



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

November 6, 2013

Comm. Brabec 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: Comm. Brabec, LaBarre, Peterson, Martinez-Kratz, Ping, Rabhi, Sizemore, Conan Smith, Dan Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: County Administrator, Verna McDaniel; Brian Mackie, Prosecutor; Larry Kestenbaum, Clerk; Curt Hedger, Corporate Counsel; Kelly Belknap, Finance; Diane Heidt, HR; Tina Gavalier, Finance; Bob Tetens, Parks & Recreation; Mandy Grewal, Pittsfield Township Supervisor; Ken Schrader, ITS; Lisa Moutinho, County Administration; Peter Simms, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation

Tom Partridge, advocate for county residents needing someone to speak for them, said that access to available health sources needs to be improved. He asked why the county did not help people in need of housing. He said that the Ann Arbor homeless shelters were inadequate.

Doug Smith said that a month ago he had asked the board to pass a resolution limiting new hires until after the new year. He said that in January he would submit a FOIA request on all the new hires and then do calculations on the money spent.

Ellen Schulmeister, Washtenaw Shelter Association, shared a letter that had been written to her by a person who had benefitted from the services provided by the Shelter Association. The letter writer said that without shelter staff they would have died. The letter writer credited her transformation to the shelter staff. Ellen Schulmeister thanked the Board for their support.

Martin DeLonis said that he is following in his father's footsteps by serving on the Shelter Association board. He said that county support is integral to the Shelter.

Debbie Beuche, President of the Board of Trustees of the Shelter Association, thanked the Board for their support.

Mariette Backler said that she was under the impression that the amount of money allocated to Barrier Busters may be reduced. She stated that many people in Washtenaw County are extremely vulnerable to homelessness. She said that the Barrier Busters fund acts as a safety net for many people. She encouraged the Board to continue their support for that fund.

Mandy Grewal recognized her team. She thanked the board for their time and deliberations.

Christina Lirones, Pittsfield Township resident, said that she was very much opposed to the Pittsfield Township CIA. She said that there are many other options for funding roads. She said that as a former chair of the Planning Commissioner it was clear to her that this type of funding had been avoided in the past for good reason. She said that the CIA taxed the residents of Pittsfield Township unfairly.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation

None

New Business:

A. Land Use & Environment

1. Water Resources Commissioner:

- a. Stormwater/Asset Management Plan Grant Application:

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. LaBarre moved that the Board of Commissioners authorize the County Administrator's signature on a SAW Grant Application for \$1,100,000 for the three year period of June 1, 2014 – May 31, 2017 from the Michigan Department of Environmental Policy to develop a combined stormwater/asset management plan for Washtenaw County drains, and authorize the Administrator to approve the budget and sign delegate contracts. Discussion on this item is provided below.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Ping) Motion carried.

B. Public Safety

1. Sheriff – Emergency Management:

a. Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. LaBarre moved that the Board of Commissioners authorize the signature of the Chair of the Board on the Emergency Management FY2014 Work Agreement; authorize the signature of the County Administrator on the Emergency Management Performance Grant Local Budget for FY 2014 with the State of Michigan Department of State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014 in the amount of \$86,677.00. Discussion on this item is provided below.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Ping) Motion carried.

C. Board of Commissioners

1. Community Outcomes and Processes for Implementation

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. LaBarre moved that the Board of Commissioners adopt a set of Community Impacts that will be used as a set of measures to guide the "investment policy" for all funds entrusted to the Board of Commissioners. Discussion on this item is provided below.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Ping) Motion carried.

Report of the Administrator:

1. 3rd Quarter Budget Update
Verna McDaniel provided the Board with a 3rd Quarter Budget Update. This report is on file at the Clerk's Office.

Comm. Ping asked about the budgeted shortfall from the courts. She said that she thought that a \$200,000 reduction moving forward had been agreed to. Tina Gavalier noted that the reduction was from Trial Court and this was District Court that had had the shortfall.

2. 2014-17 Recommended Budget
 - a. (Continued Discussion)

Comm. Conan Smith said that he has not been supportive of passing a four-year budget because he does not feel like the county has articulated its metrics for community impact fully. He noted that there is not a process by tradition or policy for continual engagement with the budget. He added that without such a procedure future boards would be compromised. He said that the Board's work is pretty high level. He added that communicating those priorities takes time. He stated that the opportunity for stability represented by a four-year budget was valuable.

Comm. Peterson said that he knows there are many citizens here waiting to speak on items not related to the budget. He added that the budget is the most important item before the Board of Commissioners. He apologized in advance to the public for the lengthy deliberations that would take place. He said that he appreciates the work done by the administrator and the budget team. He stated that his issue is not with them but with a four-year budget. He added that Macomb County which operates with one of the largest cash reserves in the State of Michigan only adopts a two-year budget. He said that he was concerned with the debt that would be incurred under a four-year budget. He stated that the

Equalization Department had said that the Board spends before the revenue is collected. He said that asking employees to take furlough days was unprecedented. He added that potential furlough days are written into the proposed four-year budget. Verna McDaniel said that they have not projected using the potential furlough days which are in the labor contracts. She clarified that it is not in the budget but the potential furlough days are part of the labor contracts. Comm. Peterson said that in the next four years there would be eight votes to levy a tax to meet general fund obligations. He said that this did not send a signal that the county was fiscally sound. He said that this was unprecedented. He asked if the Sheriff Department had settled a contract which extends over the proposed four-year budget. Verna McDaniel said that the contracts with the townships are in the budget under fees and include each of the municipalities that the Sheriff contracts with. She noted that the Sheriff Department union contracts would expire at the end of 2014 for one union and 2015 for the other union. She said that the police services contract with the contracting municipalities would include a 1% increase between 2014-2016. Comm. Peterson asked if there was a projection for the cost of services in 2017. Verna McDaniel noted that this work was being done by the Police Services Steering Commission. Comm. Peterson said that this board has often passed sheriff department costs to the local units. He said that there might not be any flexibility to do that if the service costs are increased. He said that he was concerned that a four-year budget might limit the flexibility the county has in contractual agreements. He asked what the projected loss was if the personal business tax was repealed by the voters in Michigan. Verna McDaniel said that it would depend but the county would be reimbursed at about 80%. She noted that the variance depended upon the eligibility threshold for reimbursement by the state. Comm. Peterson asked about the impact of personal property tax. Verna McDaniel said that the county has to wait and see how this develops. Comm. Peterson said that it was important to know the revenue streams and risk before a four-year budget was adopted. He asked if the risk would be addressed during the budget update. He said that those people who thought the furlough days were over might be wrong. He said that he did not know if it was time for a four-year budget. He said that the Board had not taken the time to examine whether or not the county was truly financially secure. He added that one of the main commitments of the Board of Commissioners was the adoption of a budget. He said that he was interested in the budget presentation. He said that he did not know how a revenue stream could be projected out for four years when the local economy had gone through so much turmoil in the last few years. He conceded that some communities in the county were doing well but added that there is still a growing need for county services.

Comm. LaBarre said that he appreciates what Comm. Peterson had said. He noted that it was Comm. Peterson's eighth term on the board. He said that Comm. Peterson had a track record of fighting for his constituents and the county as a whole. He added that he took Comm. Peterson's arguments very seriously. He stated that he appreciated the insight offered by Comm. Conan Smith. He said that for the last six years the Board has been forced to steer from iceberg to iceberg. He said that he was worried that a two-year budget did not give enough time to plan for direction. He stated that the Board can try something new. He added that using the constitutional requirement to examine the budget yearly provided a safety valve as sorts. He stated that a fiscally prudent four-year budget will help the county get where it needs to go. He thanked Comm. Peterson for his wealth of experience. He added that he was firm in his support of the four-year budget.

Comm. Rabhi thanked Comms. Conan Smith, Peterson and LaBarre for their words. He stated that he was excited about the prospect of a four-year budget. He said that he thought the four-year budget was a chance to revolutionize the way County government is done. He stated that the budget is a living document. He said that the board needs more involvement in the budget process. He said that after tonight a calendar of annual events should be built into the budget so that priorities can be enforced. He stated that he would like to work with his fellow commissioners and administration on that. He added that he felt that this could not be done as part-time commissioners. He said that the Board of Commissioners needs to adjust on a quarterly basis. He said that the four-year budget can be a transformative budget. He said that the four-year budget could be the DNA for change. He added that he would be supportive of passing the budget through Ways and Means.

Comm. Conan Smith said that he appreciates the comments of his fellow commissioners. He noted that Comm. Peterson was right in that long term commitments were made upon a volatile base. He said that staff should be compensated through general fund dollars rather than revenue from the Act 88 or Veteran's millage. He stated that there are a few things he'd like to work through before a vote was taken. He said that there was an indicator in the financial trends section of the budget he'd like to discuss. He said that the employees per capita trend is interpreted to be positive if there are fewer employees per capita. He stated that this trend does not relate to the way business is done. He added that he would like to see this trend removed from the budget book. Verna McDaniel confirmed that it was one of many trends which ICMA had recommended but only if it was useful to the organization. She added that the county does not use it to determine staffing levels.

Comm. Conan Smith seconded by Comm. Rabhi moved that the Employees per Capita trend be removed from the budget book. This motion was approved by voice vote of the board.

Comm. Conan Smith said that the discussion on the county workforce had been great. He stated that one of the tools that the county used to use was the Organizational Capability Survey. He noted that it had not been done since 2008. He added that it gave the board an idea of how the employees reacted to their workplace. He stated that it cost only between \$10,000-\$50,000. Kelly Belknap said that based on what was spent in prior years it was roughly \$35,000 a year with the start-up year costing \$50,000. He said that this was a manageable expense. He stated that he would like to see a line in

the budget saying that the OCS would be done as part of the budget process. He noted that based on the conversation that had been had at the work group he felt that this was an important tool.

Comm. Conan Smith asked what had been determined in regards to part-time employees and the Affordable Care Act. Comm. Rabhi said that he was not comfortable with the language on page A-11 regarding part-time employees and the Affordable Care Act. He added that he does not want to reduce part-time employees hours to 25 per week so that the requirements of the Affordable Care Act are avoided. He said that it would be valuable to understand what eliminating this language would mean for the county. Diane Heidt said that she did not have that calculation available at the moment. She said that the board could change the language to read "No more than 30 hours". She added that this would not take effect until 2015. Comm. Conan Smith suggested that this be pulled from the budget. He said that he would like to take some time to delve into the part-time employee policy. Comm. Rabhi said that having a conversation on how part-time employees are treated is a priority for him.

Comm. Conan Smith seconded by Comm. Rabhi made a motion to remove Section B-16 on page A-11 of Specific Policies and Directives of The County Board of Commissioners regarding the Budget. This section read "To be in compliance with federal health care reform and the Affordable Care Act effective 1-1-14, the Board of Commissioners reaffirms Resolution #13-TBD that part time employees are not permitted to work more than 25 hours per week. Any part time employee hired, shall not work more than 25 hours per week."

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Ping) Motion carried.

Comm. Conan Smith said that he would be bringing a motion about the fund balance reserves clause. He said that he has come to fully agree with the target of 20% for the purpose of providing a cash flow cushion. He said that increasing fund balance prevented the need to borrow internally or issue tax anticipation notes which comes with a cost. He said that the allocation of surplus revenue ought to happen through a different process.

Comm. Dan Smith says that he shares many of Comm. Peterson's concerns with a four-year budget. He said that he would like to continue adopting a two-year budget and use the final two-years as a projection. He added that he was not real keen on dramatic changes to the budget. He noted that the budget was supposed to be relatively stable. He passed around some proposed changes to the budget.

Comm. Dan Smith seconded by Comm. Conan Smith moved that the following adjustments be made to the budget: 1. General Fund Taxes and Penalties (source #400) revenue be increased by \$449,813 for 2014-17, cumulative, 2. Sheriff (agency #500) budget be increased by \$100,000 each year, 3. Other Services & Charges for the Board of Commissioners be adjusted for each year including these three changes; an increase of \$1,502, line #80600 (M.A.C. Dues) set to \$26,230, line #82100 (Conventions & Conferences) be set to \$12,275.

Comm. Dan Smith with Comm. Conan Smith's approval struck the increase of \$1,502 from his proposal.

Comm. Conan Smith said that the increase was negligible and not any more or less accurate than what was received from staff. He added that he was not thrilled about the MAC dues. He said that in his personal experience MAC has not been an effective advocate for Washtenaw County. He stated that he would like to hear about the intention behind the increase to the Sheriff. Comm. Dan Smith noted that from the beginning he has had serious concerns about the reduction to the Sheriff's Department. He said that the cuts would limit the Sheriff's Department to being reactive rather than proactive. He said that Comm. Conan Smith could certainly amend the item to eliminate MAC dues. Comm. Conan Smith said that he would like to postpone this in order to talk to the Sheriff.

Comm. Conan Smith seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that Comm. Dan Smith's motion be postponed until the Ways and Means meeting on November 20th. Comm. Peterson said that the Sheriff needs to be present for that discussion. This motion was passed by voice vote with dissent from Comm. Rabhi.

Comm. Dan Smith moved that the CWB/HS Coordinated Funding appropriation be set at \$915,000 for 2014-17 and that the Sheriff (agency #500) budget be increased by \$100,000 each year. This motion died for a lack of support.

Comm. Sizemore said that he would not be in support of eliminating eight positions from the Sheriff's Office. Verna McDaniel noted that they were eliminating vacancies and there would not be any personnel losses. Comm. Peterson said that he was interested in seeing the effect of not having those positions available to the Sheriff. He asked what a four-year budget would mean for police contractual services. He said that he was interested in the response from the local communities with which the Sheriff contracts. He noted that he represents Superior and Ypsilanti Township which each have contracts for services from the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department. He said that there would be no flexibility in a four-year budget for the contracting townships. He said that if the union negotiations did not take place until 2015 and the four-year budget extends until 2017 then there was no way to provide set costs for those service contracts. Sheriff Clayton said that the Sheriff's Department is at a point now where increased cuts would affect the services provided. He said that several years ago a staffing study had been done. He noted that it had been determined that 37 officers were

needed to staff the expanded facility. He said that it was his understanding that each year there was an additional \$500,000 target that the Sheriff's Department had to hit. He added that he had met the requirement in 2009 and 2010 but there had not been an agreement that this was to happen in perpetuity. He stated that the requested reduction of roughly \$1.3 million dollars over the four-year budget was not feasible. He said that there needs to be a mechanism that if county revenues increase then the Sheriff's Department can hire back employees. He said that if the priority for this county is public safety then the Board cannot agree to reductions which will impact public safety. He stated that the Sheriff's Office was involved in providing support for the investigation of the murdered Eastern Michigan University student. He said that crime does not know jurisdictional boundaries. He said that public safety was a community concern. He said that there was a significant impact to the decision to reduce the funding to the Sheriff's Department.

Comm. Rabhi thanked the Sheriff for sharing his thoughts. He said that he did feel that public safety is important. He noted that the county does not have the funding to maintain each service at previous levels. He said that it was important that tough decisions were made in the future. He said that there needs to be more revenue in order to maintain service levels. He said that those operations should be funded through a public safety millage. Sheriff Clayton said that he was simply stating the facts. He added that the Board needs to understand the impact of its decision. He said that he has sat in this room while countless non-profits make impassioned pleas for their organizations and decisions have been made on that basis. He said that he would be negligible in his responsibilities if he did not inform the board of the impact of their decision.

Comm. Conan Smith said he was glad to be having this conversation and sorry it was happening in November. He added that there has not been a better partner than the Sheriff. He said that the Sheriff had inspired many of the budget processes which the board now uses. He said that the Board Chair is right in that everyone could talk about the importance of their activity or organization but there was no rubric or metric by which to judge them by. Sheriff Clayton said that ultimately the prioritization decision is up to the board but he would be negligent if he did not provide potential impacts. Comm. Conan Smith said that he did not believe the right questions were being asked. Sheriff Clayton noted that the community was now covered by only one SWAT team. He noted that the switch to metro-dispatch had saved the City of Ann Arbor. He added that the revenue targets had even be exceeded. Comm. Conan Smith asked if there had been a conversation on reducing Sheriff Department costs by reducing the need for those services. He asked if there had been a conversation on investing in areas which might potentially save the Sheriff Department money. Sheriff Clayton noted that this was part of the community engagement strategy but that it was a long term plan which takes time to realize effects. Comm. Conan Smith said that Comm. Brabec and Rabhi should be commended for their efforts to elevate the discussion between departments. He noted that the last contract for the sheriff deputies had been more lucrative than what was awarded to other unions. He asked if the projections included parity between the sheriff unions and other county unions. Sheriff Clayton noted that the POA and COA were among the first unions to step up and negotiate contracts when the last contract negotiations had taken place. Comm. Conan Smith said that he wondered if the service to the contracting municipalities had been optimized. Sheriff Clayton said that a number of different approaches have been examined. He said that when he took office his department was asked to take responsibility for Emergency Services and Community Corrections as well as a Human Resources department. He said that he has had some conversations with the contracting partners. He stated that new revenue for the Sheriff's Department would resolve a policy tension. He said that he was in full support of asking the community for these funds. He asked about the priority for the use of additional funds. Sheriff Clayton said that additional funding would restore lost FTEs. He said that at a certain staffing level you are a reactive organization. He stated that it would go to deputies or to putting staff to work in the jail.

Comm. LaBarre thanked the Sheriff for his presence. He said that it was not good to have an elected sheriff and a county administrator on a different page as regards expectations. Sheriff Clayton said that when he had first taken office and been asked for a \$500,000 reduction it had been his belief that it would be only for that budget cycle and not an ongoing expectation. He said that such large cuts cannot be sustained. He said that if a four-year budget is adopted then any reductions will have to be residual.

Comm. Dan Smith seconded by Comm. Conan Smith moved to remove item C-6 on page A-12 of the budget book reading "The Board should appropriate \$100,000 to cover litigation matters involving the County as Plaintiff, to be overseen by the County Administrator"

Roll call vote: YEAS: 4 NAYS: 5 (Comm. Brabec, LaBarre, Rabhi, Sizemore, Conan Smith) ABSENT: 0 Motion failed.

Comm. Conan Smith asked Corporation Counsel the nature of cases in which the county was the plaintiff and the frequency. Curt Hedger said that this did not happen very often and it was there to give the county some flexibility. Comm. Conan Smith said that if it was a small matter that fit under the discretion of the County Administrator then he was fine with the administrator handling it. Curt Hedger said that this was in there so that if something came up during the summer months when the board met infrequently there was some flexibility. Comm. Conan Smith said that he felt this was captured in existing policies.

Comm. Rabhi said that he did not understand why the item would be removed if it didn't matter one way or the other. He asked what the process was at the board table for litigation. Curt Hedger said that typically he would work through Administration and notify the board. He said that it happens very infrequently. Comm. Rabhi said that the language was important and that removing it was not productive. Curt Hedger said that it sometimes comes up in enforcement actions like building code or soil erosion. He added that those were typically fairly inexpensive cases.

Comm. Conan Smith said that this was a \$100,000 hindrance which gets written into the budget. He said that the money is then locked up for this purpose.

Comm. Ping asked why enforcement was not a civil infraction. Curt Hedger noted that the board was working their way towards enabling civil infractions. He said that next year there would most likely be more civil infraction ordinances coming.

Comm. LaBarre asked why this amount could not be changed to \$10,000. Curt Hedger said that he would like to have enough to cover those cases. He said that if there is not money in that line amount then it comes out of the legal funds.

Comm. Rabhi said that if there was an oil spill in the Huron River and the county sought reparations there would not be a budgeted dollar amount to fight that case if this line item was eliminated.

Comm. Conan Smith asked if this \$100,000 was within the \$2.4 million allocated to Corporation Counsel. Tina Gavalier said that it was not in the budget as a line item. She added that it only authorized the Administrator to make the expenditure and the money would come from fund balance.

Comm. Dan Smith said that this was a mechanism to ensure that if the county were to engage in significant litigation that the decision to do so made by the Board of Commissioners.

Comm. Conan Smith asked if there was a policy for how litigation happens. Curt Hedger said that he did not believe there was a policy for the board to act as plaintiff though there was policy for other litigation issues.

Comm. Brabec asked if a policy was needed. Curt Hedger said that it was a case by case basis. He added that it was up to the board.

Comm. Dan Smith seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the 2014-2017 budget be postponed until November 20, 2013.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 2 NAYS: 7 (Comm. Brabec, LaBarre, Martinez-Kratz, Ping, Rabhi, Sizemore, Conan Smith)
ABSENT: 0 Motion failed.

Comm. Ping asked about the meaning of item C-13 on page A-13 of the budget book reading "The Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator to continue the necessary match. The summary shall separately specify any proposed match in excess of the minimum required."

Comm. Peterson said that he wants to support his colleagues. He said that he had asked about equalization, the eight votes for special millages necessary to balance this four-year budget, projections for contractual police services before union negotiations had happened. He stated that many departments relied upon funding from the State and Federal government. He asked how four-year projections could be made when those revenue streams were not certain. He said that he has seen this board lose four commissioners in one election. He said that he did not understand how the board could overreach their term. He stated that the obligation for the pension and healthcare was still there. He said that there are a lot of programs which he wants to protect. He said that a four-year budget put departments at risk. He stated that a large proportion of his constituents depend upon county services. He noted that the Equalization Director could only project for one year. He said that he had not heard any discussion about the impact of federal cuts in even the next year much less over the course of four-years. He said that he was not sure how the budget numbers were projected. He noted that the special millages were already built into this four-year budget proposal. He added that only months ago the county had been worried about cutting employees over a \$300 million obligation. He said that he had never heard of binding the next board beyond the current commissioners' terms of office. He added that the budget is what the Board of Commissioners is responsible for. He added that he would vote for the budget if there was a motion to cut commissioner salaries in half. He said that no one had justified to him a four-year budget. He said that he had heard no answer to his concerns.

Comm. LaBarre said that this budget assumes status quo as regards State and Federal funding. He added that if this budget was passed and the current amount of federal funding was lowered then the board would be left scrambling. He said that you can make the argument that the smart choice was not made on bonding. He stated that if a four-year budget is not adopted then there will have to be cuts. He asked for an explanation of the cuts that are avoided by adopting a four-year budget. Kelly Belknap said that there need to be cuts of \$2.6 million in the first two years. She added that in 2015 there would need to be additional cuts of \$3.9 million. She said that if the four-year budget is adopted then the cuts could be spread out.

Comm. Conan Smith said that he was not sure that the interpretation was right. He said that the four-year budget proposed cuts of \$3.9 million each year of the four years. He added that in the first two years of the cycle \$2.62 million would be cut each year. He said that \$3.93 million could be cut each year in a two-year cycle. He added that either way roughly \$15 million needed to be cut over four years.

Comm. Dan Smith seconded by Comm. Rabhi called the question on the budget.

Curt Hedger said that the call to question was not in order because Comm. Brabec had not spoken on the topic yet.

Verna McDaniel noted that the language in A-13 was left over from Head Start and needed to be struck.

Comm. Brabec said that the time was ripe to look at the budget as a policy document. She said that the prudent thing to do was adopt the four-year budget. She said that she was excited about the changes.

Roll call vote on the call to question for the budget: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 Motion carried.

Roll call vote on the budget: YEAS: 7 NAYS: 2 (Comm. Peterson, Dan Smith) ABSENT: 0 Motion carried.

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Conan Smith moved that the proposed amendment made by Comm. Dan Smith earlier in the meeting be moved to the Board meeting on November 20, 2013. This was passed by voice vote of the Board.

Report of the Chair of Ways and Means

None

Report of the Chair of the Board

Comm. Rabhi reported that there would be a ten minute break after the adjournment of the Ways and Means meeting.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

Comm. Dan Smith said that a lawsuit had been filed against the county. He noted that outside counsel had been sought to defend the county. He added that he was not sure that money should be spent on defending a non-binding resolution. Comm. Dan Smith proposed rescinding the Board's resolution calling for the repeal of Michigan's Stand Your Ground Law and for the strengthening of firearms regulations. There was no second for this motion and it died for a lack of support.

Comm. Conan Smith said that he wanted to make sure that there was discussion on restoring the Board of Public Health. He noted that it was a policy issue which would come to Ways and Means.

Comm. Peterson said that this issue has been raised several times. He noted that many years ago a lot of boards and commissions had been eliminated. He said that one of the best schools of Public Health in the nation is in Ann Arbor. He said that the Board of Public Health was a sounding board for the citizens of Washtenaw County. He said that there had been a real focus on Children and Women's health issues. He said that the advocacy needs to be there. He said that the need for the Board of Public Health was increased. He added that it was important to revisit and reestablish the Board of Public Health. He asked that the vacancy be noticed so that the board could make appointments at their meeting in December.

Comm. Brabec thanked the elected officials who had attended.

Pending

None

Adjournment

Comm. Peterson seconded by Comm. Conan Smith moved that the meeting be adjourned until November 20th, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Felicia Brabec, Chair

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register
By: Peter Simms, Deputy Clerk
APPROVED: November 20, 2013