WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

September 20, 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. Grewal, Gunn, Kern, Ouimet, Prater, Sizemore, Smith, Solowczuk.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson.

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Guenzel, County Administrator; Frank Cambria, Deputy County Administrator; Curt Hedger, Corporation Counsel; Peter Ballios, Finance; Verna McDaniel, Diane Heidt, Barb Finch, Human Relations; David Behen, Dale Vanderford, Information Technology; Jennifer Watson, Budget; Judy Kramer, Risk Management; Tony VanDerworp, Patricia Denig, Jeff Krcmarik, Planning and Environment; Scott Patton, Community Development; Mary O'Hare, Organizational Development; Alan Israel, Prosecuting Attorney; Jonathan Pelukas, Dan Moody, Environmental Health; Mary Udoji, Library; Kathleen Reynolds, WCHO; Trenda Rusher, Employment Training and Community Services; Michelle Bononi, Drain Commissioner; Mary Udoji, Library; Kerry Sheldon, Administration; Stephen Kirschner, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation
Wendy Burkhardt addressed the board expressing support for the annual crime victims rights program.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation
None.

New Business:

Presentations:

Environmental Excellence Awards:
Jeff Krczmaric and Michelle Bononi presented to the board on the Environmental Excellence Awards for 2006. (Report on File with County Clerk).

Comm. Prater thanked those who received the awards for the work they have been doing and the staff that work on this award.

Comm. Kern thanked the companies receiving awards.

Comm. Smith stated that these companies have proved that they are great corporate citizens.

Comm. Sizemore thanked the staff for the time they put into this.

Comm. Grewal added her congratulations.

Space Plan – Feedback from Community Engagement:
Bob Guenzel introduced Joe Ohren and Mary O'Hare to present the feedback from Community Engagement. [Report on File with County Clerk]

Comm. Kern asked about the cost of alternative sanctions instead of jail time for offenders and whether this was part of the discussions. Mary O'Hare stated that many saw it as worth while if it was cost beneficial or neutral. Joe Ohren stated that there was some opinion that these programs are fluff and its participants should be in jail.

Comm. Ouimet asked whether people discussed the space plan in terms of actual dollars. Joe Ohren stated the focus of the conversation was how to hold down the cost of the capital investment in the jail.

Comm. Prater noted that there can be no alternative sanctions enacted that the courts have not endorse. He stated that he wants to have the courts input before any action on alternative programs is implemented. He inquired about how the board derives direction from this process if there is no consensus. Joe Ohren stated that the commission has an obligation to reach out the community, noting that this identifies the different perspectives out there. Mary O'Hare stated that this provides another avenue to determine what information the county still needs to gather, or in what areas the county needs to educate the public.

Comm. Smith asked Mary to expand on the statement that the downtown is not a safe area. Joe Ohren stated that the implication was that there was a reference that the downtown was not safe.

Comms. Gunn and Smith noted their objections to the idea that downtown Ann Arbor is not safe. Joe Ohren noted that many concerns about downtown were related to finding parking. Comm. Gunn stated that as a member of the DDA, she takes exception to this concept, as the DDA provide plenty of space.

Comm. Kern asked if there was any suggestion about moving the 14a court off its current site. Mary O'Hare stated that the idea of a justice campus had come up, but not specifically the 14a District Court.

Comm. Gunn stated that they have defined their needs and the community has rejected the county's proposal. Joe Ohren responded that this is the community saying the county needed to do more to explain its intent.

Comm. Sizemore asked if any of the elected officials offered to assist in taking new facilities off the tax roles. Mary O'Hare noted that many officials expressed interest in partnering with the county in providing services. Comm. Sizemore thanked them for their work in gathering this information.

Comm. Grewal asked which one issue generated the most discussion. Mary O'Hare stated the issue of having one voice to the public came up the most. Joe Ohren responded that people stated that the board has no credibility. Comm. Grewal asked how common this was. Ms. O'Hare and Mr. Ohren responded it came up in every session.

Comm. Prater asked for clarification. Mary O'Hare and Joe Ohren clarified that people were referring to the "county" as a whole, all of the elected officials. Mr. Ohren gave examples of this perceived disunity.

Comm. Grewal suggested following up with the people that were involved by sending them the report.

Comm. Smith stated that he values this process. He recommended digging harder into understanding what the interest motivations are for different people.

Comm. Ouimet thanked Mary O'Hare and Joe Ohren for delivering this information. Comm. Ouimet asked if there is an expectation to return to the community later in the process. Ms. O'Hare stated that they do plan on later community engagement.

Comm. Solowczuk thanked them for presenting and gathering this information.

Health Community of Interest:

Community Support and Treatment Services – 2006-07 Community Support and Treatment Services Budget:
Comm. Kern 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 2006-2007 fiscal year; authorizing the administrator to sign delegate contracts; creating and eliminating positions; and adopting a job description.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Comm. Prater asked if there is information on what the 2007 budget passed last year would have been comparatively. Jennifer Watson responded the appropriation tonight is less than the budget passed in last year.

Washtenaw Community Health Organization:

One year lease at 2215 Hogback Road:
Comm. Kern seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the county administrator to negotiate and sign a lease with the Washtenaw Community Health

Organization for space at 2215 hogback for the period of one year from October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007 at the rate of $1/year upon review and approval of corporation counsel.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Comm. Kern asked if whether individuals who enter this facility are prohibited from drinking. Kathleen Reynolds responded that they do not have access to any narcotic, whether alcohol or drugs. She stated that they refer to this center as a Recovery Access Center. Comm. Kern asked how long they expect one to be at the center. Kathleen Reynolds responded that they would stay for at most three days. Comm. Kern asked whether they have to make a commitment to stop using these substances. Ms. Reynolds stated that they expect to have return visitors, as the goal of this program will be to take the strain off of emergency rooms. Comm. Kern asked if people will be able to leave whenever they wish. Ms. Reynolds responded that they are admitted and can leave voluntarily.

Comm. Grewal thanked Kathleen Reynolds for her leadership in this issue. She asked if substance abuse can be addressed by this program. Kathleen Reynolds responded that this includes all substance abuses. Comm. Grewal asked what options were considered in their location search. Ms. Reynolds responded that that this pilot program would need to be located near a hospital and affordable.

Comm. Prater asked if there is a forecast for how many would be serviced per day. Kathleen Reynolds responded they expected five and at most 10 a day.

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to add this item to the board agenda.

Comm. Grewal and Comm. Kern suggested waiting till the next meeting to vote on this item.

Comm. Gunn stated that she would like support expressed tonight for the program, but she would defer to her colleagues. Comm. Gunn withdrew her motion.

Comm. Grewal noted that her concern was to allow the public enough time to respond to program, and that she has full support for the program.

Position Modification for WCHO:
Comm. Kern seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution creating three (3) 1.0 FTE positions to be leased to the Washtenaw Community Health Organization.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Planning and Environment Community of Interest:

Employment Training and Community Services – Annual Service Center Operations Program:
Comm. Kern 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 FY 06 Michigan Works Service Center Operations funds plan application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth for the period of July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 in the amount of $147,389 for ETCS; authorizing the administrator to sign the notice of grant award; approving the budget, and authorizing the county administrator to sign the delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Annual FY 2006 Displaced Homemakers Program:
Comm. Kern 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) 2006 Displaced Homemaker Program (DHP) Plan application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG), in the amount of $35,872, for the period of July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 for ETCS; authorizing the county administrator to sign the notice of grant award; amending the budget, and authorizing the county administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Comm. Grewal asked how this population is reached. Trenda Rusher explained that they work very closely with the Women's Center. Comm. Grewal commented that it would be useful to include the number of clients that will be served by these programs.

Annual Community Services Block Grant (CSBG):
Comm. Kern seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the county administrator's signature on the application to the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS), for the FY 2007 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) in the amount of $924,781 for the period October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007 for ETCS; authorizing the administrator to sign the notice of grant award; approving the budget and authorizing the administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Annual Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Program:
Comm. Kern seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the county administrator's signature on the ETCS fiscal year 2007 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program application to the Michigan Department of Human Services in the amount of $70,920, for the period of October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007; approving the budget; authorizing the administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Annual PY 2005 Workforce Investment Act Incentive Grant:
Comm. Kern 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 program year (PY) 2005 Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Incentive Grant for the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 in the amount of $18,470; authorizing the county administrator to sign notice of grant awards; amending the budget and authorizing the administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Dislocated Worker Scholarships Grant:
Comm. Kern 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 program year (PY) 2006 Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Dislocated Worker Scholarship Grant for the period of July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 in the amount of $31,416; authorizing the county administrator to sign notice of grant awards; amending the budget and authorizing the administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Emergency Preparedness Community of Interest:

Annual Emergency Management Performance Agreement:
Comm. Kern seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the chair of the board to sign the Emergency Management FY2007 Work Agreement and County Administrator to sign the local budget for FY2007 for Emergency Management Performance Grant with the Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division to reimburse Washtenaw County for up to 50% of the Emergency Management director's salary and fringe benefits for the period of October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007; and authorizing the administrator to sign the delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Public Safety and Justice Community of Interest:

Annual Crime Victim Rights Program:
Comm. Kern seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the signature of the administrator on an application with the Michigan Department of Community

Health Crime Victim Services Commission for continuation of the Victim Witness Program for the office of Prosecuting Attorney in the amount of $159,100 for the period of October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007; and authorizing the county administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Office of the Administrator:

Notice of Intent to Sell Bonds for Capital Improvement Projects:
Comm. Kern seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the Board of Commissioners to issue $23,750,000 of Capital Improvement Bonds, Series 2006 to fund the Enhancements to the existing 800 MHz Emergency Communications System, Direct the County Clerk to Publish a notice of intent to issue such bonds, provide for a referendum period.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Continuing Disclosure of Bond Issue:
Comm. Kern seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution to approve continuing disclosure of financial and operational information as they pertain to the bonds.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Board of Commissioners:

2006 Millage Rate:
Comm. Kern seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution setting the 2006 Washtenaw County Millage Rate at 5.6768.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 8. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3. [Comms. Bergman, Irwin and Peterson] Motion carried.

Comm. Solowczuk asked Peter Ballios to explain the change in the millage over the past year. Peter Ballios confirmed that the millage is going down, though that was mitigated by the 800 MHz millage this year.

Comm. Gunn noted that Headlee reduction has required them to levy one mill lower than state law provides.

Report of the Administrator:
None.

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
Wendy Burkhardt commented on the Board of Public Works meeting on July 19, 2006.

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation
None.

Adjournment
Comm. Solowczuk seconded by Comm. Smith moved that the meeting be adjourned until October 4, 2006.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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Jeff Irwin, Chair

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

APPROVED: