WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

November 3, 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, and Smith.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. Sizemore

OTHERS PRESENT: County Administrator, Verna McDaniel; Deputy County Administrator, William Reynolds; Corporation Counsel Curtis Hedger; Brian Mackie, Prosecuting Attorney; Diane Heidt, Human Resources; Jennifer Watson, Budget; Kelly Belknap, Finance; Bob Tetens, Parks and Recreation; Patricia Denig, ETCS; Mary Jo Callan, Community Development; Greg Mike Smith, Veterans Affairs; Anthony VanDerworp, Economic Development and Energy; Ken Schrader, ITS; Joanna Bidlack, County Administration; Jason Brooks, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation

Lily Au, Ann Arbor, stated that Mark Ouimet is the Vice Chair of United Way and stated that it complicates the voting situation on the coordinated funding item. She stated that the 990 United Way form online is not readable. Au stated that taxpayer money cannot be put in the wrong hands.

Cheryl Elliott, President and CEO of the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, reported that she supports the Coordinated Funding proposal that is being brought forward. She added that the best thought provided by citizens often leads to the best decisions. Elliott reported that the AAACF has worked well with private, public, and non-profit organizations. She stated that the Coordinated Funding proposal formalizes a process that has taken place over a long period of time informally and added that this process will address basic fundamental needs.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation

Comm. Ouimet asked if he should abstain from the coordinated funding vote. Hedger reported that no abstention is needed because funds are not co-mingled.

Comm. Irwin stated that the Board is going to have final approval over the funds after a decision is reached. He added that the model that has been set up will work and added that he will be supporting the proposal.

Comm. Prater asked if there are guidelines in place to measure cost savings. Comm. Irwin stated that a previous report given at a recent Working Session indicated that 500 staff hours were saved during the last cycle.

Comm. Judge stated that the Board is taking the concerns of Au seriously. She added that she feels confident that moving forward with coordinated funding is the correct direction.

Comm. Peterson stated that he still has his concerns and added that there needs to be a process in place when discussing funding priorities. He stated that the County spends over $40 million in human services every year. Comm. Peterson added that planning long range is a concern because that is a priority of the Board of Commissioners. He stated that he is also concerned about short falls and the impact that will be seen on County human services operations. Comm. Peterson added that healthy discussion is needed when this resolution comes forward at the Board of Commissioners meeting.

Comm. Bergman stated that a more formalized public process will be required on a needs assessment going forward. She added that it may be helpful for each commissioner to hold a public forum in the near future to get input from the community. Comm. Bergman stated that she may bring a proposal forward.

New Business:

Health and Human Services:

Public Health:

Kresge Foundation's Prescription for Health Grant
Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution to ratify the signature of the County Administrator on the electronic application submission to the Kresge Foundation's Prescription for Health Grant; Strengthening the Healthy Food Safety Net in the amount of $361,519 for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2012 for the Public Health Department; authorizing the Administrator to sign the notice of grant award; amending the budget; authorizing the Administrator to sign delegate contracts be adopted.

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

Support Services:

Human Resources:

Board of Commissioners Money Purchase Pension Plan
Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution moving Board of Commissioners Money Purchase Pension Plans (MPPP) accumulated contributions from Prudential to a current County approved 457 Deferred Compensation vendor of each individual commissioners choice within 60 days of the final pay of 2010 be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 1 (Comm. Smith) ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Sizemore). Motion carried.

Administration:
3rd Quarter Budget Update (on file in County Clerk's office)

Reaffirming the 2011 Budget
Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Bergman moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution affirming the second year of the 2010/2011 Biennial County Budget be adopted.

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

Report of the Administrator:
None

Report of the Chair of the Board
None

Items for Current/Future Discussion
Comm. Smith gave an update on the budget planning process. He stated that the goal is to have a process in place for the incoming Board and for Administration. He added that the $20 million shortfall is in line with conservative projections. Comm. Smith stated that it will be important to maintain personnel without impacting capacity of staff to perform effectively. He added that structural changes and reduction of business units is on the table. Comm. Smith stated that this is an opportunity for intergovernmental cooperation. He added that employee compensation and benefits will have to be approached in a proactive way.

Comm. Peterson asked if a budget process calendar is being put together. Comm. Smith stated that he believes that the work is moving toward a calendar. Comm. Peterson stated that employees have been asked to make sacrifices and added that work has to be done for the development of a calendar and schedule. He added that he would like a calendar sooner rather than later. Comm. Peterson stated that a clear directional message is needed and added that he advocates a retreat.

Comm. Judge stated that it is up to the Board to set priorities and added that she would bring resolutions forward to set special meetings. She added that she would like to see the mandated versus non-mandated services update. Comm. Judge stated that business units need to be eliminated rather than taking a little from each department and making them all ineffective.

Comm. Bergman stated that a report is needed on what meets a skeletal mandate. She added that there is a quality of mandated services that the Board cannot fall below. She stated that she would like to see metrics.

Citizen Participation
Lily Au, Ann Arbor, stated that she is disappointed and added that the coordinated funding issue is one of morality. She added that the Board needs to be responsible for taxpayer dollars. Au stated that she loves the poor and urged the Board to view publications on the United Way. She added that coordinated funding is a good thing but only the right hands.

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation
None

Pending
None

Adjournment
Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the meeting be adjourned until November 17th, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

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Conan Smith, Chair

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

APPROVED: November 17, 2010