



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

August 2, 2006

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, Grewal, Gunn, Irwin, Kern, Ouimet, Prater, Sizemore, Smith, Solowczuk.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. Peterson

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Guenzel, County Administrator; Frank Cambria, Deputy County Administrator; Curtis Hedger, Corporation Counsel; Peter Ballios, Finance; David Behen, Dale Vanderford, Uma Harithsa, James McFarlane, Ken Schrader, ITS; Verna McDaniel, Diane Heidt, Barb Finch, Human Resources; Tony VanDerworp, Patricia Denig, Planning and Environment; Trenda Rusher, ETCS; Dave Shirley, Facilities Management; Kerry Sheldon, Stephanie Steinert, 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:

Health Community of Interest:

Community Support & Treatment Services - Developmental Disabilities Council Continuation Grant:

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the electronic application submission of the Michigan Department of Community Health for the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council Continuation Grant proposal for the Healthcare Coordination Project in the amount of \$100,000 for the period of July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1. (Comm. Peterson) Motion carried.

Planning & Environment Community of Interest:

Employment Training and Community Services:

Annual Work Force Investment Act (WIA) Incumbent Worker Program:

Comm. Gunn 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 06-07 Workforce Investment Act Incumbent Worker Program plan to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth in the amount of \$115,798, for the period of July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 for Employment Training and Community Services group; approving the budget; authorizing the administrator to sign the notice of grant award; authorizing the administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1. (Comm. Peterson) Motion carried.

Annual State Foster Grandparent 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 Foster Grandparent Program Multi-Year Plan, submitted to the State of Michigan, Office of Services to the Aging (OSA) for the period of October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2009; and the Annual Funding Agreement for the Foster Grandparent Program for ETCS, in the amount of \$20,619 for the period of October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007, 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: 0 ABSENT: 1. (Comm. Peterson) Motion carried.

Creating the 21st Century Workforce: Developing Coordinated Regional Strategies Initiative:

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution accepting the 21st Century Workforce: Developing Coordinated Regional Strategies Initiative funding from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth in the amount of \$50,000, for the period of August 1, 2006 through October 31, 2006 for the Employment Training and Community Services group; approving the budget; authorizing the administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1. (Comm. Kern) Motion carried.

Comm. Grewal stated that this sounds like a great program. She asked if this program is recurring or a one time item. Trena Rusher stated that she does not know, as this is a new program. Comm. Grewal stated that it would be great to have this continue. She asked if the partnerships in this would be expanded. Trena Rusher responded affirmatively.

Planning and Environment - State Revolving Fund Grant: Multi-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade:

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the S2 Grant Agreement Multi-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1. (Comm. Peterson) Motion carried.

Office of the Administrator/ Support Services:

Administration – Wireless Washtenaw:

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the administrator to sign the provider agreement with 20/20 Communications as the service provider for the Wireless Washtenaw project.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1. (Comm. Peterson) Motion carried.

David Behen, James McFarlane, Uma Harithsa presented to the board regarding the Wireless Washtenaw.

Comm. Kern asked for a definition of the phrase 'take rate'. Uma Harithsa responded that it is the number of consumers signed up to use the service.

Comm. Bergman asked if a subscriber has a server, how the customer would switch to Wireless Washtenaw. James McFarlane responded that it would be up to the consumer to choose with service provider they would use. Comm. Bergman asked about consumers who would choose to participate in the pilot. Uma Harithsa responded that a customer could cancel their contract, but they do not have to cancel their contract with another service provider, simply log into the 20/20 network. Comm. Bergman asked if there is a lot of outreach in the pilot areas to let people know that this will be going on. Uma Harithsa stated that they are beginning the process of advertising.

Comm. Smith asked if the free bandwidth would be sufficient for mobile users. Andy Palms responded that the performance would be able to handle it, but the WiFi would have trouble performing at high speeds. He added that the physics just would not be able to handle the speed of highway driving. He stated that a new technology, WiMax, would be able to work at high speeds. Comm. Smith asked, as new technology becomes available, if the contract would have to be renegotiated. James McFarlane answered that this type of upgrade is being written into the contracts. Comm. Smith asked about interstitials. James McFarlane replied that these are similar to pop-up style advertising. Comm. Smith stated that he wants the board to be aware of the revenue generated from advertising. David Behen stated that reporting is required by the contract.

Comm. Grewal asked if the free bandwidth was targeted to specific populations. David Behen responded that the free service is anyone who wants to sign up. Comm. Grewal asked if there are time limits. David Behen replied that there are not time limits. Comm. Grewal asked if where 20/20 was headquartered. David Behen responded that they are headquartered in Ann Arbor. Comm. Grewal asked if there was a merger that brought about 20/20. David Lockwood from 20/20 responded that it is from a merger between Ann Arbor Wireless and IC.net.

