



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

October 5, 2005

Chair Irwin 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: Comms. Bergman, Brackenbury, Gunn, Irwin, Kern, Ouimet, Peterson, Prater, Sizemore, Smith, Solowczuk.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Bob Guenzel, County Administrator; Frank Cambria, Deputy County Administrator; Curtis Hedger, Corporation Counsel; David Behen, Uma Harithsa, Dale Vanderford, James McFarlane, Ken Schrader, ITS; Peter Ballios, Gordon Burger, Jennifer Watson, Maiyuwai Reeves, Finance; Verna McDaniel, Diane Heidt, Barb Finch, Bob Hubbard, Human Resources; Lisa King, Sheriff; Kathy Reynolds, WCHO; Ellen Rabinowitz, Ellen Clement, Public Health; Donna Sabourin, CSTS; Mary O'Hare, Library; Alan Israel, Prosecutor's Office; Kerry Sheldon, Administration; Stephen Kirschner, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation

None.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation

None.

New Business:

Planning, Development and Environment Community of Interest:

Employment Training and Community Services

Annual Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Incumbent Worker Program:

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on the fiscal year 05-06 Workforce Investment Act Incumbent Work Program plan to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth in the amount of \$182,444, for the period of October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006 for the Employment Training and Community Services department; approving the budget; authorizing the administrator to sign the notice of grant award; authorizing the administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Annual FY 2005 Displaced Homemakers Program:

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution ratifying the Chair of the Board's signature on the fiscal year (FY) 05 Displaced Homemaker Program plan to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) in the amount of \$35,872, for the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 for the Employment Training and Community Services group (ETCS); authorizing the administrator to sign the notice of grant award; amending the budget;; authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Comm. Kern asked if ETCS items represented an increase from the previous year. Jenny Bevins stated it is a slight increase. Kern asked if more people needed services or if there was more money for static numbers. Ms. Bevins said the WIA and Displaced Homemakers programs are determined by how much money the Governor sets aside each year.

Children's Well-Being Community of Interest:

Head Start – Head Start Reorganization:

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution creating and eliminating positions to realign Head Start staff to produce greater efficiency.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Public Safety and Justice Community of Interest

Prosecuting Attorney – Annual 2006 Cooperative Reimbursement Program

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on an application for a contract with the Michigan Department of Human Services for Cooperative Reimbursement Funds for the office of the Prosecuting Attorney for the period October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006 in the amount of \$781,371; \$265,666 in local match and \$515,705 in state and federal funds.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Trial Court – Friend of the Court – Annual 2006 Cooperative Reimbursement Program

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution ratifying the County Administrator on the FY 2006 title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement with the Michigan department of Human Services, Office of Child Support, for the Friend of the Court in an amount not to exceed \$3,607,748 for the period of October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Sheriff – Annual Secondary Road Patrol

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution ratifying the signature of the Chair of the Board of Commissioners on the grant application to the State of Michigan, Office of Highway Safety Planning, for the continuation of the Sheriff's Department Secondary Road Patrol Program, in the amount of \$281,088 for the period of October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Comm. Smith asked about increased costs of the FTE's for the county. Lisa King replied that funding has decreased over the past year. Comm. Smith asked for clarification on indirect costs the county encounters related to the road patrol program. Jennifer Watson responded that the grant does not cover certain fixed cost associated with the road patrols and these costs are covered by the general fund.

Health Community of Interest

Community Support & Treatment Services

Community Support & Treatment Services Budget

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution approving the budget for the Community Support and Treatment Services department for the fiscal year 2005-2006.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Comm. Peterson asked for an overview of the position changes. Donna Sabourin replied that most of the changes are upgrades for incumbent staff, though some are new positions funded by grants. Comm. Peterson asked if much of this is related to the jail. Donna replied only a small portion of their budget goes to jail services.

Targeted Capacity Expansion Grants for Jail Diversion Programs

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on an application with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Targeted Capacity Expansion Grants for Jail

Diversion Programs SM-05-011 in the amount of \$1,200,000 over three years for the implementation of evidenced based assertive community treatment services for jail diversion.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Comm. Irwin stated that he is hopeful that capacity grant goes through.

Public Health

Annual 2005-06 Comprehensive Planning and Budgeting Contract

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on the Public Health Department Comprehensive Planning, Budgeting and Contracting (CPBC) agreement for the period October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006, approving the Public Health department's 2005-2005 budget, modifying positions and authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Comm. Kern complimented Ellen clement on the cover memo for its clarity and readability.

Comm. Peterson asked about the impact of the position cuts on the community hearing and vision program. Ms. Clement stated that there will be a huge impact on the number of children being screened. Comm. Peterson stated that the people affected by this cut in funding are children who desperately need it. He stated that he will vote against moving this item until administration determines more funding sources.

Comm. Bergman stated that she will vote yes on this, but she wants admin to keep looking for more money sources.

Comm. Ouimet stated that both commissioners had good points, with resources being cut from this important program. He desires more effort to preserve or increase these programs.

Comm. Smith asked if it is correct that about \$116,000 is being cut from the Public Health budget for hearing and vision testing. Ellen Clement replied yes. Comm. Smith asked if Public Health still has the program running. Ms. Clement stated that it will run until the board passed the budget. Comm. Smith asked if funding and budget issues could be held till the petitions are certified. Bob stated that the referendum will not affect the 06-07 budget. Comm. Smith stated that increased property values should increase revenue.

Comm. Smith seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to expand the budget and restore funding to the hearing/vision program.

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to table Comm. Smith's motion.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 5. NAYS: 4. (Comms. Irwin, Kern, Peterson, and Smith) ABSENT: 1. (Comms. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Comm. Smith stated that he is concerned about this program and that the board should work as hard as it can to preserve it. Comm. Smith supported by Comm. Peterson moved to add additional resources of approximately \$25,000 to end of year to allow the Hearing and Vision program to continue operation.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Comm. Gunn asked for assurance that the \$25,000 would carry the program to the end of the year. Ms. Clement stated this would be enough. Comm. Gunn stated this is an important program, but other programs are important as well and should not be overlooked.

Board of Commissioners

2005-2007 Governmental Consultant Services, Inc. (GCSI) Contract

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution authorizing the County Administrator to sign the contract with Governmental Consultant Services Incorporated (GCSI), in the amount of \$60,000 per year for the period November 1, 2005 through October 31, 2007.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 2. (Comm. Bergman, Sizemore) Motion carried.

Kirk Profit from GCSI spoke concerning his agency's effectiveness. He stated that the tax structure is a mess. Patricia Spitzley gave an update on telecom changes, stating they had stopped negative developments. She stated that they had success partially restoring some public health programs as well.

Comm. Bergman asked about possible funding for a drug court. Kirk Profit replied that the board asked for movement towards getting a drug court, and they are achieving some progress. Comm. Bergman asked for information on Department of corrections funding. Patricia Spitzley stated that she had spoken with Corrections, and the county is schedule to start the program in February. Comm. Bergman replied that she would like updates on this.

Comm. Prater asked about private waste water treatment facilities, whether there will be State action on these. Kirk Profit replied that DEQ was willing to deny permits, but this continues to be a problem.

Comm. Ouimet asked what will be accomplished because of the election year coming up. Kirk Profit replied that tobacco settlement and employment issues will go through. Comm. Ouimet stated that he sees the problem fixing the tax problems. Kirk Profit stated that this is correct. Comm. Ouimet asked if there was a state program that the county could get involved in regarding winter heating bills. Kirk Profit replied that he would check. Comm. Ouimet asked if there is any movement towards regional cooperation. Kirk Profit explained some key aspects of this issue. Comm. Ouimet stated that he appreciates the work being done.

Comm. Peterson asked if the county is getting the appropriate advocacy for children's services funding and how the county is tracking cuts on this funding. Kirk Profit stated the Washtenaw has one of the best pre-school organizations in the State, the county should be tracking these impacts. Comm. Peterson stated the hearing and vision programs are on the front line, and the government should be looking out for their interests. Peterson asked for work from the county administration and GCSI for actions taken to protect these programs. Comm. Peterson asked for a system to be in place to inform the county if changes at the state level will be made, and to protect its interests. Frank Cambria stated that data collection occurs around the budget cycle. He stated that the tracking system is Kirk Profit and he was effective in saving at least some of the Hearing/Vision program. He added that the county has sustained more programs than many counties across the state. Comm. Peterson stated the data collection he is interested in is the program size and effectiveness. Comm. Peterson thanked Mr. Profit for his presentation. Peterson moved to separate the Annual Planning and Budget contract.

Comm. Solowczuk stated that term limits have done the state no favors. He asked why the legislature will not untie the county's hands to raise funds. Kirk Profit replied that they are trying to convince the legislature of this, to allow local governments to control their own destiny. Comm. Solowczuk stated the county is prime for raising more revenue. Kirk Profit stated he agreed and is working as best he can to get the county more options.

Comm. Ouimet clarified that the Road Tax has the ability to go up to 5%. Kirk Profit stated that the local government task force could look into this.

Comm. Irwin gave comments on the DEQ and Gelman Life Sciences issue. He stated that the he is glad to hear there were no negative amendments added to the telecoms bill. He asked what the likelihood that these bills will go through before the election and what is the likelihood of the government not limiting the counties ability to act as they please. Kirk Profit stated the senate was on the counties side, but the house is moving to limit county freedom. Mr. Profit clarified his relationship with SBC and stated that SBC supported removing the section of the bill that may prohibit local government. Mr. Profit added that currently there is no conflict of interest, but one is possible in the future. Comm. Irwin stated that while there is a possible conflict, but he is comfortable with using GCSI.

Kirk Profit ended by saying that the next year will be challenging.

Administrator

2006-2007 Budget

County Administrator Bob Guenzel gave a PowerPoint presentation of the preliminary budget. (Report on file at Clerk's office)

Comm. Prater asked for the 5 year projections on the percentage increase per year in both revenue and expenditures. He added that he would like to see tracking for the previous three years as well. Bob Guenzel replied that he would get those numbers for him.

Comm. Ouimet asked how changes in the budget affect bonding and the need for cash in the case of a disaster. Bob stated there is a commitment of \$250,000 each year to increase general fund for these purposes. Bob stated that the county is in good shape to handle a disaster from a fiscal standpoint. Comm. Ouimet asked how to best protect the neediest people as the County goes through budget cuts. Mr. Guenzel responded that there is a need for reassessment of what has been done, systems integration, and increase capacity while decreasing the cost of doing business. He stated that dollars must come from the wage and benefit cost.

Comm. Smith asked to see previous year's projections. He asked if the biggest impediment to maintaining services were increases in benefits. Bob stated that yes, between scheduled wage increases and fringe benefits, expenses outpace revenue growth. Comm. Smith asked to see what the program changes have occurred to adjust to personnel reductions. He asked for clarification of the projected budget changes in 2008. Gordon Burger explained the projected differences.

Recommended Budget – Health Community of Interest

Ellen Cemet and Donna Sabourin gave a PowerPoint presentation on Health Community of Interest (Report on file with County Clerk)

Community Goals

- Recap key strategic plans affecting health
- County's role in achieving vision
- Community strategic plans

Measures of Success

- What has been accomplished so far
- What resources are needed to be successful
- How success will be measured

Action objectives for 2006/07

Ellen Clement and Donna Sabourin responded to Commissioner questions.

Report of the Administrator:

None.

Report of the Chair of the Board

None.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

None.

Citizen Participation

None.

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None.

Adjournment

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the meeting be adjourned until October 19, 2005.

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

Jeff Irwin, Chair

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register
By: Stephen D. Kirschner, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: