WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKING SESSION

March 8, 2001

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bergman at 6:31 p.m. in the Board Room, Administration Building, 220 North Main Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comms. Armentrout, Bergman, Craiger, DeLong, Gunn, Irwin, Kern, Kestenbaum, Montague, Peterson, Prater, Shaw, Sizemore, Solowczuk, Yekulis.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. DeLong.

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Guenzel, County Administrator; Frank Cambria, Deputy Administrator, Curtis Hedger, Corporation Counsel; Peter Ballios, Gordon Burger, Jennifer Watson, Finance; Dan Dwyer, Scot Cannel, Trial Court; Judge Timothy Connor, Judge Donald Shelton, Judge Archie Brown, Judge Nancy Francis; Barbara King, Clerk/Register Office.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation
Sharon Weber, Legal Assistant to Judge Francis, addressed the Board regarding the juvenile case backlog and the reason for it.

Marcia Federbush addressed the Board in support of Judge Francis.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizen Participation
None.

Trial Court & Child Care Fund History
Gordon Burger, Budget/BIP Manager, provided a presentation to the Board that included:

10 Year Expenditure Trends
- Trial Court – Civil/Criminal Division
- Trial Court – District Division
- Trial Court – Family Division Estates and Mental Health
- Trial Court – Family Division Juvenile Section
- Total Trial Court Excluding Child Care Fund
- Child Care Fund – All Divisions
- Trial Court and Child Care Fund Comparison

Child Care Fund Budget Review
- Where does the Child Care Fund money come from?
- What does the Child Care Fund pay for?
- History of CCF Funding
- Child Care Fund, General Fund Support

General Fund FIA Placement Expenditures
General Fund Cost of Juvenile Placements
Delinquent Court Ward Placement, 1999 vs. 2000 Comparison
General Fund Support Needed in 2000
2001 Budget Projections
Budget Strategy for 2001

Questions were asked throughout the presentation.

Adam Rujan, from Plante & Moran, discussed the Family Court Process Improvement and the Implementation Team Structure.

Judge Timothy Connors said the Judges were here tonight to provide an update on the Family Court Improvement Plan and would be happy to answer questions in that regard.

Judge Archie Brown discussed the Friend of the Court Implementation and Judge Donald Shelton discussed the Juvenile Center Implementation.

Time was provided for questions and answers.

Commissioners Items
None

County Administrator Report
Mr. Guenzel reported to the Board that the County was served this afternoon with a petition for contest of case hearing, contesting the issuance of the DEQ Permit for the Shelter. He said we will obtain an environmental attorney to help us with this.

Items for Current/Future Discussion
Comm. Irwin asked it the Administrator could track down if there has been any change in the TANF requirements in the eligibility levels.

Pending
Chair Bergman told the Board that they were considering adding an additional Working Session on Thursday, April 12.

Status of Annual Activities/Goals
No report.

Citizen Participation
The following individuals spoke in support of Judge Francis:

Pay Ryan
Steve Adams
Saul Metz
Judy New
Nancy Elder
Rosemary Sarley
Judge Nancy Francis
Jaime Palmer
Asho Craine
Jean King
Priscilla Cheever
Ruth Zweifler
Diane Gay

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation
Comm. Shaw said she was disappointed that the Judges left before Citizen Participation.

Comm. Irwin said tonight he was struck with what we don't know – as to whether these cases were dissolved, whether the data in Plante Moran is really accurate. He said he would love to work with the Judges to come up with a plan for a juvenile justice system that will be good for the community. He said he hopes we can move forward with this process.

Comm. Montague said we are hearing that the community wants to be involved and she thinks we need to develop some kind of vehicle so that community people can get involved.

Adjournment
Comm. Prater supported by Comm. Shaw moved that the meeting be adjourned until March 22, 2001, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Washtenaw County Administration Building. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

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Barbara Levin Bergman, Chair

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Peggy M. Haines, Clerk/Register
By: Barbara L. King, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: April 5, 2001