Comm. Gunn asked what the typical speed of dial up. Uma Harithsa responded that typical dial up is at 56k and WiFi is typically at 500mb.

Comm. Kern asked if a consumer could have both the pilot and there regular service. She stated that allowing simultaneous usage would encourage people to try the service. David Behen stated that this is a great point and they are working to have this feature.

Comm. Ouimet stated that it was nice to see the community support this project has generated. He asked what occasion the county has to monitor the financial side of the project on a shorter term basis. James McFarlane stated that as they specify the deadlines the provider will have in the pilot, there is a series of metrics used for measurements and this performance will be evaluated. Comm. Ouimet asked about termination clauses. James McFarlane responded. Comm. Ouimet asked how many were finance related. Cory Anderson stated that after the pilot, the county could give thumbs up or down, and during the contract itself, as long as the provider is performing, there are no provisions for contract termination. Comm. Ouimet stated that there should be provisions if this turns out to not be financially doable.

Comm. Prater asked if the instillation of the equipment would be on the personal property tax roles. David Behen responded that they would work to find out the answer to this question. Comm. Prater stated that it needs to be known how this affects the tax roll.

Comm. Irwin asked about the upgrade plan to WiMax. David Behen stated that once a certain percentage of commercial devices are WiMax compliant, the upgrade part of the contract would kick in. Comm. Irwin asked what the rules about advertising. David Behen responded that they will work with 20/20 to create their advertising policy. He stated that they would like to have banner style advertising, but have not nailed down the final details and added that the contracts stated that no pop-up ads are preferred. Comm. Irwin commented that there are certain types of advertisements that he would not think are appropriate to be advertised in association with the county. Comm. Irwin asked how the identification requirements work out. Uma Harithsa responded that the law does not allow the certain types of information to be collect. Andy Palm commented that there are two sets of requirements, one for program customers, and one for non paying customers. He stated that 20/20 is able to monitor all of the communications. He stated that 20/20 will be required to be in full compliance with the regulations. Comm. Irwin asked for 20./20 to communicate with the board how they will meet compliance and how personal information will be governed. Andy Palms stated court orders are required to access personal information.

Comm. Solowczuk asked if state or federal legislation may block their progress. David Behen stated that there is nothing at this time.

Comm. Bergman asked if the company will be monitoring which sites users visit. David Behen stated that they will not be monitoring internet activity. He stated that as the county and 20/20 work together, they will address these concerns as they come up.

Comm. Bergman asked if the county will furnish equipment to users with compatibility issues. David Behen stated that there are no plans to pursue this.

Comm. Smith asked about programs to provide hardware to disadvantages groups. David Behen stated that they have begun conversation with various groups about this. Comm. Smith encouraged the IT staff to really dig into expanding access opportunities. Comm. Smith asked who would manage the advertising program. Bill Lockwood from 20/20 stated that they are not seeking advertisers, but the advertisers would be managed through the server, similar to what would be seen on Yahoo. He stated that any group wanting to advertise would be referred to the advertising agency. Comm. Smith asked, in terms of revenue generation, they have a relationship with an advertising agency. Bill Lockwood replied that they simply provide the frame for the advertisements. Comm. Smith asked if the ad firm is local. Bill Lockwood responded that the company is Adzilla, and there is an extensive explanation in the board materials. Comm. Smith asked if the companies they are working with will keep themselves out of trouble. Bill Lockwood responded that as the technology has evolved, the law has evolved to manage this. Comm. Smith asked if the county and service provider will be protected from actions done by an advertiser. Cory Anderson stated that contractually the county has protected itself.

Comm. Grewal asked if there will be a upgrading of the free service with a technology upgrade. David Behen sated that this is incorporated into the agreement.

Report of the Administrator:

Frank Cambria reported to the board on the CIO 100 results. He announced that Washtenaw County has been named in the top 100 IT organizations in the country. He stated that this is the 6th award the county has achieved this year and that the CIO honorees only have eight public sector entities. He thanked the board for their support over a series of budgets, as the resource allocations have enabled these achievements.

David Behen said that this is an incredible honor. He stated that this comes from working with world class employees and the support of the Board of Commissioners.

Report of the Chair of the Board

None.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

Comm. Sizemore thanked David Behen and the IT department for all of their help.

Comm. Solowczuk announced that tomorrow's leadership and working session have been cancelled.

Citizen Participation

None.

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None.

Adjournment

Comm. Sizemore seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved that the meeting be adjourned until September 6, 2006.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Jeff Irwin, Chair

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

APPROVED: