



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

September 16, 2009

Chair Smith 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, Gunn, Irwin, Judge, Ouimet, Peterson, Ping, Prater, Schwartz, Sizemore, and Smith.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: County Administrator Bob Guenzel; Deputy County Administrator, Verna McDaniel; Corporation Counsel Curt Hedger; Catherine McClary, County Treasurer; Jerry Clayton, County Sheriff; Lawrence Kestenbaum, County Clerk; Janis Bobrin, Water Resources Commissioner; Brian Mackie, Prosecuting Attorney; James McFarlane, Jennifer Watson, Andy Brush, Support Services; Peter Ballios, Finance; Marc Breckenridge, Emergency Management; Judy Kramer, Risk Management; Patricia Horne-McGee, Head Start; Dick Fleece, Public Health; Mark Lindke, Veterans Affairs; Nancy Thelen, MSU Extension; Diane Heidt, Barb Finch, Human Resources; Tony VanDerworp, Strategic Planning; Patricia Denig, ETCS; Donna Sabourin, CSTS; Mary Jo Callan, Community Development; Derrick Jackson, Gregory Dill, Sheriff's office; Bob Tetens, Parks and Recreation; Ken Schrader, ITS; Joanna Bidlack, Stephanie Jensen, Administration; Jason Brooks, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation

Linda *last name not captured due to microphone issue* stated that she is concerned about the possible cut of the Head Start program. She added that she is pleased that her child gets to be in front of a teacher rather than the television. She stated that the dental program and nutrition programs really helped her family.

Annetta Green, 815 Green Grove Apt. 804, Ypsilanti City, stated that she was a Head Start parent and volunteered for two years. She added that the entire staff is professional and courteous. She stated that her and her son have succeeded since being a part of the Head Start program.

Stephanie Munir, 8787 Aqua Ln., Ypsilanti Township, stated that she feels losing Head Start will be no benefit to the community and added that this program has provided dental coverage.

Iris Reid, 2141 Glencoe Hills Dr. Apt 6, Pittsfield Township, stated that she had been abused and stated that she strived to become someone else. She stated that Alpha House has been a place that provided help and confidence.

Tom Partridge stated that people at this meeting are attesting to vital needs and services in the community. He stated that the Board should be spending time with legislators.

Susan Miller, 2016 Shadford, Ann Arbor City, stated that the Head Start program is recognized nationally. She added that there is no better investment that could be made for children in Washtenaw County.

Rev. Melanie Lee Carey, 279 Valley Dr., Ypsilanti Township, 1st United Methodist, stated that her church partners with others in the County. She added that she is concerned about people seeking basic services. She read statements from people using the programs.

Anne Harris, 2397 E. Textile Rd., Pittsfield Township, stated that she represents a population of the sick, fragile, and dying. She added that 80% of the people served live alone.

Morell Boone, 5774 Pine View Dr., Ypsilanti Township, President, Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels, stated that his organization is running at a 7% administrative cost. He stated that his budget is \$30,000 in debt and added that operations cannot continue.

Tom Roberts, 11485 Pleasant Shore Dr., Freedom Township, stated that he is speaking on behalf of Food Gatherers. He reported on some Food Gatherers statistics. He stated that without funds from the County, the Community Resource Center would be out of luck.

Cathy Robertson, 302 N. Grove, Ypsilanti City, stated that she would like the County's continued support of the Head Start program. She stated that she feels Head Start does as much as any group to alleviate poverty. She added that a special focus is place on dental care. She stated that she would like to see funding levels maintained for Head Start and Food Gatherers.

Matt Vanauker, 403 W. Madison, Ann Arbor City, stated that he wants to see funds maintained at shelters and at Food Gatherers.

Lynn Booth, 7576 Mester Rd., Lyndon Township, stated that she represents Faith in Action. She stated that she would like non profits considered individually and added that increased need could not have been met without deliveries from Food Gatherers.

Don Anderson, Interfaith Hospitality Network, stated that he would like to speak on behalf of homeless families. He added that it is important to provide a stable home for children. He stated that money is saved in the future when money is spent on safety for children. He added that the human cost must be considered.

Neel Hajra, stated that he is CEO of Non Profit Enterprise at Work. He added that his organization has worked with hundreds of non profit organizations in the County. He stated that he would like the Board to maintain funding at levels it is at currently for organizations being funded currently.

Kimberly Piersaw, stated that she would like to thank the Board for listening to all participants. She stated that without Safe House, her life would be drastically different today. She added that domestic violence touches a lot of people. She added that funding sources have shrunk dramatically in the last five years but the number of people served remains the same.

Debbie Young, 6196 Aspen Way, Ypsilanti Township, stated that the Neighborhood Health Clinic is a safety net for underinsured in Washtenaw County. She read a statement from Dr. Deloisteen Brown, St. Joseph Mercy Health System.

Dale Kutchoff, Ypsilanti, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ypsilanti, stated that it is more cost effective helping a child at an early stage rather than later in life. He added that he would like to continue to receive funds in the future.

