



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

October 19, 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; Catherine McClary, Treasurer; Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register of Deeds; Raman Patel, Marjorie Bixby, Equalization; Amy Klinke, Damon Thompson, Community Development; Fred Veigel, Steve Purri, Road Commission; David Behen, Dale Vanderford, Ken Schrader, ITS; Peter Ballios, Gordon Burger, Jennifer Watson, Maiyuwai Reeves, Finance; Verna McDaniel, Diane Heidt, Human Resources; Tim Morales, Sheriff; Marc Breckenridge, Emergency Management; Ellen Clement, Public Health; Mary O'Hare, Mary Udoji, Library; Alan Israel, Prosecutor's Office; Kerry Sheldon, Administration; Derrick Jackson, Jim Dries, 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:

Public Safety and Justice Community of Interest:

Sheriff - Annual Drive Michigan Safety Program

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on the Electronic Grant Application to the State of Michigan, Office of Highway Safety Planning, for the Drive Michigan Safely Task Force 2005-06 Grant program for a one year period beginning November 25, 2005 and ending on September 30, 2006 in the amount of \$69,888; authorizing the administrator to sign the notice of grant award; amending the budget and authorizing the administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1. (Comm. Ouimet) Motion carried.

Comm. Kern asked if there was an attempt to target specific populations known for noncompliance. Tim Morales stated they target high traffic areas. Comm. Kern asked how the grant's requirement to place warning of enforcement signs would negatively affect traffic enforcement. Tim Morales stated he did not know the answer to that, but he would bring it up with the appropriate officials.

Planning, Development & Environment Community of Interest:

Planning & Environment – Environmental Services – Annual Environmental Health Services

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution ratifying the signature of the Washtenaw County Administrator on the contract between the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Washtenaw county Department of Planning and Environment for the period October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006 in the amount of \$515,524.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10. NAYS: None. ABSENT: 1. (Comm. Ouimet) Motion carried.

Administrator

2006-2007 Budget

Recommended Budget – Housing and Homelessness Community of Interest

Amy Klinke gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Housing & Homelessness Community of Interest. (Report on file with County Clerk)

Community Goals

- Recap key strategic plans
- County's role in achieving vision
- Community goals – progress to date

Measures of Success

Actions for 2006/07

Amy Klinke responded to Commissioner questions.

Comm. Bergman asked for a report on Carrot Way housing. Amy Klinke gave a brief report on this project. Comm. Bergman stated that her constituents are excited about the project.

Comm. Kern asked if rehabilitation of houses is more cost effective than starting a new development. Amy Klinke stated that it depends on the specific situation. Comm. Kern asked if local units of government were more receptive to rehabs over new development. Amy Klinke stated that infill [rehab] usually receives less community opposition. Comm. Kern asked about the working poor and their receptiveness to opportunities for training. Amy Klinke stated that once they are connected they are receptive. Amy Klinke stated that the philosophy of the case workers is to meet the individual where they are.

Comm. Brackenbury asked if anything is being done to remove homeless from areas that are not safe for them or that jurisdiction. Amy Klinke stated that she has not worked with jurisdictions on this.

Comm. Ouimet asked about the experience of working on the Carrot Way House. Amy Klinke stated that it was difficult working with two different entities with two sets of funding sources. Frank Cambria added that the transition to merge two different administrations created many difficulties. He stated that there is an effort to create an agreement with Ann Arbor City to avoid some legal difficulties. Comm. Ouimet stated that he views this as a great opportunity for the county to interact with local jurisdictions and build upon successes. Amy Klinke gave a successful example of this type of interaction.

Comm. Prater asked for an example of how people qualify for low income programs. Amy Klinke gave the example of qualifying for the housing rehab program. Comm. Prater asked what steps are taken to inform the public of these programs. Amy Klinke explained the marketing strategies her community of interest employs. Comm. Prater asked what measurement tool is being used for 2005 results. Amy Klinke responded that every year new goals are established then evaluated at the end of the year.

Comm. Gunn stated that she is involved with the Urban County Executive and they have successful inter-governmental relationships. She continued that this organization is attempting to persuade Ann Arbor City to join.

Comm. Solowczuk asked if they have leveraged their funds to achieve success in the Parks area. Amy Klinke stated that they have had successes.

Comm. Smith asked what the county is doing to make sure that its affordable housing actions are not conflicting with local and county comprehensive plans. Amy Klinke stated that while actions are being made there is an open conversation about these issues. Comm. Smith stated that having good communication with WATT and other programs would help further these ideas. Comm. Smith asked what considerations are done when determining whether to rehab for regions with low or no social services. Amy Klinke stated that her agency focuses on whether the individual should have a home over what services are available to them. Comm. Smith asked about rural housing for season workers. Amy Klinke stated they do not have this type of program. Comm. Smith asked about infill redevelopment incentives. Amy Klinke explained that the county is in the process of examining these incentives. Comm. Smith asked how the Ann Arbor culture and the out county culture are relating around these issues. Amy Klinke stated that one of her goals is to bring the two cultures together into agreement on policy. Comm. Smith asked about CBDG and housing processes being combined. Amy Klinke answered that they are looking at combining some of the boards.

Comm. Ouimet stated that his district has been inspired by the work that Amy Klinke's organization and has began a discussion that could bring them into a relationship with the county.

Comm. Sizemore asked about the amount of money put into bike paths and parks for Ypsilanti Township. Damon Thompson responded that the county has put approximately \$257,000 into three parks and \$230,000 into bike paths. Comm. Sizemore stated that the meetings for these types of decisions should be after 4:00 pm and he should be informed of them.

Comm. Gunn stated that these projects were done through the township in an open way.

Comm. Irwin asked about the effect of income levels on Washtenaw County's numbers. Amy Klinke stated that this does have an effect.

Recommended Budget – Emergency Preparedness & Response Community of Interest

Marc Breckenridge and Frank Cambria gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Emergency Preparedness and Response Community of Interest (Report on file with County Clerk)

Community Goals

- Recap key strategic plans affecting health
- Community goals
- County's role in achieving vision
- Community goals – progress to date

Measures of Success

Action objectives for 2006/07

Marc Breckenridge responded to Commissioner questions.

Comm. Smith asked about the impact of not having the 800 MHz system in place. Marc Breckenridge replied that no matter what type of communication system is used they are always prepared, though right now cross agency communication capabilities exist at the command and control level. Comm. Smith asked if the system could withstand a Hurricane Katrina sized disaster. Marc Breckenridge replied that it could withstand that type of disaster. Comm. Smith asked about the financial impact of homeland security training. Marc Breckenridge stated Department of Homeland Security covered all related expenses for the training. Comm. Smith asked if this included backfill. Mr. Breckenridge stated that it did. Comm. Smith asked if there are other mandates that may affect this preparedness. Mr. Breckenridge responded at this point the homeland Security Task Force has been through thorough training. Comm. Smith asked if the full cost recovery would continue in the future. Marc Breckenridge replied that he expects this to be covered.

Comm. Prater asked what Mr. Breckenridge thought was the biggest obstacle to homeland security. Marc Breckenridge replied that his biggest concern is how FEMA would interact with the local levels.

Recommended Budget – Civic Infrastructure Community of Interest

Catherine McClary gave a PowerPoint presentation on Civic Infrastructure Community of Interest (Report on file with County Clerk)

Community Goals

- Statutory responsibilities and services
- Beyond mandates – working together to support our Community of Interest
- Community leadership – customers, services, and partners
- Community needs
- Community impact – fiscal stability

Measures of Success

Actions for 2006/07

Catherine McClary, Lawrence Kestenbaum and Raman Patel responded to Commissioner questions.

Comm. Prater asked for clarification on the interest figures. Catherine McClary explained how the interest is earned and where it is stored.

Comm. Smith asked if there are additional ways that the Board of Commissioners could assist the other County elected officials in achieving their vision. Catherine McClary stated that these agencies goals are to provide the statutory requirements. She added that the county's budget process has and is allowing these agencies's to accomplish this in the best way. Lawrence Kestenbaum stated while there has been significant changes and improvements in the Clerk/Registers departments, the county always provided what was needed for success. Catherine McClary stated that the Civic Infrastructure Community of Interest has played a role in helping the county reduce personnel costs. Comm. Smith stated that he appreciates the excellent public face these agencies give to the County.

Comm. Brackenbury asked about effort to protect privacy, specifically social security numbers. Catherine McClary and Verna McDaniels responded that they are making significant steps towards protecting privacy. Catherine McClary added that Corporate Counsel has been helpful in assisting the protection of personal information. Lawrence Kestenbaum stated that the current legislature is considering a requirement to add social security numbers to marriage licenses, which are public documents. He continued to say that the county clerks are attempting to stop this legislation.

Comm. Bergman asked Catherine McClary about collecting information on chicken coups to better track disease movements. Catherine McClary stated there may be a way to ask for voluntary registration of chicken coups, etc.

Comm. Prater asked whether social security cards can be used for identification. Catherine McClary and Lawrence Kestenbaum responded that there is no federal regulation pertaining to identification by social security card.

Report of the Administrator:

Frank Cambria stated that Bob Guenzel left early to attend an award ceremony at the Red Cross recognizing Washtenaw County's relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina.

Report of the Chair of the Board

None.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

Comm. Bergman

Citizen Participation

Steve Purri from the Road Commission stated that he and the Road Commission Chair Fred Veigel had come tonight to avail itself to any questions the Board of Commissioner may have for them. He stated that he would like to know what information the Board of Commissioners would like to receive on a regular basis. He added that the road commission is entering a reform period that will change how the organization is run.

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

Comm. Sizemore thanked the Road Commission for coming to the meeting and making themselves available. He asked that the Road Commission start attending Board of Commission meetings on a regular basis.

Comm. Brackenbury stated that through communication there can be better relationship between the Board of Commissioners and the Road Commission.

Comm. Smith thanked the Road Commission for coming. He stated that the Board of Commissioners would like as much interaction as possible.

Adjournment

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved that the meeting be adjourned until November 2, 2005.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Jeff Irwin, Chair

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

APPROVED: