. Curtis Hedger reported that this issue will be coming before the Board early next year. Comm. Lovejoy Roe discussed reasons for taking the position she took on the Planned Parenthood issue. She added that she requested pre-natal care should be given to less fortunate residents by institutions usually responsible for health care.

Comm. Irwin added that the purchasing policy was reviewed a few years ago, and that a clause was used stating that all things being equal, a policy is in place to preference local businesses. He stated that he feels that there is a good policy in place regarding the 7 day review of contracts.

Citizen Participation

Tom Partridge discussed the County wide need for services. He inquired about Washtenaw County joining with Ann Arbor City for use of government facilities. He stated that money is being wasted through individual programs.

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None

Pending

None

Adjournment

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Ping moved that the meeting be adjourned until January 9th, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Barbara Levin Bergman, Chair

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register
By: Jason Brooks, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: