# COUNTY 1826

## WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## **WORKING SESSION**

# May 4, 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, Irwin, Kern, Ouimet, Prater, Sizemore, Solowczuk.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Comm. Grewal, Gunn, Peterson, Smith

**OTHERS PRESENT**: Bob Guenzel, County Administrator; Frank Cambria, Deputy County Administrator;

Janis Bobrin, Drain Commissioner; David Behen, Uma Harithsa, Andy Smith, Kim Wraight, Nathan Arnold, Bryan Rayo, Ken Schrader, Information Technology; Dennis Wojcik, Tony Bedogne, Drain Commissioner; Raman Patel, Richard Steffens, Laura Zakalowski, Equalization; Kerry Sheldon, Administration, 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**

Comm. Solowczuk thanked Comm. Kern for chairing during his absence and wished her a happy birthday.

#### **GIS Presentation**

Frank Cambria gave a brief history of the GIS department. He stated that because of several reorganizations, the GIS has accomplished more in the last two years than in the previous six.

Uma Harithsa thanked Janis Bobrin Dennis Wocik and Raman Patel for their leadership in the county's GIS projects.

Frank Cambria, Uma Harithsa, Kim Wraight, Tony Bedogne, Dick Steffens, Laura Zakalowski and David Behen presented to the board on Geographic Information Systems.

- Welcome
- What is GIS... in Washtenaw County
- GIS Services
- Department Demos
  - Drain Office
  - Equalization
- What's Next

Comm. Bergman stated that this system is terrific. She asked about the money raised through selling GIS data. Kim Wraight responded that the money received goes towards paying for flyovers to add to the digital imagery. Janis Bobrin stated that Jackson County charges its local units of government \$7,000 for the GIS information that the county gives for free to local units. Comm. Bergman asked if there are generators for backups to emergency management and public safety. David Behen responded that they have back up generators and a GIS CD for power outages as well.

Comm. Irwin asked about MapWashtenaw and privacy concerns. Kim Wraight responded. Comm. Irwin asked what information is restricted to the public. Kim Wraight stated that public safety items are kept private. Tony Bedogne stated that some information is generalized to avoid singling out individual property owners. Comm. Irwin asked what policy or legal guidelines govern these decisions. Uma Harithsa responded that to a great extent it is the department's decision. Comm. Irwin asked about the HistWeb and why it is separated from MapWashtenaw. Kim Wraight responded that when MapWashtenaw was built they did not have the technology to integrate HistWeb into it. She added that they are looking at integrating some of this over the next year and a half. Comm. Irwin asked about the GIS cooperation with the city of Ann Arbor. David Behen stated that they have had some challenges working with the City of Ann Arbor on sharing GIS data. He stated that they have come to a decision to share the data. Frank Cambria stated that there has been resistance from the city on integrating the two GIS systems. Comm. Irwin asked if the flyovers covered Ann Arbor. Kim Wraight stated that Ann Arbor is included in the imagery and that they have offered to share it with the city.

Comm. Sizemore asked if the county drains will be on the GIS. Janis Bobrin stated that the county drains and road commission drains are mapped and are being inputted. She stated that at some point in the future each drainage district will be mapped. Comm. Sizemore asked about the Road Commission's data. Dennis Wojcik stated that they have not put the information out there. Tony Bedogne stated that if the road commission would give them data they could begin inputting it into GIS. He stated that the Road Commission is not keeping GIS information in any way. Comm. Sizemore asked about the automatic vehicle locator. Comm. Sizemore asked if the locator can be used on phones. David Behen responded the there is a GPS component in all cell phones. Comm. Sizemore asked the Ann Arbor commissioner to encourage the city to work with the county. He stated that he thinks the GIS group are doing a great job.

Comm. Kern asked if there is a way to load into GIS the location of customers for better space planning while maintaining customer privacy. Kim Wraight stated that they are careful about who has access to information that carries privacy concerns. Comm. Kern asked if they are including socio-economic data in their mapping. Kim Wraight responded that they are not currently doing this, although they would like to add some of this information. Comm. Kern asked if she has any milestones or deadlines concerning housing analysis. Kim Wraight stated that she does not have any specific milestones. Comm. Kern stated that she believed the faster they can get this information up, the sooner they can make prudent governing decisions.

Comm. Prater asked about the decision making process around privacy concerns. Kim Wraight stated that they have been asked by their oversight committee to take a closer look at privacy issues. Comm. Prater stated that accurate information is a major concern, especially around arsenic issues. David Behen stated that privacy is an important issue and they are looking at them.

Comm. Solowczuk asked if a five year update plan is accurate enough. David Behen stated that many people are moving to a three year plan, but this is governed by finances. Comm. Solowczuk asked if they have looked at using satellite information. Kim Wraight stated that they are looking into this.

Comm. Sizemore asked if unpaid taxes are kept in the GIS database. Kim Wraight stated that they do not distinguish between paid and unpaid.

## **County Administrator Report**

None.

# **Items for Current/Future Discussion**

None.

#### Pending

May 17\*
Space Plan History; PS&J Needs Assessment and Human Services Issues

\* at Ways and Means

May 18 Cancelled

• June 7\* Health Community of Interest; ETCS space needs

o \* at Ways and Means

June 8 Community Engagement ProcessTBD Space Plan Goals Establishment

• Summer Community Engagement and Space Plan Development

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**

APPROVED:

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Prater moved that the meeting be adjourned until April 20, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Washtenaw County Administration Building. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.	
	Stephen Solowczuk, Chair
Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register By: Stephen Kirschner, Deputy Clerk	