Jack Baker, 6331 Warren, Superior Township, stated that he is dealing with caring for an older parent. He added that he would like to discuss older adults that do not have family support. He added that Neighborhood Senior Services have been serving the County for decades. Baker stated that the number of older adults will triple in the next 20 years. He added that about 13% of funding for NSS comes from the City of Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County.

Lori Roddy, 407 E. Kingsley, Ann Arbor City, stated that Neutral Zone has been supporting the Drop in Space. She stated that she is worried about friends that go to the center. Michelle, a teen intern, Neutral Zone, stated that Neutral Zone provides after school support for 50 young people that are the most marginalized.

Lisa Jackson, Arbor Woods, Pittsfield Township, stated that she sits on the Board of Directors for Ozone House. She stated that she would like the Board to maintain its level of funding. She stated that as families are stressed, services are needed more. Jackson stated that Ozone House is preventing people from accessing more expensive services.

Julie Agunosto, stated that she is attending on behalf on Ozone House. She stated that she was able to make strides toward adulthood at Ozone House. She added that she was recently able to purchase her first home.

Hanna Brown, Family Outreach Specialist, Alpha House, read comments that were prepared by people in the County seeking basic human services.

Jim Reisinger, Dexter Pinckney Rd, Dexter Township, stated that he knows the impact that Ozone House and Food Gatherers has on the community. He stated that unemployment and underemployment affects homelessness. He added that this is not the time to cut human services. Reisinger stated that this is not just an Ann Arbor problem. He added that Alpha House needs the support.

John McCollugh, 8710 Coil Dr., Pinckney, stated that he was affiliated with Alpha House for many years. He stated that Alpha House does a great job. He stated that they teach and feed the kids.

Karen Bentley, Dexter, read comments that were prepared by people in the County seeking basic human services.

Nina Pemberton, 390 Everett, Milan City, stated that he group does all human services in Milan. She stated that a client came into the office for services. She stated that without Food Gatherers they would not be able to help nearly as many people.

Josh Humbel, 2026 Pauline 2B, Ann Arbor City, stated that he does not want to see human services cut.

Karen Andrews, 3684 Wagner Ridge Ct., Scio Township, stated that she serves as president of the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County. She added that she wants to thank the Board for their past support. Andrews added that she would like to thank staff and her Board of Directors. She stated that 1400 people come through the doors every year.

Angela Taber, Staff Representative, AFSCME 2733, stated that there have been some issues with the budget process that she wants to bring to attention. She stated that rumors were going on about a month ago. She stated that expenditure vs. revenues need to be examined. She stated that so many things are going on that it is difficult to understand what is going on.

Jim Phelps, 360 Highland, Saline City, stated that he is speaking on behalf of the Safe House Center. He added that he would like the Board to help serve those in the community.

Tameka Witherspoon, 2007 Arlene, Ann Arbor City, stated that she would like the Board to come down and see what happens at Head Start. She also stated that this is a family style setting and added that this program has been incredibly important to her. She added that she would like the Board to maintain funding.

Sonya Whittaker Gregg, Ypsilanti, stated that people are not looking for handouts but are looking for a hand. She read comments submitted to the Food Pantry.

Randi Freedman read comments submitted by people seeking basic human services throughout the County.

Angela Williams, Long Shore Dr., Ann Arbor, stated that she is on the Board of Ozone House. She stated that she also works the crisis lines and added that needs are expanding. Williams stated that a small investment will keep many of the non profits providing services.

Mike Lamone, 2510 Hartman, Saline Township, stated that he would like to speak to the return on investment. He stated that IGN Alpha House gets many hours of volunteerism as well as donated pantry items. He stated that he is seeing lives of those that volunteer are changed. He added that many people are helped when they are able to become more compassionate and caring citizens.

Carmelita Mullins, 234 S Hewitt Apt. 203, Ypsilanti Township, stated that she is speaking on behalf of Planned Parenthood. She stated that she is very proud of the pre natal program at Planned Parenthood. She stated that this is the only program for low income women in the County.

Sandy Hilton, Director, Perry Nursery School, reported on a case she saw at the pre-school. She stated that the pre-school provides a social worker and added that the school works to meet many needs of the children. She added that the pre-school is a vital link in breaking the cycle of poverty. She added that she would like the Board to continue support.

Paula Christensen, 2354 Delaware Dr., Ann Arbor City, stated that she is a coordinator for Alpha House and stated that she has been working with IHN. She stated that she had a child begging at her door and stated that support needs to be maintained for these children.

Letitia Byrd, 421 Brookside Dr., Ann Arbor City stated that it is vitally important to maintain the status of organizations represented tonight. She added that she hopes the Board finds a way to help these organizations survive.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation

Comm. Gunn stated that she would like to thank everyone for coming this evening. She added that she was glad to see Head Start parents present. Comm. Gunn added that property taxes are declining and she stated that demand for services is up. She stated that she would like to see a human services millage.

Comm. Bergman stated that she would like to thank all for standing in line and speaking and for their participation in the community. She added that she would also like to support a human services millage. Comm. Bergman added that there are not adequate funds coming in.

Comm. Irwin stated that he would like to thank all that came in to speak. He added that many of these agencies are successful. He stated that \$1 million was given to human service agencies. Comm. Irwin stated that the percentage would be greater given the current budget and added that he will be working to maintain funding. He added that there is value to volunteering to provide services.

Comm. Judge stated that she agrees on the importance of Head Start and added that it is not just taking care of kids. She stated that it was interesting to see how many of the non profit agencies are working together collaboratively. She stated that legislators can be called or e-mailed regarding state revenue sharing. She stated that it was heartwarming to serve families food in need at the Dulin BBQ. Comm. Judge stated that the County needs to be responsible with funds they have now. She added that she is turning in her County cell phone and stated that all waste needs to be cut. Comm. Judge stated that human services will cost 2.8% of the budget in 2010.

Comm. Smith stated that he would also like to thank everyone that came to speak. He added that there will be people unhappy with the end product. Comm. Smith added that he would like patience throughout this process.

Comm. Ouimet stated that this does give the opportunity for community debate. He added that United Way is facing many of the same challenges and facing difficulty funding many organizations speaking tonight. He stated that there is a high level of cooperation focused on outcome. Comm. Ouimet stated that this will provide an opportunity to discuss the challenge of the people that need help the most.

New Business:

Public Safety & Justice Community of Interest:

Sheriff:

Annual Secondary Road Patrol

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson 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 \$248,148.00 for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 be adopted.

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

Support Services Community of Interest:

Information Technology:

City of Ypsilanti – IT Revenue Contract Renewal

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the Administrator to sign the contract to continue supporting the City of Ypsilanti's technology for the period September 21, 2009 through September 21, 2012 be adopted.

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

Economic Development Community of Interest:

ETCS:

Senior Nutrition - ARRA

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on the ETCS grant application to the Area Agency on Aging 1-B for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding for the Nutrition Program for the Elderly (Congregate Meals Program and Home-Delivered Meals Program) for the period of July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009; and the budget, in the amount of \$24,983; authorizing the Administrator to sign the notice of grant award; amending the budget; and authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts be adopted.

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

Economic Development Community of Interest:

ETCS:

Senior Nutrition - ARRA

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on the ETCS grant application to the Area Agency on Aging 1-B for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding for the Nutrition Program for the Elderly (Congregate Meals Program and Home-Delivered Meals Program) for the period of July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009; and the budget, in the amount of \$24,983; authorizing the Administrator to sign the notice of grant award; amending the budget; and authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts be adopted.

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

WIA Incentive Grant

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the Chair of the Board's signature on the ETCS Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Incentive grant application to the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth in the amount of \$46,229 for the period of January 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010; authorizing the County Administrator to sign the notice of grant awards; amending the budget and authorizing the Administrator to sign delegate contracts be adopted.

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

Community Development:

Community Development Block Grant - Recovery

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the Board of Commissioners to ratify the County Administrator's signature on the electronic submission of the grant application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the 2008-09 Community Development Block Grant – Recovery Program (CDBG-R) grant in the amount of \$308,567; authorizing the County Administrator to sign the notice of grant award; approve the budgets; and authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts be adopted.

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

Health Community of Interest:

Community Support & Treatment Services:

2009-10 Community Support & Treatment Services

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution approving the Community Support and Treatment Services Department budget for the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year; authorizing the Administrator to sign delegate contracts; and approving position modifications be adopted.

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

Public Health:

2009-10 Comprehensive Planning, Budgeting and Contracting (CPBC) Agreement, 2009/10 Budget and Position Eliminations

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the County Administrator's signature on the Public Health Department Comprehensive Planning, Budgeting, and Contracting (CPBC) agreement for the period October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 budget; authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts; approving fees; and approving position eliminations be adopted.

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

County Administrator:

2009/2010 Insurance Coverage

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution accepting offers for insurance coverage for the County for the period of October 1, 2009 to October 1, 2010 be adopted.

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

2010/2011 Recommended Budget

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Irwin moved to adopt the 2010/11 Washtenaw County Budget. (Vote currently scheduled to take place at Ways & Means on November 4, 2009, and at the Board of Commissioners meeting on November 18, 2009.)

Bob Guenzel gave the presentation on the Administrator's Recommended Budget for 2008/09 (On file in County Clerk's Office).

Report of the Administrator:

None

Report of the Chair of the Board

Comm. Sizemore reported that there would be a five minute break before the start of the Board of Commissioners meeting.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

None

Citizen Participation

None

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None

Pending

None

Adjournment

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Ping moved that the meeting be adjourned until October 7th, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

Conan Smith, Chair

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Jason Brooks, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: