

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday September 5, 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, September 5, 2012.

The meeting was called to order at 8:11 p.m. by Conan Smith, Chair of the Board.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comms. Bergman, Brabec, Gunn, Ping, Prater, Rabhi, Conan Smith, Dan Smith and

Turner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. Peterson, Sizemore

OTHERS PRESENT: County Administrator, Verna McDaniel; Curt Hedger, Corporate Counsel; Greg Dill,

Facilities; Kelly Belknap, Finance; Andy Brush, ITS; Bob Tetens, Parks & Recreation; Tina Gavalier, Finance; Dick Steffens, Equalization; Ken Schrader, ITS; Elaine Holleran, County Administration; Lisa Moutinho, 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 August 1, 2012 meeting of the Board of Commissioners be approved. Motion carried.

Citizen Participation

Thomas Partridge stated that he was glad to be speaking to the board on one of the nights of the Democratic Party convention. He added that he was proud to have been a candidate in the August 7, 2012 primary for the 53rd House District. He stated that he was looking forward to the re-election of President Barack Obama.

Seth Best stated that he was a former camper at Camp Take Notice. He noted that he was identified as a female at birth but considers himself a male. He added that when he made the gender transition he lost his job. He reported that he was left without options. He said that as a trans-person he was turned away from many shelters in southern states. He returned to Michigan and to the Delonis Center because he knew he would be accepted. He noted that he had only 90 days in the Delonis Center. He said that he felt empowered as the camp grew and changed. He reported that homelessness cannot be solved with housing and jobs because at its root it is a mental health issue.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizen Participation

Comm. Rabhi said he was impressed by the story that was shared that evening. He thanked Mr. Best for taking the time to speak to the board that night.

Comm. Bergman said that she hopes he is permanently housed now. She said that she would like to know if there is anything else he needs. She said that if the county had been helpful she was truly glad.

Comm. Turner stated that he had first met Seth at a meeting concerning Camp Take Notice.

Comm. Brabec thanked Mr. Best for coming before the board to speak. She echoed Comm. Bergman's sentiments.

Comm. Turner said he read about a town hall meeting taking place at the University of Michigan School of Social Work on a Sunday. He said he was curious about the significance of the meeting being held on Sunday. He noted that when Camp Take Notice was active there was a meal and then a town hall meeting held afterward each Sunday.

He said the county worked to find housing vouchers for the residents but some residents had not been housed. He said that the Sunday meeting was a way to bring together the residents of the camp. He said that the sense of the community had been extremely important for many of the residents. He reported that Rep. Ouimet, Sen. Warren and the Sheriff had been invited but no elected officials had shown up. He stated that some of the people who receive housing vouchers but may not have the ability to pursue additional help so as to stay in housing. He reported that self-governance had been an issue of the camp but there had been some very positive effects of the camp primarily a strong sense of community. He said that there are people who are looking for a permanent place to set up camp. He added that when camp was active many people were sent there by police authorities who told them that there was a place for them. He said that he would like to see the board talk to the Camp Take Notice leadership because there is a tremendous amount of support and volunteerism that takes place at the camp. He said that these people supporting the camp were a resource that could be tapped to help end homelessness in Washtenaw County. He shared with the organizers of the event that neither county commissioners nor the administrator were invited to the event.

Comm. Rabhi thanked Comm. Turner for his synopsis of the meeting.

Comm. Bergman stated that the county has been very engaged on the homelessness issue. She said that it was important that people understand that the county has invested a great deal of resources into this issue. She said that both she and Dr. Brabec are very interested in ameliorating this problem. She said that she wanted to be sure that the county is very actively engaged with this problem.

Comm. Turner said that one of the things he shared at that meeting is that the county is actively engaged with homelessness. He encouraged the leadership of that meeting to contact the county administrator and the county commissioners.

Communications

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

Comm. Brabec stated that she wanted to revisit the issue of fracking. Comm. Rabhi said he was scheduling a working session on a similar topic; ground water safety. He stated that there would be tie-ins to fracking but if Comm. Brabec wanted to invite speakers to address fracking he would be open to that.

R-0078 RECEIVED: July 27, 2012. A letter addressed to Conan Smith, Chair of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners from Alan Israel, Clerk, Pittsfield Township re: Application for an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate in Pittsfield Charter Township by NuStep, Inc., dated July 25, 2012. Received and filed.

R-0079 RECEIVED: August 10, 2012. A letter addressed to Conan Smith, Chair of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, from Douglas Fuller, Chair, Board of Road Commissioners, re: County Road Annual Report & Improvement Proposal, dated August 14, 2012. Received and filed.

R-0080 RECEIVED: August 15, 2012. A letter addressed to the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, from David Wahl, Controller, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority re: 2012 Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Tax Levy, dated August 9, 2012. Received and filed.

R-0081 RECEIVED: August 21, 2012. A letter addressed to Conan Smith, Chair of the Board of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, from Kay Willmoth, Regional Program Manager, Office of Head Start re: Grant No. 05CH0790 – Waiver Approval, dated August 16, 2012. Received and filed.

R-0082 RECEIVED: August 28, 2012. A letter addressed to the Washtenaw County Clerk, from Becky Farmer, Landman, PAXTON re: Girbach Well Saline Township, dated August 22, 2012. Received and filed.

NOT INCLUDED IN THE PACKET:

R-0083 RECEIVED: August 7, 2012. An issue of Women of China magazine addressed to the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners. Received and filed. Not included in packet due to size.

Liaison Reports

Comm. Turner stated that he had received a document at the July 17 Road Commission meeting. He distributed this document to the board. He noted that the Road Commission had a desire to replace some aging vehicles.

Report of the Chair of the Board of Commissioners

None

Special Order of Business

Washtenaw County was presented with an award from the Center of Digital Government.

Kevin Moore, Quest Software, stated that he was there to present the county with an award from the Center of Digital Government. He noted that there are more than 3,000 counties so being ranked in the top ten is a huge accomplishment. He added that Washtenaw County has been in the top ten for nine of the ten years that award has been given. He stated that the judges were impressed by the extensive use of social media by departments. He said that Open Book was a factor. He noted that the Sheriff's reporting of crime was a great program. He reported that the collaboration between governments, there are four governments in the county who contract with the county for IT services, is at the cutting edge of governmental technology usage. He said that one of the most innovative county programs has been equipping mobile workers with I-Pads.

Andy Brush thanked Kevin for his time. He thanked the board for their support. He said that the IT team is great.

Comm. Gunn thanked the IT department for working so patiently with her.

Reports of the Standing Committees

Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Gunn moved that the following reports be received: Ways and Means Committee, dated August 1, 2012; Working Session, dated August 2, 2012. Motion carried. (Complete reports are on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)

Reports of Special Committees

Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Gunn moved that the following reports be received: ALPAC, dated May 22, 2012; Drain Board, dated July 18, 2012; Food Policy Council, dated August 16, 2012; Public Works Board, dated July 18, 2012; Road Commission, August 7, 2012; Social Services Board, June 26, 2012; Weapons Licensing Board, July 17, 2012. Motion carried. (Complete reports are on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)

Other Reports

None

Report of the Treasurer

None

<u>Appointments</u>

12-0119 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to appoint Sharon Sheldon to the Washtenaw Food Policy Council for a term expiring December 31, 2014. Roll Call Vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comm. Peterson, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Resolutions:

12-0120 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Gunn moved that the resolution setting a Public Hearing for September 19, 2012 at 6:45pm to receive public comment on the proposed Indigent Veterans Relief Millage of 1/35th of a mill to be levied in December, 2012 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comm. Peterson, Sizemore) Motion carried.

12-0121 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Gunn moved that the resolution setting a Public Hearing for September 19, 2012 to receive public comment on a proposed Economic Development Millage Increase of 0.050 of a mill, which is authorized by Public Act 88 of 1913 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS: 6 NAYS: 3 (Comm. Ping, Prater, Dan Smith) ABSENT: 2 (Comm. Peterson, Sizemore) Motion carried.

12-0122 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Gunn moved that the resolution ratifying ministerial changes to the County-wide Public Transportation Authority Articles of Incorporation be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS: 6 NAYS: 3 (Comm. Ping, Prater, Dan Smith) ABSENT: 2 (Comm. Peterson, Sizemore) Motion carried.

12-0123 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Gunn moved that the resolution encouraging the City Council of Ann Arbor to direct proceeds from the sale of public lands to the Ann Arbor Housing Trust Fund be approved. Roll Call

Vote: YEAS: 7 NAYS: 1 (Comm. Ping) ABSENT: 2 (Comm. Peterson, Sizemore) ABSTAIN: 1 (Comm. Dan Smith) Motion carried.

12-0124 Comm. Brabec seconded by Comm. Gunn moved that the resolution authorizing payment of claims commencing with the last previously approved claim and continuing through the date of August 17, 2012 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Comm. Peterson, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

None

Report of the County Administrator

None

<u>Adjournment</u>

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Prater moved to adjourn until Wednesday, September 19th, 2012, at 6:45 p.m. in the Board Room, Washtenaw County Administration Building. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.	
	Conan Smith, Chair
Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register By: Peter Simms, Deputy Clerk	

Board Approved: 9/19/12