WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

March 17, 2010

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; Mary Jo Callan, Community Development; Diane Heidt, Barbara Finch, Human Resources; Mark Lindke, Veterans Affairs; Trenda Rusher, Patricia Denig, Jenny Bivens, ETCS; Peter Ballios, Nicole Hann, Finance; Pat Horne-McGee, Head Start; Bob Tetens, Parks and Recreation; Tony VanDerworp, Economic Development and Energy; Dick Fleece, Diana Torres-Burgos, Public Health; Dan Myers, Public Works; Andy Brush, Support Services; Ken Schrader, ITS; Joanna Bidlack, Administration; Jason Brooks, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation
Paul Schreiber, Mayor, City of Ypsilanti, stated that the City of Ypsilanti adopted a resolution in support of the Land Bank last evening. He added that he would not like to see the Board dissolve the Land Bank. Schreiber stated that the City of Ypsilanti has many issues with foreclosure and asked the Board to consider this before making their decision.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation
None

New Business:

Update from Governmental Consultant Services, Inc. – Kirk Profit
The presentation was given by Kirk Profit, Adrian Hemond, and Ken Cole of GCSI.

Kirk Profit stated that the legislative leaders out of Washtenaw deserve high praise. He stated that the budget proposed by the Governor is $8.4 billion and revenues are at $7 billion. He added that financial aid has decreased from $200 million to $50 million over the last two years.

Ken Cole stated that 18 additional counties are now eligible for revenue sharing. He added that HB 5251 and 5252 will have negative impacts on revenue sharing to counties if adopted. He stated that the Governor has vetoed the jail reimbursement line from the budget.

Adrian Hemond reported that a 20% cut has been proposed for mental health. He stated that this cut would equal $275,000 to $325,000 in the next fiscal year for the County. Hemond reported that CGSI is advocating for the prevention of cuts to secondary road patrol. He added that CGSI is advocating for incubator funds for Spark East. He added that the Property Assessment Environmental Efficiency Bill, HB 5640, is expected to go to the floor next week.

Comm. Sizemore stated that Profit is working to get expansion at Willow Run Airport.

Comm. Gunn stated that hearing about the proposed cuts is discouraging. She stated that the Headlee Amendment and the inability to raise revenue are having an effect on the County. Profit stated that the tax code needs to be restructured.

Comm. Bergman stated that the County is often stuck on lockout rules when it comes to prisoners. She asked where the line is when it comes to cuts in Public Health and the ability to perform mandated services. Dick Fleece stated that Public health will need to prioritize when budget figures are known. He added that this is a concern. Profit stated that if a department head is given a mandate and feels that it goes against the Constitution than it should be reported to Verna McDaniel or Bob Guenzel. Hemond stated that there may also be opportunities in the lame duck session.

Comm. Bergman stated that there is a demand for substance abuse services and stated that the State has made cuts. She stated that Public Health cuts will leave many people in terrible straights. He stated that it would be helpful for staff to provide an idea of what an all cuts budget may look like. Cole stated that there was an increase in state home health care workers. Comm. Bergman stated that waivers were taken away.

Comm. Schwartz stated that he appreciates how GCSI is trying to position themselves. He added that Proposal A needs to be changed because it is based on an assumption of consistent growth. Comm. Schwartz asked on the status of the Aerotropolis. Profit stated that he would encourage Aerotropolis participants not to wait for the bills.

Comm. Judge asked if there is an legislation going on regarding unfunded mandates. Profit stated that he does not believe that there is legislation at this time.

Comm. Irwin asked if there is an opportunity to make a run at a program such as JPORT to attempt to save dollars on corrections and stem the tide of losses. Profit stated that he would like to go after this. Hemond reported that the Senate did not have interest in the issue and stated that it led to fighting between two committee chairs. He added that he feels the situation is now a little different. Comm. Irwin stated that he feels that another run should be made at it.

Health:

Public Health:

Genesee County Racial & Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Grant
Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the electronic application submission to the Genesee County Health Department Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Us Legacy Project in the amount of $27,390 for the period of April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 for the Public Health Department be adopted.

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

Community Support & Treatment Services:

U.S. Soccer Foundation Grant
Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the signature of the County Administrator on the electronic application submission to the U.S. Soccer Foundation in the amount of $16,000 for the period of April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 for Community Support and Treatment Services (CSTS) be adopted.

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

Economic Development:

ETCS:

Michigan Works! System Plan
Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the signature of the Chair of the Board on the ETCS calendar year 2010 Michigan Works! System Plan (MWSP) with the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG) for the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 be adopted.

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

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Performance Incentive Grant
Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn 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) Performance Incentive Grant from the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG) in the amount of $43,131 for the time period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 be adopted.

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

Economic Development & Energy:

Membership in Southeast Michigan Regional Energy Office
Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution approving a contract with the Michigan Suburbs Alliance to provide Washtenaw County with membership in the Southeast Michigan Regional Energy Office be adopted.

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

Children's Well-Being:

Head Start:

Annual Head Start Program
Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the Chair of the Boar of Commissioners to sign the application to the Department of Health and Human Services for the Head Start Program, a Program of Excellence, for the period of August 1, 2010 through July 31, 2011 in the amount of $4,643,919; authorizing the County Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award; approving the Head Start budget and authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts be adopted.

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

Civic Infrastructure:

Treasurer:

Dissolve Land Bank Authority
Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution directing the Washtenaw County Treasurer to dissolve the Washtenaw County Land Bank Authority by immediately sending a notice of such dissolution to the State of Michigan Land Bank Fast Track Authority be adopted.

Discussion took place on the dissolution of the Land Bank Authority.

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to call the question. Motion carried.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 2 (Comms. Peterson and Smith) ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Board of Commissioners:

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Verna J. McDaniel's Contract as County Administrator
Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the employment agreement between Verna J. McDaniel and Washtenaw County as Washtenaw County Administrator effective May 15, 2010 be adopted.

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

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

Items for Current/Future Discussion
Continue discussion on Board Priorities

Citizen Participation
None

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation
None

Pending
None

Adjournment
Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Schwartz moved that the meeting be adjourned until April 7th, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

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Conan Smith, Chair

_____
Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register
By: Jason Brooks, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: