WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
July 5, 2000

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robinson at 6:31 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, Montague, Robinson, Schultz, Shaw, Yekulis.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. Kern.

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Guenzel, County Administrator; Frank Cambria, Deputy Administrator; Curtis Hedger, Corporation Counsel; Gordon Burger, Finance; Verna McDaniel, Diane Buisch, Human Resources; Carol Bernard, Sheriff, Trenda Rusher, Susan Sweet-Scott, ETCS; Tom Freeman, Facilities; Mark Roby, Planning; Lloyd Powell, Public Defender; Judge John N. Kirkendall; Alan Israel, Prosecuting Attorney; Janis Bobrin, Drain; Michael Grebiel, Consultant; Barbara King, Clerk/Register; various citizens, and members of the press.

Roll Call

Chair Montague recognized students and parents from People to People who will be traveling representing Washtenaw County this summer from July 14 to August 5, going to Spain, Italy, and France.

Citizens' Participation
Roland Sizemore, Jr., Ypsilanti Township, addressed the Board regarding waste water treatment plants and asked the Board to call a meeting of all the waste water plants to talk about issues the residents have.

Paul Lamberts thanked the Board for their good actions on the homeless shelter. He also said that he is deeply concerned about the proposal to tear down the downtown Y.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizen Participation
Comm. DuRussel commented that the Downtown Y is not a County issue and that the gentleman needs to talk with the City.

Comms. Bergman also responded to Mr. Lamberts, thanking him for bringing this matter to our attention.

Comm. Montague responded to Mr. Sizemore, saying she would like to ask Mr. Guenzel to work with Mr. Sizemore to host a meeting of all the wastewater plants.

Comm. Armentrout invited Mr. Sizemore to come to a Board of Public Works meeting.

Mr. Guenzel indicated he would follow up with Dan Myers to pursue this.

Administration – Public Safety & Court Facilities Millage Proposal

> Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution submitting to the Washtenaw County electors a question of whether the tax limitation should be increased by 0.35 of a mill for fifteen (15) years, beginning with the December 1, 2001, tax levy, to provide funding for the County's Public Safety and Court Facility needs for the next fifteen years.

Mr. Guenzel said since the Working Session on this matter, based on what he thought the consensus of the Board was, they added the provision for parking, $2 million for an additional floor to be built but not finished (which could take us to 2030 or 2040). He also said we have a commitment from the Courts to raise the fees in order to generate a revenue stream of about $200,000 per year. He indicated a presentation on this was made to the Ann Arbor City Council and received very positive feedback. The City, within the next two weeks, will be looking at a resolution indicating that they want to be part of this project.

Mr. Guenzel, Judge Connor, and Mike Grebiel answered questions.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 12. NAYS: 2 (DuRussel, Schultz). ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Natural Areas Presentation

Mike Garfield, with the Ecology Center, indicated this proposal would raise over $2 million per year to purchase and protect natural areas in the County. He said these funds could be augmented by potential state matching grants. He proceeded to elaborate on the proposed program and discussed the process of developing the program.
Pete Cornell, CEO of the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors, spoke in support of this resolution as described. Jeff Fisher, Public Affairs Director for the Home Builders Association, said they are supportive of this proposal, but said it is critical that the ordinance be amended at the same time as the millage proposal is approved. Doug Cowherd, Chair of the Sierra Club's Huron Valley group, said this collaboration of environmentalists, homebuilders, and realtors is unprecedented and is extremely important to the citizens of Washtenaw County. Time was allowed for questions and answers.

Administration – Natural Areas Millage Proposal

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution submitting to the Washtenaw County electors a question of whether the tax limitation should be increased by one fourth (.25) of a mill for ten (10) years, beginning with the December 1, 2001, tax levy, to provide funding for the County's Comprehensive Land Preservation Strategy to include the purchase of natural areas.

Comm. Armentrout suggested removing "comprehensive land preservation strategy to include" from the Proposition title and the resolution title. This was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 12. NAYS: 2 (DuRussel, Schultz). ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Washtenaw Community Health Organization Presentation
Kathleen Reynolds, Director of Community Mental Health, gave a brief presentation on the Washtenaw Community Health Organization (WCHO). She talked about the final tasks for implementation, what exactly is WCHO, and the functions of WCHO and CMH. Time was allowed for questions and answers. Comm. Yekulis suggested sending a letter to James Haveman, Jr., Public Health Director, thanking him for his assistance on this legislation. Comm. Bergman suggested sending letters also to both Senator Beverly Hammerstrom and Representative Liz Brater, both of whom worked tirelessly on this legislation.

Community Mental Health – Washtenaw Community Health Organization – Urban Cooperation Agreement Amendment

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, at the Board meeting tonight, approving authorizing the Chair of the Board to sign the amended Urban Cooperation Agreement with the University of Michigan creating the Washtenaw Community Health Organization.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 14. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Community Mental Health – Hiring an Associate Director of Community Mental Health at the Maximum Salary

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, at the Board Meeting tonight, authorizing the hiring of Patrick Barrie as the Associate Director of Community Mental Health at the maximum salary of $76,184.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 14. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Community Mental Health – Hiring a Mental Health Program Administrator above Midpoint of the Salary Range

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, at the Board Meeting tonight, authorizing the hiring of Marci Scalera as the Mental Health Program Administrator of Substance Abuse Services at an annual salary of $68,000.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 14. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Drain Commissioner – Full Faith & Credit – Paint Creek

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, at the Board Meeting tonight, pledging the full faith an credit of the County of Washtenaw within constitutional limitations, for the payment of the bonds of the West Branch of Paint Creek Drainage District (Township of Augusta and the Township of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, Michigan) described in the order authorizing bonds.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 14. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Employment Training and community Services – Annual Nutrition Program for the Elderly, Congregate Meals Program & Home Delivered Meals Program

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, at the Board Meeting tonight, ratifying the County Administrator's signature on the grant application to the Area Agency on Aging 1-B for the Nutrition Program for the Elderly (Congregate Meals Program and Home Delivered Meals Program) in the amount of $755,457 for the period of October 1, 2000, through September 30, 2001, for the Employment Training and Community Services Group; authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award; amending the budget; and authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate and lease contracts.

Susan Scott, ETCS Supervisor, answered questions.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 14. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Employment Training and community Services – Summer Enrichment Project Amendment

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, at the Board Meeting tonight, ratifying the signature of the County Administrator on the Family Independence Summer Project Amendment #2 to the Michigan Family Independence Agency in the amount of $124,000 for a total project of $771,105 for the period of May 1, 2000, through September 30, 2000; amending the budget; and authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Susan Scott, ETCS Supervisor, answered questions.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 14. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Planning – CAP Non Profit Housing Inc Affordability Agreement

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, at the Board Meeting tonight, authorizing the Administrator to sign the Affordable Housing Agreement with CAP Non-Profit Housing, Inc. for a recoverable grant for rehabilitation of 733 and 739 Harriet Street, Ypsilanti, in the amount of $20,000 for a total project cost of $220,000.

Mark Roby, Community Development Manager in the Planning Department, answered questions.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 14. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Prosecuting Attorney – Annual Cooperative Reimbursement Program

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, at the Board Meeting tonight, ratifying the County Administrator's signature on an application for a contract with the Michigan Family Independence Agency for Cooperative Reimbursement funds for the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for the period October 1, 2000, through September 30 2001 in the amount of $557,377.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 14. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Sheriff – 2001 Washtenaw Annual Re-Training Program (Act 302 Funds)

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, at the Board Meeting tonight, ratifying the County Administrator's signature on an application with the Michigan Justice Training Commission for the Michigan Justice Training Grant Fund Act 302 of 1982 as amended for the Washtenaw Annual Retraining Program (W.A.R.P. 2001).

Roll call vote: YEAS: 14. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

Report of the County Administrator
None.

Executive Session – Purchase of Property

Comm. Shaw seconded by Comm. Chockley moved that the Board adjourn to Executive Session to discuss purchase of property.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 14. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1 (Kern). Motion carried.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

Chair reconvened the Board Meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Report of the Chair of the Board
None

Items for Current/Future Discussion
Comm. Yekulis asked Mr. Guenzel where we are in answering the 25-question document submitted by Sheriff Schebil. Mr. Guenzel and Gordon Burger responded, saying that a draft has been prepared for about half of the questions and a meeting with the Sheriff is being scheduled for sometime next week. Mr. Burger said that half of the questions could be answered from the concept paper; the other half will have to be worked at over time.

Citizen Participation
Carlos Acevedo thanked the Board for the vote they took tonight on the Courthouse millage proposal, and he also said that he is personally endorsing the Open Space proposal.

Roberta Aspin, Ann Arbor resident, asked if Personnel was involved in the hiring of the Community Mental Health positions. She also talked about the proposed smoking room in the homeless shelter and asked if we couldn't have an outside area for smoking instead.

Ray Dettor, Chair for the Citizens Advisory Council for the Downtown Development Authority, talked about the homeless shelter and reiterated his concerns, including the need for an impact study.

Meg Delaney, Ann Arbor resident, encouraged the Board to approve the creation of the Neighborhood Advisory Council for the homeless shelter.

Edward Morin, Ann Arbor resident, told the Board he has learned that there is a plan to put a water park at the Independence Lake County Park, and he feels before that happens, there should be an environmental impact study.

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

Comms. Bergman, Kestenbaum, Yekulis, Armentrout, Chockley, Bergman, and Gunn responded.

Adjournment

Comm. Montague supported by Comm. Kestenbaum moved that the meeting be adjourned until August 2, 2000. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

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Comm. Al Robinson, Chair

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