



## WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

November 1, 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, Peterson, Prater, Sizemore, Smith, Solowczuk.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Robert Guenzel, County Administrator; Frank Cambria, Deputy County Administrator; Curt Hedger, Corporation Counsel; David Behen, Dale Vanderford, James McFarlane, Mike Brogan, Information Technology; Verna McDaniel, Diane Heidt, Human Resources; Gordon Burger, Budget; Patricia Denig, Dick Fleece, Jessica Eisenman, Planning and Environment; Peter Ballios, Finance; Mark Lindke, Veterans Services; Donna Sabourin, Public Health; Kerry Sheldon, Administration; Derrick Jackson, Stephen Kirschner, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

#### Roll Call

##### Citizen Participation

Gillian Harrington addressed the board concerning the East Delhi Bridge. She stated that the western side of the county is under-represented on the Road Commission.

Marty Mayo addressed the board concerning the Road Commission. She stated that the county commission should follow a formal procedure for this appointment. She stated that this position is too important to be simply a political appointment.

Rich Cook spoke on the East Delhi Bridge. He encouraged a resolution that would restore this historical bridge.

George Miller informed the board of his objection to the delays the Road Commission has made in repairing the East Delhi Bridge. He asked for an appointment that would represent the western side of the county and be responsive to community concerns.

Nancy Sole asked that the next board appointment to the Road Commission be supportive of the rehabilitation of the East Delhi Bridge.

Leslie Desmond stated that the only people that she has heard of supporting the replacement and not rehabilitation of the East Delhi Bridge are two Road Commissioners.

##### Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation

Comm. Smith stated that he values the comments given tonight. He commented that the citizens should bring their concerns to state legislators, particularly Pam Byrnes, who have the opportunity to change the structure of the Road Commission. He stated that appointing a commissioner sensitive to the community is more important than geographic selection. He urged the board to move forward in a process that involves the public. He added that he would not support a candidate that would oppose the restoration of the East Delhi Bridge.

Comm. Ouimet commented that the conservancy has taken all of the steps legally required to preserve the bridge and it would be a travesty to lose this bridge.

Comm. Bergman stated that she believes it is only fair to have a western representative on the Road Commission.

Comm. Kern stated that she supports the restoration of the bridge and having an open appointment process.

Comm. Irwin stated that Mr. Puree will be addressing the board on the restoration of the East Delhi Bridge at the Working Session on November 2. He spoke about the qualifications that he will look for in a candidate for the Road Commission.

##### New Business:

Comm. Irwin asked Comm. Prater to present the resolution of congratulations to the members of the Washtenaw County Hazardous Material Response Team on their 1st place recognition by the State of Michigan at its annual Hazmat Team Challenge.

Comm. Prater presented the resolution proclaiming November 5 - 11 Veteran's Awareness week. Mark Lindke thanked the commissioners for their support and noted that there will be further activities to increase the awareness of Veterans Awareness week.

**Introduction to Jesse Bernstein, President of the Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce**

Robert Guenzel introduced Jesse Bernstein, the President of the Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Bernstein thanked the commission for giving him the chance to speak with them. He spoke about his goals for his tenure as president.

Comm. Smith asked about the organization goals for the chamber. Jesse responded.

Comm. Gunn gave her welcome and stated that she is looking forward to working with him.

**Health Community of Interest:**

**Community Support and Treatment Services – One Year Lease at 1250 S. Main in Chelsea, MI:**

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the Chair of the Board to sign a lease with Woollams Enterprises LLC for Space located at 1250 S. Main suite 2, Chelsea, MI 48118 and Washtenaw County for the Community Support and Treatment Services department for the period of eleven months from November 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Comm. Grewal noted that this is new budget item and program. Donna Sabourin responded that it is actually an expansion using funding from the WCHO. Comm. Grewal asked about their plans after the lease ends. Ms. Sabourin stated that their expectation is to continue the program.

**Planning and Environment Community of Interest**

**Environmental Health – Annual Environmental Health Service:**

Comm. Bergman 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, 2006 through September 30, 2007 in the amount of \$515,478.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

**Office of the Administrator**

**Presentation – Strategic Space Plan Recommendations:**

Robert Guenzel presented to the board on the Strategic Space Plan Recommendations. [Report on File at County Clerk].

Donna Sabourin explained the Sequential Intercept Model.

**Space Plan – Approval Options and Funding Recommendations:**

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution approving the space plan principles, process and administrator's recommendation on the space plan options.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Comm. Prater asked whether interest is being calculated in the funding reserve capital reserve chart. Gordon Burger responded that this slide is a summary, and the interest is summarized on another spreadsheet. Bob Guenzel responded that he will get those spreadsheets to the board tomorrow.

Comm. Ouimet asked about delinquent tax numbers. Gordon Burger responded. Comm. Ouimet asked what would happen to the number when it is trended. Mr. Burger responded. Comm. Ouimet asked for the interest rate used in the charts displayed this evening. Mr. Burger replied that it is 4.5%.

Comm. Kern asked what precisely is being authorized in the 5th resolve that authorized the construction of court without specific plans in place. Bob Guenzel responded that this resolve will be modified to take this into account before going to the board for final approval. Comm. Kern asked about the format of the report. Gordon Burger responded that this is a compilation of several different documents.

Comm. Smith asked for the status on the working with the sheriff on the jail population manager. Bob Guenzel reported that while they have 55 applicants, the sheriff has refused sign a memo of cooperation and so he will recommend placing the position on hold. Comm. Smith commented that he is hesitant to move forward on the jail without the sheriff's cooperation on jail population management. Mr. Guenzel stated that he does not disagree with this point. He added that in good conscience he has to recommend the expansion of the jail. Comm. Smith reiterated that even if they took full action, and the Sheriff complied with his statutory obligation, within 2 to 5 years there would be a need for more than 96 additional beds. Comm. Smith confirmed that the modest forerunner of sequential intercept model saved 5000 hours of jail time. Donna Sabourin explained the methodology for calculating this number.

Comm. Grewal commended the county administration for putting this plan together. She asked about the alignment of the plan with budget discussions. Bob Guenzel responded. Comm. Grewal commented that she thinks they have done a good job putting this together.

Comm. Bergman pointed out how much worse the overcrowding would be if the jail diversion programs were not in place. Comm. Bergman asked the administrator what steps the commission could take against the Sheriff's refusal to comply with statutory obligations. Curt Hedger stated that there is no specific remedy, which means it would fall back to the general remedy of litigation. He stated that the board has the ability to require any county officer that draws salary from the county to offer a report under oath in response to commissioner questions. Comm. Bergman stated that she will ask for a committee to be formed to study implementing this option. She stated that she will support this expansion of the jail.

Comm. Gunn pointed out that the expansion addresses only part of the problem, adding that the infrastructure is old. She stated that she thinks this is a responsible plan.

Comm. Solowczuk noted that by the time the jail is completed, there may be a new sheriff. He stated that there is not time left to delay the resolution of this problem. He stated that they would be negligent as a commission to not support this space plan and its recommendation for jail expansion.

Comm. Peterson stated that he agreed with Commissioner Smith about the size of the facility. He asked if the Sheriff had the opportunity to review the space plan as recommended this evening. Bob Guenzel responded that the sheriff has been involved in the process, and has stated the need for 200 beds. Comm. Peterson asked about the human services part of the plan. He asked for the savings enacted if the three townships do not sign contracts and the county has to provide constitutionally mandated services. He commented that this decision is too important to be made without a thorough discussion about the costs. He added that there should be concern about the level of public safety that would be provided if no one signs the contracts.

Comm. Sizemore said that the commissioners have made good points this evening. He stated that the public and the police officers are put at risk by inmates being locked out of the jail. He added that he thinks it is time to act on this item.

Comm. Gunn stated that they have been wrestling with this item for years, and it is necessary to invest these funds.

Comm. Bergman stated that the county's contribution to community corrections should be acknowledged, as they are actively supporting this and CSTS.

Comm. Ouimet stated that he appreciates the work the administration has put into this project. He said that they have gone above and beyond to gather community input.

Comm. Peterson asked about the petition drive that prompted the board to withdraw the resolution and whether this is essential the same issue being addressed. Curt Hedger responded the amount is different and the some of items the funding is being used for is different. Comm. Peterson noted that the jail is still being funded, and the funding source is the same. Comm. Peterson asked if it is the same method for debt payment as the previous bond issue. Bob Guenzel stated that part is the same and part is from the capital improvement funds. Comm. Peterson asked how much police services funding would go to retire the debt. Gordon Burger responded \$700,000 out of police services and \$900,000 out of capital reserves. Comm. Peterson asked how the fluctuations in debt payment would be mitigated. Mr. Guenzel responded. He stated that he does not want to mislead anyone, and that part of the police services savings would be used to fund this. He stated that this discussion would continue at the Working Session tomorrow night.

Comm. Ouimet asked for the amortization table.

Comm. Peterson expressed concern about the funding of this issue.

Comm. Gunn stated that most of the townships have signed contract. She commented that only 3 townships have not signed. She stated that they are basing these payments on the contracts that are signed.

Comm. Solowczuk noted that the police services savings are not earmarked.

**Report of the Administrator:**

**Report on Overcrowding and Jail Population Manager**

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Solowczuk moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the Board of Commissioners to issue Capital Improvement bonds, Series 2006A to Fund Washtenaw County Jail Expansion, Infrastructure Upgrade and Expanded Support Systems, in the Amount of \$21,675,000.00 and Directing the County Clerk to Publish Notice of Intent to Issue Such Bonds and Providing for a Referendum Period.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Comm. Smith asked for details on this item. Bob Guenzel explained why this position is being put on hold. Comm. Smith asked what information the Sheriff holds that they do not have access to through their right to access information. Mr. Guenzel responded as the sheriff operates the jail, he would have the information and physical access the administrator would need to operate successfully. Bob Guenzel recommended taking it up at the CJCC and bringing this item back to the board at the next meeting in two weeks. Comm. Smith commented that Comm. Prater may be the right person to communicate with the sheriff that this position would benefit him.

Comm. Bergman stated that the tragedy is that without the sheriff's cooperation they would have to FOIA every piece of information.

Comm. Prater stated that he would be happy to attempt to schedule a meeting with the sheriff. He agreed that there has to be cooperation and communication.

**Report of the Chair of the Board**

None.

**Items for Current/Future Discussion**

Comm. Smith distributed information related to the road commission. He pointed out details on the local funding to the road commission.

**Citizen Participation**

Wendy Burkhardt commented that it is excellent that they are providing services for developmentally disabled.

Nancy Stoll asked how they will have an open process when the Road Commission appointment will be made in two weeks.

Roberta Kaplan stated that she would like to see the board look more into the human services aspect of police services. She stated that the board also needs to look at the infrastructure of public health.

**Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation**

None.

**Adjournment**

Comm. Solowczuk seconded by Comm. Gunn moved that the meeting be adjourned until November 15, 2006.

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Jeff Irwin, Chair

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

APPROVED: