



# WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

June 7, 2000

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robinson at 6:35 p.m. in the Board Room, Administration Building, 220 North Main Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Comms. Acevedo, Armentrout, Bergman, Chockley, Craiger, DeLong, DuRussel, Gunn, Irwin, Kern, Montague, Robinson, Schultz, Shaw, Yekulis.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Robert Guenzel, County Administrator; Frank Cambria, Deputy Administrator; Curtis Hedger, Corporation Counsel; Peggy M. Haines, Karen Edmund, Barbara King, Clerk/Register; Peter Ballios, Gordon Burger, Finance; Verna McDaniel, Human Resources; Ron Schebil, Carol Bernard, Mark Ptaszek, Jerry Clayton, Sheriff, Trena Rusher, ETCS; Tom Freeman, Facilities; Mark McFadden, Planning; Lloyd Powell, Public Defender; Alan Israel, Prosecuting Attorney; Judge John N. Kirkendall; Linda Edwards-Brown, Friend of the Court; various citizens, and members of the press.

### Roll Call

#### Citizens' Participation

Harry Valentine, resident of Webster Township and president of the Washtenaw County Deputy Sheriff's Association, addressed the Board regarding his concerns about the proposal they are about to vote on regarding the Sheriff's Department Road Patrol. He urged the Board to table the issue for further study.

John Kirkendall, Presiding Judge of the Washtenaw County Family Division of the Trial Court, thanked the Board for considering the Space Plan.

Alisand Cutler, Director of the Washtenaw County Bar Association and Director of the County Law Library, told the Board that the 20 judges and magistrates, the 1100 lawyers, and the many, many persons who come in contact with the courts, are coping, but that the inadequate and outdated facilities greatly hamper their ability and the ability of all those working in and with the court system, to give good service to Washtenaw County.

Dan Bartok, Supervisor of Augusta Township, addressed the Board regarding the Road Patrol, saying that there are still unanswered questions. He said he is concerned about the rush to judgment and urged the Board to make the proposal fair.

Mike Garfield, Director of the Ecology Center, urged the Board to consider a November ballot for the purpose of preserving natural areas in Washtenaw County and distributed an outline.

Doug Calvert, Chairman of the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club, addressed the Board regarding the proposal for preserving natural areas in Washtenaw County and described the proposal that included purpose, eligible lands/selection criteria, management structure, and funding.

William McFarlane, Supervisor, Superior Township, addressed the Board regarding the Road Patrol issue. He said his questions go to the implementation of the proposal if it comes to pass.

Jeff Fisher, Public Affairs Director of the Home Builders Association, spoke on behalf of his Board, concerning the proposed preservation ordinance. He said their Board earlier today expressed support for this initiative.

Lori Buitewig, incoming president of the Washtenaw County Bar Association, addressed the Board regarding the need for a new courthouse and urged them to put the millage request on the ballot.

Roger Char, attorney in Washtenaw County urged the Board to put the millage proposal for the courthouse on the ballot and to support it as actively as they can.

Judy Moskus, Treasurer for the Washtenaw County Bar Association, addressed the Board in favor of the courthouse proposal and distributed copies of a letter of support signed by jurors.

Jonathon Roe, attorney in Washtenaw County, addressed the Board regarding the need for technology in courtrooms.

Cheryl Farmer, Mayor of Ypsilanti, told the Board that the new Road Patrol plan would institutionalize inequities by continuing to provide contract policing services at a bargain sale price of about 30% off the true cost. She said she supports the concept of the County providing a minimum level of policing service to sparsely populated, largely undeveloped townships, but that as townships grow larger and larger and begin to take on characteristics of cities, they need to step up to their responsibilities to provide policing services and they need to pay the full cost of those services, just as cities with their own police forces.

Ray Dettor, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Council for the Downtown Development Authority, told the Board that at this point, they cannot support construction of any consolidated shelter facility anywhere until several serious issues have been resolved. He asked for an impact study of the proposed shelter before construction begins.

Paul Daniels, member of the Neighborhood Advisory Committee, asked the Board to maintain a commitment to transitional housing.

Pam Maturo, member of the Neighborhood Advisory Committee, said there are a lot of unanswered questions regarding the proposed shelter and that an impact study is needed. She distributed a draft outline of a proposed Shelter Impact Study.

Brenda Stumbo Ypsilanti Township Clerk, told the Board she appreciated the efforts of all the Commissioners on the Road Patrol issue.

Ellen Schulmeister, Executive Director of the Shelter Association, thanked the Board for their continuing efforts with regards to the shelter.

Kathy Mahalick, Saline resident, thanked the Board for all the time they put in on this (Road Patrol). She said she would continue to support the Commissioners as long as she knows that they are making decisions that are thoroughly thought out and investigated. She said there are still a lot of unanswered questions.

#### **Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizen Participation**

Comms. Armentrout, Kern, Acevedo, Gunn, Irwin, Chockley, DeLong, Bergman, and Yekulis responded.

#### **Executive Session – Purchase of Property**

Comm. Shaw seconded by Comm. Bergman moved that the Board adjourn to Executive Session to discuss purchase of property. Roll call vote: YEAS: 13. NAYS: 2 (DeLong, DuRussel). ABSENT: None. Motion carried. The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:55 p.m.

Chair called the meeting back to order at 8:37 p.m.

#### **Administration - Shelter Proposal**

Comm. Acevedo seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing County Administration and the Washtenaw County Building Authority to construct the Homeless Shelter to be located at 310, 312, 314, and 318 W. Huron Street in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Mr. Guenzel told the Board that the County now owns the National City Bank property.

Comm. DuRussel seconded by Comm. Yekulis moved that this resolution be tabled to July 5.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 3. NAYS: 12 (Acevedo, Armentrout, Bergman, Chockley, Craiger, DeLong, Gunn, Irwin, Kern, Montague, Robinson, Shaw). ABSENT: None. Motion failed.

Following further discussion, Comm. Irwin seconded by Comm. Acevedo moved that the resolution be amended by adding "Whereas Washtenaw County has a continuing commitment to increase the availability of transitional housing," Comms. Acevedo and Gunn accepted this as a friendly amendment.

Roll call vote on amended motion: YEAS: 11. NAYS: 4 (DeLong, DuRussel, Schultz, Yekulis. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

#### **Central Dispatch – 800 MHz Radio System Console Upgrade Project**

Comm. Acevedo seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the County Administrator to sign a contract with Motorola, Inc. to upgrade the Central Electronics Bank (CEB) of the Washtenaw 800 MHz Radio System in the amount of \$556,351.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 15. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

#### **Community Mental Health – Budget Amendment**

Comm. Acevedo seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution approving the budget amendment for Community Mental Health and creating and eliminating positions.

Kathleen Reynolds, Director of Community Mental Health, answered questions.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 15. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

#### **Employment Training and Community Services – Service Center Operations**

Comm. Acevedo seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the signature of the Chair of the Board on the Service Center Operation Grant Plan to the Michigan Department of Career Development in the amount of \$109,651 for the period of July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2001, for the Employment Training and Community Services Group; authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award; approving the budget; and authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 15. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

#### **Trial Court – Family Division – Friend of the Court – Annual Medical Enforcement Program**

Comm. Acevedo seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the signature of the Chair of the Board on the 2000-2001 Medical Support Enforcement Agreement with the Michigan Family Independence Agency for the Friend of the Court in the amount of \$90,100 for the period of October 1, 2000, through September 30, 2001.

Linda Edwards-Brown, Friend of the Court, answered questions.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 15. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

#### **Trial Court – Family Division – Night Surveillance Reorganization**

Comm. Acevedo seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, at the Board Meeting tonight, authorizing the creation and elimination of positions and amending the budget for the Juvenile Center Night Surveillance Program.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 15. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

### **Trial Court – Family Division – United Way Lease**

Comm. Acevedo seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the Chair of the Board to sign a lease agreement with the Washtenaw County United Way for the purpose of leasing 1577.50 square feet of office space located at 2301 Platt Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan, for the period of August 1, 2000, through July 21 2001, in the amount of \$23,664.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 15. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

### **Report of the County Administrator**

None.

### **Report of the Chair of the Board**

None

### **Items for Current/Future Discussion**

Comm. Chockley distributed some charts and described her proposal for discontinuing subsidy for road patrol, and for rolling back the county tax rate by 0.4 mills to provide \$700,000 for Cops grant money. She asked that Board Members wait one month before approving the road patrol resolution.

### **Citizen Participation**

Jay Bart, citizen of Ann Arbor and member of the Downtown Shelter Neighborhood Advisory Committee, said that his committee will continue, in whatever way they can, to work so that this shelter can be a positive benefit to our community and avoid the numerous pitfalls that we know currently exist.

Doug Winters, attorney for Ypsilanti Township, said he is extremely proud of the County Board that has the courage to take on and come up with a solution to deliver a service that is non-mandated.

Karen Roe, Ypsilanti Township Supervisor, urged the Board to support the Road Patrol proposal on the agenda.

Wendy Burkhart, Commissioner candidate for District 1, introduced herself to the Board and said she thinks the current Board is doing a good job.

Vince Spade, Lima Township resident, asked if all the meetings held with regard to the Road Patrol have been in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. He also asked if an adequate amount of time was provided to devote to this issue, to make the public aware of the data, assess the data,

Brenda Stumbo, Ypsilanti Township Clerk, said it is time to bring the Road Patrol issue to a closure.

William Sizemore, Commissioner candidate for the 6<sup>th</sup> District, said he thinks you should pay for what you get.

Pat Spade, Lima Township resident, said if this Road Patrol proposal passes, it would take up to 1/3 of their budget for police services, and urged Commissioners to vote against the proposal.

### **Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation**

Comms. Armentrout and Craiger responded.

### **Adjournment**

Comm. Bergman supported by Comm. Montague moved that the meeting be adjourned until July 5, 2000. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

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Comm. Al Robinson, Chair

Peggy M. Haines, Clerk/Register  
By: Barbara L. King , Deputy Clerk