



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKING SESSION

February 16, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Chair Solowczuk at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Administration Building, 220 North Main Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comms. Bergman, Brackenbury, Gunn, Irwin, Kern, Ouimet, Peterson, Prater, Smith, Solowczuk.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. Sizemore

OTHERS PRESENT: Bob Guenzel, County Administrator; Frank Cambria, Deputy County Administrator; Curt Hedger, Corporate Counsel; Herb Mahoney, Sheriff's Department; Peter Ballios, Gordon Burger, Finance; Anthony VanDerworp, Planning and Environment; Mary O'Hare, Library; Ken Schrader, Information Technology; Stephen Kirschner, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation

None.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizen Participation

None.

Discussion Items

Police Services

Tony VanDerworp and Mary O'Hare presented to the board on police services. [Report on file with County Clerk]

Comm. Kern asked whether the 12 at large road patrol deputies cost includes the required supervision. Mary O'Hare stated that option four accounts for one sergeant per 12, and option three does not count a sergeant. Gordon Burger stated that six of these deputies and a sergeant already are employed.

Comm. Brackenbury asked about the reception of the contract units to the overtime costs. Mary O'Hare stated that the contracting entities are aware that they will experience these costs and stated they wanted a voice in overtime allocation. Bob Guenzel listed several concerns that the local officials expressed. He stated that the sheriff has agreed to provide individual overtime. Comm. Brackenbury asked about the amount of savings to the county for each plan. Mary O'Hare responded.

Comm. Bergman stated that she would like the countywide deputies to patrol all jurisdictions, even ones with police departments. Bob Guenzel stated that each jurisdiction should expect some level of help when needed, but there will be challenges in deployment. Comm. Bergman stated that she would like to track deployment to know which jurisdictions are using the sheriff. Herb Mahoney stated that the level of visibility will depend on a number of factors. Comm. Bergman asked Herb Mahoney to convey to the Sheriff that she would like him to participate with the Board of Commissioners on this issue.

Comm. Ouimet stated that he was pleased to know that the Sheriff would work with all of the areas to make sure peak times would be covered.

Comm. Kern asked for details on the reserve for overtime. Bob Guenzel explained how this calculation was determined and the reason for this reserve. Comm. Kern asked if the 10-12 countywide deputies would be used for court security. Mr. Guenzel stated that they would not be used for that purpose. Comm. Kern asked about how the reserve will be used. Gordon Burger responded that the reserve allows for the county to pay for the overtime costs that arise because of county requirements. Herb Mahoney stated that the specifics would be dealt with in their deployment discussions. Comm. Kern asked if this issue was addressed in the steering committee. Herb responded that it was brought up numerous times and the issue will be built into the deployment. Gordon Burger stated that as the activity is logged the townships will know how much this issue needs to be addressed.

Comm. Solowczuk thanked Mary O'Hare, Tony VanDerworp, Gordon Burger and the Sheriff's department for the work put into the Police Services Steering Committee. He thanked the commissioners and townships for the effort that they put into this. He stated that he would like to know if option 4 is what the Commissioners would want to take to Ways and Means.

Comm. Kern asked how much option four would slow down the development of creating an adequate courtroom and correction facility. Bob Guenzel stated that option four would delay it. He stated that he feels the county can work with this option.

Comm. Irwin stated that he values the participation of the various groups on the steering committee. He expressed concern that the plan expands road patrol and the increased costs associated with this. He stated that the cost per deputy for the county is still too high for the county, but he understands the cost concerns the jurisdictions will see.

Comm. Smith stated that he is not thrilled with the end result. He said that conversations with jurisdictions that do not contract have been lacking in this process. He added that there is a blue back that would allow counties to have millages for police services.

Comm. Prater stated that the county administrators idea of getting this committee together with townships, cities and villages have been a good experience for everyone.

Comm. Ouimet stated that over this process, the jurisdictions have learned about what government actually cost. He stated that it will be interesting to see how this can be applied to other areas, to maximize effectiveness of county dollars.

Comm. Solowczuk stated that the Ypsilanti City Chief of Police participated in the Steering Committee representing all of the jurisdictions that have their own police units.

County Administrator Report

None.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

None.

Pending

- March 2 Planning and Environment – Environmental Project Agenda
- March 16 Building/Space Program Overview; Operational Component
- April 6 1/8 Mill Allocation
- April 20 Strategic Component – Space Plan
- May 4 Updated Needs Assessment for PS&J
- May 18 Space Plan Goals Establishment
- *Summer – Compile and Publish Draft 20-Year Space Plan*
- Sept. 7 Present Report on Recommendations
- Nov. 2 Review Potential funding Sources
- Dec. 3 Adopt Funding Mechanism for Next Phase of Plan

Status of Annual Activities/Goals

No report.

Citizen Participation

None.

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None.

Adjournment

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the meeting be adjourned until March 2, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Washtenaw County Administration Building. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Stephen Solowczuk, Chair

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Stephen Kirschner, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: