



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKING SESSION

October 8, 2008

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comms. Gunn, Irwin, Ping, Lovejoy Roe, Schwartz, Sizemore, and Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comms. Bergman, Grewal, Ouimet, and Peterson

OTHERS PRESENT:: County Administrator Robert Guenzel; Verna McDaniel and David Behen, Deputy County Administrators; Jim Zwolensky, Support Services; Joanna Bidlack, Scott Patton, Administration; Jason Brooks, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation

None

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizen Participation

None

Discussion Items:

Space Plan Update

Jim Zwolensky gave the Space Plan Update. He provided a Budget Summary for the Saline 14A-4 District Court (on file in County Clerk's office).

Regional Dispatch

Scott Patton and Jerry Zapolnik gave an update on regional dispatch (on file in County Clerk's office).

Comm. Gunn asked about a new dispatch center in the City of Ann Arbor. Zapolnik reported that the dispatch center is now using a remodeled center.

Comm. Ping asked about the payroll function in the establishment of this Authority. Patton reported that the issue has not been worked out yet.

Comm. Irwin asked about the difference between the Ann Arbor City and Washtenaw County employees involved in dispatch. Mahoney reported that there are different budgeting methodologies used. He added that staff is at a higher level due to the high call volume. Comm. Irwin stated that he is interested in the numbers at the end of the day. Comm. Irwin asked if the MPSC could address cell phone users in the County that have their cell phones based out of the County. Zapolnik discussed current proposals for legislation. Comm. Irwin stated that he would like to see these fees attributed to Washtenaw County.

Comm. Smith thanked the participants. He asked about equipment purchases and their lifecycle costs. Patton stated that in February 2010 the jail, dispatch and 800 MHz projects will be going live. He reported that the purchase of consoles, radios, and installation are included in the 800 MHz project. He stated that the current warranty is 5 years. Zapolnik reported that he feels that the lifecycle of much of this equipment is 15-20 years.

Comm. Smith asked how the union is being engaged. Mahoney reported that a lot of work has been completed in this area. He added that the Department was very sensitive to this issue. Mahoney stated that the front line staff often know how to implement these programs in the best way. He added that the Department has been a part of intergovernmental cooperation for years. Comm. Smith asked if there have been conversations about the salary and benefit packages for the new entity. Mahoney stated that these are still things that have to be identified.

Comm. Sizemore asked about the size of the addition. Zapolnik reported that preliminary programming indicates about 6,000 square feet. Comm. Sizemore asked why it has to be at the new facility and not at the jail. Zapolnik reported that all amenities and necessities are already located at the central dispatch site. Patton reported that construction would be an HVA project. Comm. Sizemore asked why the City of Ypsilanti and others have not yet joined. Zapolnik reported that the City and other entities have some different functions and tasks. Comm. Sizemore asked if it was cheaper for the City of Ypsilanti to join. Zapolnik stated that he can only assume that centralized services would be cheaper at this time. Comm. Sizemore asked about the breakdown of the Board. Zapolnik reported that the Board is comprised of 12 members of varying career backgrounds. Comm. Sizemore asked about the money being asked for. Zapolnik stated that nothing is anticipated at this time.

Comm. Lovejoy Roe asked if consolidation would take fewer employees. Zapolnik reported that work being done by Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County is higher than national models. Comm. Lovejoy Roe asked about the ownership of the facility. Zapolnik reported that this has not yet been decided. Comm. Lovejoy Roe asked about consideration for who is on the design team and will work on the building. Zapolnik reported that the City and County were both involved in the vetting process. The model for the Authority was discussed. Fraser reported that a large part of the plan was the employees doing a lot of the planning and also discussed the plan for the Authority to govern the dispatch center. He added that the City of Ypsilanti is interested in taking advantage of this opportunity.

800 MHz

Scott Patton, Jack Ceo, and Craig Swenson presented the 800 MHz Project Update (On file in County Clerk's office).

Ceo stated that the City of Saline is not interested in closing down its dispatch at this time.

County Administrator's Report

None

Items for Current/Future Discussion

Comm. Sizemore stated that he would like to make office staff comfortable working with the public.

Pending

None

Citizen Participation

None

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None

Adjournment

Comm. Lovejoy Roe seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to adjourn until Thursday, October 16th, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Washtenaw County Administration Building. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Rolland Sizemore, Chair

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

APPROVED: