

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday April 4, 2012

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

A session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners was held at the Administration Building, in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on Wednesday, April 4, 2012.

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. by Conan Smith, Chair of the Board.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comms. Bergman, Brabec, Gunn, Peterson, Ping, Prater, Rabhi, Sizemore, Conan

Smith and Dan Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comms. Sizemore, and Turner

OTHERS PRESENT: County Administrator, Verna McDaniel; Interim Deputy County Administrator, Kelly

Belknap; Interim Corporation Counsel Stefani Carter; Greg Dill, Facilities; Bob Tetens, Parks & Recreation; Ken Schrader, ITS; Cheryl Perry, County Administration; Peter

Simms, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Rabhi moved that the minutes of the March 21, 2012 meeting of the Board of Commissioners be approved. Motion carried.

Citizen Participation

Dr. Doug Smith, Pittsfield Twp., stated that he was forced to file suit against the County to challenge the denial of his FOIA request for a surveillance video. He noted that with the help of Comms. Brabec and Turner he was promised that he would see the video. He added that when he was shown the video it had been altered to remove the time stamp and had also been sped up. He noted that the camera recorded continuous footage immediately prior to the incident in question but when the incident was occurring there were only four frames of film. He urged Corporate Counsel to settle.

Thomas Partridge, Washtenaw County and City of Ann Arbor resident, stated that he was there that night to express a concern that gas and oil drilling would harm the drinking water supply. He reported that there was a shocking disconnect from the county government, which he stated had allowed 15 deaths of residents whose homes were under the care of Washtenaw County health providers. He added that when he asked the County Prosecutor if his office had ever been authorized to hire an investigator to keep on staff the County Prosecutor had responded no. He noted that he attended the last Ann Arbor City Council meeting.

Mitchell Rhode, Lodi Twp. CEO of Quantum Signal located in Saline, stated that he was the founder of the No Paxton group. He said that when an oil well is put in there is an opportunity to turn it into a waste disposal well. He reported that very serious measures could be passed to uphold environmental standards, which would prevent fracking in an indirect manner. He urged the board to take this issue seriously. He stated that he would be happy to share his research.

Victoria Powell reported that the DEQ is thriving because they are issuing hundreds of permits to the oil and gas industry. She noted that there is an environmental impact study that must be done before a permit is issued and currently those studies are being conducted by the oil companies. She added that ordinances have been established that prevent drilling from taking place. She stated that there are no specifics about the oil company's liability for incidents occurring on private property. She noted that there would be a meeting tomorrow at 6 pm where professor would be speaking about the dangers of injection wells.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizen Participation

Comm. Conan Smith reminded the board that Dr. Smith's issue has been referred to legal counsel.

Comm. Rabhi stated that the reason he did not trust DEQ to properly regulate this issue because they receive money for each drilling permit that is issued. He encouraged the audience to watch the film "Gaslamp".

Comm. Conan Smith stated that he knows a number of regulators in the DEQ who are great civil servants but that the DEQ is grossly underfunded. He said that there was a flaw in the system but he did not want to impugn their work as public servants.

Communications

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Rabhi moved that the communications be received and dealt with as recommended. Motion carried.

R-0042 RECEIVED: March 14, 2012. A resolution addressed to the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners from Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners, re: Opposition to the early release of violent offenders, dated March 13, 2012. Received and filed.

R-0043 RECEIVED: March 21, 2012. A letter to the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, re: Local Approvals for Licensing Application Process, dated February 28, 2012. Received and filed.

R-0044 RECEIVED: March 21, 2012. A letter to the Washtenaw County Clerk, from Becky A. Farmer, Landman, PAXTON, re: Finkbeiner Well, Saline Township, Washtenaw County, dated March 13, 2012. Received and filed.

R-0045 RECEIVED: March 26, 2012. A letter to the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners from Dianne S. Hill, Saline City Clerk, re: Notice of Receipt of Application for Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate. Received and filed.

Not included in the packet:

R-0046 RECEIVED: March 27, 2012. A Women of China Magazine addressed to the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners. Received and filed. Not included in packet due to format.

Liaison Reports

None

Report of the Chair of the Board of Commissioners

None

Special Order of Business

None

Reports of the Standing Committees

Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the following reports be received: Ways and Means Committee, dated March 21, 2012; Working Session, dated March 22, 2012. Motion carried.

Reports of Special Committees

Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the following reports be received: Road Commission, dated March 5, 2012. Motion carried. (Complete reports are on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)

Other Reports

None

Report of the Treasurer

None

Appointments

None

Report of the County Administrator

None

Resolutions:

12-0048 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the resolution authorizing proclaiming the week of April 8, 2012 through April 14, 2012 as National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week in Washtenaw County be approved. Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Sizemore and Turner) Motion carried.

12-0049 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the resolution proclaiming the week of April 15, 2012 through April 21, 2012 as National Volunteer Week in Washtenaw County be approved. Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Sizemore and Turner) Motion carried.

12-0050 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the resolution opposing the elimination of personal property tax in the State of Michigan without 100% revenue replacement guaranteed be approved.

Comm. Ping separated this item from the agenda for further consideration. She proposed that the amendment should read "A resolution opposing the elimination of personal property tax in the State of Michigan without 100% revenue replacement." This amendment was accepted as friendly by the board. Comm. Rabhi made a friendly amendment to the resolution so that the resolution clarified that there would need to be a guarantee of 100% revenue replacement.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Sizemore and Turner) ABSTAIN: 1 (Comm. Dan Smith) Motion carried.

12-0051 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the resolution approving the appointment of Elisha Voorheis Fink as magistrate of the 14A District Court be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Sizemore and Turner)

12-0052 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the resolution ratifying the signature of the Chair of the Board on the program year 2011 Michigan Works! Service Center Operations plan to the Workforce Development Agency State of Michigan in the amount of \$92,309 for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 be approved. Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Sizemore and Turner) Motion carried.

12-0053 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the resolution ratifying the signature of the Chair of the Board on the submitted budget information summary to the Workforce Development Agency State of Michigan program year 2011 capacity building and professional development funding in the amount of \$16,000 for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 be approved. Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Sizemore and Turner) Motion carried.

12-0054 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the resolution ratifying the signature of the Chair of the Board on the calendar year 2012 Michigan Works! System Plan to the Workforce Development Agency State of Michigan for the period of January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 be approved. Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Sizemore and Turner) Motion carried.

12-0055 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the resolution authorizing the Chair of the Board of Commissioners to sign the Washtenaw Health Initiative Charter 2012 statement of commitment making Washtenaw county a voluntary charter member of the Washtenaw Health Initiative and approving a membership fee expenditure of \$10,000 annually in both 2012 and 2013 to be funded through the Office of Community and Economic Development be approved.

Comm. Ping separated this item from the agenda vote for more discussion. No changes were made to the resolution. Roll call vote: YEAS: 8 NAYS: 1 (Comm. Ping) ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Sizemore and Turner) Motion carried.

12-0056 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the resolution authorizing payment of claims commencing with the last previously approved claim and continuing through the date of March 16, 2012 be approved. Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comms. Sizemore and Turner) Motion carried.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

None

Adjournment

Comm. Ping seconded by Comm. Prater moved to adjourn until Wednesday, April 18th, 2012, at 6:45 p.m. in the Board Room, Washtenaw County Administration Building. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Conan Smith, Chair	

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register By: Peter Simms, Deputy Clerk

Board Approved: 4/18/12