



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

May 18, 2011

Chair Rolland Sizemore 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, Judge, Peterson, Ping, Prater, Rabhi, Sizemore, Conan Smith, Dan Smith, and Turner.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. Gunn

OTHERS PRESENT: Interim Deputy County Administrator, Kelly Belknap; Corporation Counsel Curtis Hedger; Brian Mackie, Prosecuting Attorney; Diane Heidt, Human Resources; Mary Jo Callan, Andrea Plevak, Jennifer Hall, Community Development; Peter Collinson, Finance; Tony VanDerworp, Brett Lenart, Economic Development and Energy; Bob Tetens, Parks and Recreation; Michael Smith, Veterans Affairs; Derrick Jackson, Sheriff's office; Ben Toole, 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 City, stated that the Georgetown Mall is in a stressful financial situation. Au stated that there are 4,600 homeless in Washtenaw County. She added that the County is passing funds through United Way through the Coordinated Funding Process.

Barbara Niess May, SafeHouse Executive Director, 8065 Churchill St., Salem Township, stated that she would like to thank the Board for funding. She added that human services agencies receiving support is important to the County. May reported that these funds are critical to pull in other dollars from around the country.

Susan Beckett, 6121 W. Liberty, Scio Township, stated that she has done work with Brown Cover, a newspaper for the homeless. She stated that there are wonderful services available in this area. Beckett stated that she does not want to see the people in the County go back to desperate means to get what they need. She stated that funding in this area needs to be preserved.

Marjorie Hagene, 2730 Stein Ct., Scio Township, Board Chair, Food Gatherers, stated that she is requesting ongoing financial support for Food Gatherers. She added that as many as 138% more people saw support from Food Gatherers in 2010 as compared to 2006. She added that the loss of funding would be devastating during this time and thanked the Board for their consideration.

Pam Smith, Executive Director of Child Care Network, stated that she appreciates the County's continued commitment. She added that parents contribute financial aid through this program and added that many parents have gone on to become successful through this program. Smith stated that money received passes back through to the County. She added that there are currently 128 children on this program in Washtenaw County.

Paul Lambert, Avalon Housing Aid Recipient, stated that human services funding is desperately needed.

Brain Nord, Camp Take Notice, stated that Camp Take Notice has become one step above living under a bridge. He added that the group does a good job of keeping people safe.

Nancy Paul, 3600 Schmitz Rd., Freedom Township, Executive Director, Faith in Action, stated that the need for services in Chelsea and Dexter in the last ten years has tripled. She added that the need would not be made without alliances made with countywide partners. Paul reported that FIA can go after Community Foundation Grant Funding. She added that she would encourage social service funding.

Jim Reisinger, 4825 Dexter Pinckney, Dexter Township, stated that he would like to speak about Alpha House. He reported that he is a volunteer and added that Alpha House has a good return on investment. Reisinger reported that Alpha House provides a year of follow up service after a family leaves.

Michael Appel, Associate Director, Avalon Housing, stated that this is a stark reminder of the number of people affected by homelessness. Apple stated that the County has been a partner since 1992-93. He added that the Board has shown policy leadership over the years. Apple reported that the Task Force for Supportive Housing and participation in Coordinated Funding shows that local agencies can work together for improvement. He added that money can also be leveraged using these funds and stated that he would like to thank the Board for their support.

Colleen O'Brien, Ozone House, stated that she would like to thank the Board on behalf of Ozone House for their support. She added that the youth served by Ozone House are 10-20 years old. O'Brien added that youth has identified Ozone House as a safe place and stated that this work could not be done without funding.

Ellen Schulmeister, Director, Shelter Association of Washtenaw County, stated that the organization could not exist without the support of the Board. She reported on a case seen by the shelter leading to drastically improved behavior and mental and physical health. She added that she is asking the Board to not give up on people seen at the Delonis Center.

Kristin Klevering, stated that she works at the SOS Housing Crisis Center in Ypsilanti. She reported on a case of a woman recently visiting the shelter for assistance. Klevering reported that she has become the case manager for this person and stated that people in similar situations will be homeless without support from the Board.

Dawn Hertz, 7844 Fischers Way, Webster Township, SafeHouse volunteer, stated that she would like to see continued support for SafeHouse. Hertz added that domestic violence can occur anywhere and stated that she is inspired every day as a volunteer.

James Fink, Ypsilanti read a letter submitted by Albert Berriz in opposition to the Packard Square Brownfield Plan (on file in County Clerk's office).

Paul Dobrowolski, 218 W. Bemis, Pittsfield Township, stated that he would like to request that the Board not fund Planned Parenthood. He added that 41% of the people benefitting from this grant are from outside of the County.

Karen Walacavage, 2696 Stommel Rd., Superior Township, reported that Planned Parenthood has received \$7 million in Title x funding and provided other statistics and stated that they do not need to be funded by the Board of Commissioners. She added that there are comprehensive community health centers all over Michigan and added that funding for Planned Parenthood is redundant.

Charles Anderberg, Case Manager, Delonis Center Shelter, stated that he gets to see people come into the shelter and get connected with resources. He reported on a recent case at the shelter. He reported that services offered improved the life of the client dramatically.

Tyra Weatherspon, Ozone House, stated that she knows many youth that use Ozone House services and added that these services should not be cut.

Patricia (last name inaudible), Ozone House, stated that she knows what it is like to be homeless. She added that she knows what it is like to be homeless and still uses many of the resources offered. She stated that people will not be able to find these services if they are cut.

Chuck Warpehoski, 2020 Winewood, Ann Arbor City, Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice, stated that the need to care for the most vulnerable in the community agrees with members of all faith. He added that Washtenaw County has a history of supporting human services. He stated that the ICPJ is not a beneficiary of County money and added that he is not disinterested as a resident. He added that these programs ensure that people are less vulnerable and keep people in their houses.

Anne Mitzel, 41 W. Braman, Milan City, stated that she has become aware that the County is again planning on providing funding for Planned Parenthood. She added that it is irresponsible to continue sending dollars to this organization.

Tom Partridge, City of Ann Arbor, stated that he is present to advance the cause of civil rights and women's rights. He stated that he does endorse the small grant for family services. He added that these grants are very inadequate. Partridge stated that he calls on everyone to recognize that these are civil rights issues. He added that the next budget is only a skeletal outline.

Jim Burns, Business Agent, IBW Local 252, stated that he would like to speak to the Georgetown Mall development. He reported that the Bloomfield development is a reminder of how that job has been bungled. He added that he would like to recommend that the County stay out of the business of guaranteeing loans.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation

Comm. Rabhi stated that he is glad to see citizens present and involved. He added that he would like to thank the folks attending to talk about human services and thanked all involved for providing services to people. Comm. Rabhi stated that it has always been a priority to have a network of human services to provide for everyone.

Comm. Judge stated that there are many dedicated people helping people in need. She added that it is great to see so many people present and stated that it is great to live in a community that cares. She thanked all for attending and added that keeping in homes ensures property taxes and the ability to continue to provide services. Comm. Judge added that Camp Take Notice has provided a safe location and added that all that work there have done a great service to the community.

Comm. Turner added that the Board is coming together. He stated that that the Board came together in its retreat and reached a decision to streamline services to provide more funding to human services. Comm. Turner stated that these folks are dedicated and would like to thank all providing the services. He added that the Board is not investing money in the Georgetown Mall but is considering its full faith and credit policies. Comm. Turner reported that the Board is looking at this project to help the County as a whole. He added that the Board is all about hearing from the people. Comm. Turner added that the entire Board wants to serve the people of the County.

Comm. Bergman stated that the people attending have done the kind of work that have made her proud to be an elected public servant. She added that one of her mantras has been turning every kid in the County into a taxpayer. Comm. Bergman stated that paying taxes is the symbol of having purpose and contributing in this life. She added that this requires support in the community.

Comm. Sizemore stated that everyone on the Board cares about the homeless and added that it is going to get to a point of what can be afforded. He added that the Board is doing everything it can and stated that he appreciates everyone attending.

New Business:

Public Safety & Justice:

Sheriff:

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on the submission of the Community Policing Development Grant from the Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Services Office in the amount of \$496,766 for the period of June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2013 be adopted.

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

Economic Development:

Economic Development & Energy:

Proposed Full Faith and Credit Policy

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution adopting the proposed full faith and credit policy be adopted.

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Judge moved to table the proposed Full Faith and Credit Policy until the June 1, 2011 Ways and Means Meeting. Roll call vote: YEAS: 6 NAYS: 4 (Comms. Bergman, Peterson, Rabhi, and Conan Smith) ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Gunn). Motion carried.

Grant Application for the Packard Square Redevelopment Project in Ann Arbor

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment for \$1 million in grant funds to support Brownfield activities for the Packard Square Redevelopment Project, 2502-2568 Packard Street, Ann Arbor be adopted.

Comm. Rabhi moved to separate the question and vote on the grant and loan portions of the resolution individually.

Roll call vote on the grant portion: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 1 (Comm. Prater) ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Gunn). Motion carried.

Loan Application for the Packard Square Redevelopment Project in Ann Arbor, Pledging Full Faith and Credit

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment for \$1 million in loan funds to support Brownfield activities for the Packard Square Redevelopment Project, 2502-2568 Packard Street, Ann Arbor and to pledge the County's full faith and credit to the loan if awarded be adopted.

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Turner moved to table to loan application for the Packard Square Redevelopment Project in Ann Arbor until the June 1, 2011 Ways and Means Meeting. Roll call vote: YEAS: 6 NAYS: 4 (Comms. Bergman, Judge, Ping, and Prater) ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Gunn). Motion carried.

Adoption of the Packard Square Redevelopment Brownfield Plan in the City of Ann Arbor

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution to adopt the Brownfield plan for the Packard Square Redevelopment Project in the City of Ann Arbor be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 1 (Comm. Prater) ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Gunn). Motion carried.

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to send the Packard Square Grant Application and the Packard Square Brownfield Redevelopment Plan to the Board meeting this evening. Motion carried by voice vote.

Adoption of the LaFontaine Chevrolet Redevelopment Brownfield Plan in the Village of Dexter

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution to adopt the Brownfield plan for the LaFontaine Chevrolet Redevelopment Project in the Village of Dexter be adopted.

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

Office of Community Development:

Washtenaw Urban County 2011 Annual Action Plan for July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the County Administrator to sign the Washtenaw Urban County Annual Action Plan for July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; authorizing the County Administrator to sign the notice of grant award; approve the budgets in the total amount of \$4,051,400; and authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts be adopted.

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

24 Month Coordinated Funding: Human Services Program Operations for Children's Well Being/Human Services Funding

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution approving the July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013 Children's Well-Being and Human Services funding awards based on the funding recommendations from the Coordinated Funding Review Committee be adopted.

Comm. Dan Smith offered a friendly amendment changing the "Now Therefore be it Resolved" paragraph in the resolution to read: NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the FY 2011-2013 Children's Well-Being and Human Services funding awards to the nonprofit entities listed below based in part on the currently allocated funds of \$507,000 and contingent on the passage of the 2012 and 2013 budget and authorizes the Office of Community Development to negotiate contractual agreements in accordance with the County's purchasing procedures, subject to approval as to form by the Office of Corporation Council, the annual recommendation is as follows:. Motion not accepted as friendly.

Comm. Bergman seconded by Comm. Conan Smith formally moved to amend the resolution by changing the "Now Therefore be it Resolved" paragraph in the resolution to read: NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the FY 2011-2013 Children's Well-Being and Human Services funding awards to the nonprofit entities listed below based in part on the currently allocated funds of \$507,000 and contingent on the passage of the 2012 and 2013 budget and authorizes the Office of Community Development to negotiate contractual agreements in accordance with the County's purchasing procedures, subject to approval as to form by the Office of Corporation Council, the annual recommendation is as follows:. Roll call vote on the amendment: YEAS: 8 NAYS: 2 (Comms. Ping and Prater) ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Gunn). Motion carried.

Roll call vote on the agenda item: YEAS: 9 NAYS: 1 (Comm. Dan Smith) ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Gunn). Motion carried.

Support Services:

Finance:

Contract for Internal Auditing Services

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the Chair of the Board to sign a contract with Experis (formerly Jefferson Wells) to perform internal auditing services for the County for the next five years be adopted.

Comm. Bergman moved to amend the NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED section of the resolution to read: NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair of the Board to sign the contract with the auditing firm of Experis (formerly known as Jefferson Wells) to perform internal auditing services for the County for one year with the possibility of extension of the contract. Amendment accepted as friendly.

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

Land Use & Environment:

Water Resources Commissioner:

North Lake Culvert Improvement Project

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution directing the Board of Public Works to undertake a lake improvement project for the Townships of Dexter and Lyndon be adopted.

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

County Administrator:

Setting the Millage Rate

Comm. Rabhi seconded by Comm. Judge moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution setting the 2011 Washtenaw County millage rate at 5.6768 be adopted.

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

Report of the Administrator:

None

Report of the Chair of the Board

Comm. Conan Smith reported that there would be a break prior to the start of the Board of Commissioners meeting.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

Comm. Sizemore thanked Comm. Judge for her work on the Cyber Security Coalition.

Comm. Judge reported that the Governor has asked the Washtenaw Cyber Citizen Coalition to host the Michigan Cyber Summit with him and his team.

Citizen Participation

Lily Au, Ann Arbor, stated that the way the City spends money is a joke. She added that she does not feel it is right to give taxpayer money to a developer.

Tom Partridge stated that all segments of the society should have County attention. He added that it is disappointing that this body is not setting policies.

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None

Pending

None

Adjournment

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the meeting be adjourned until June 1st, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.
Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Rolland Sizemore, Jr., Chair

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

APPROVED: June 1, 2011