# COUNTY INCHISE IN 1826

#### WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### **WORKING SESSION**

# November 20, 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. Bergman, Gunn, Irwin, Ouimet, Peterson, Ping, Schwartz, Sizemore and

Smith

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** 

OTHERS PRESENT:: County Administrator Robert Guenzel; Verna McDaniel and David Behen, Deputy

County Administrators; Dale Vanderford, Andy Brush, Support Services; Jenny Bivens, ETCS; Mark Lindke, Veteran ServicesEllen Clement, Public HealthBen Toole, ITS; Joanna Bidlack, 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:**

# **Personal Health Care Records**

Verna McDaniel, Ellen Clement, Andy Brush, Donna Sabourin, and Chris Ackerman gave the presentation on the Automation of Health Records (on file in County Clerk's office).

Comm. Ouimet asked about getting information out of the system. McDaniel stated that agencies within the County operate under different systems. She added that the County does not always have control over these systems. Comm. Ouimet asked about the cost per file for addition and maintenance. McDaniel reported that the information is not yet available.

Comm. Peterson asked about how these records relate to children and how the ability to interface this record with other records relates. Clement stated that these registries help with maternal cases and making sure health risks are identified. She discussed a single statewide system that was set up. She stated that children's special health care services could also benefit from this type of registry. Comm. Peterson asked for protections built into the system to protect babies. Clement stated that Success by 6 is trying to weave this net together. Comm. Peterson stated that he would like to see a system set up as early as possible.

Comm. Irwin asked about challenges surrounding HIPAA. Sabourin reported that this is a challenge but added that there are provisions that allow data entry into the system. She reported that there is a strong obligation to security. Comm. Irwin asked if putting these protections in place protects the County from liability. Sabourin reported on the complaint process. Comm. Irwin asked about use of different systems. Brush stated that he feels that systems are beginning to open up. Comm. Irwin asked about the accuracy of data that may be from consumer produced data. Brush stated that as transfers become more secure readings will be viewed as more accurate. Comm. Irwin asked about information that may be provided in the mental health area. He asked if there is a way to flag information entered by consumers rather than health care providers. Sabourin reported on the changing role of mental health

nurses and stressing the importance of reporting. She reported that the profession is evolving into a more holistic approach. Comm. Irwin asked about a lack of connection to the internet. He stated that it would be interesting to involve people that are not involved with the internet. Comm. Irwin asked about the WCHO grant and costs of the project so far. Chris Ackerman stated that he is unsure of the total cost of the project at this point. He discussed the grant amounts and how far under they have been each year. He stated that they are not currently being charged for maintenance of the system. He reported that he would like to see the County obligation. Comm. Irwin asked if the plan is to dump information out of the system into the new system or if the plan is to hand the data off at a regular interval. Brush stated that they are not.

Comm. Ping asked about cost. Brush stated that building, buying, and using what is out there free is being looked at.

Comm. Smith asked about health care provider access to the data and if there is an analysis plan in place. Clement stated that some pieces of that are in place. She reported that the technique is in place for chronic diseases. Comm. Smith asked about conducting studies on a neighborhood. Clement reported that HIPAA is not a barrier when looking at data for public health purposes. Comm. Smith asked about using data for reporting against goals. McDaniel stated that the best bet would be to look at common intake eligibility. Comm. Smith stated that he would like some of this conversation brought to the next budget process. He stated that it would be interesting to note if any analysis has been done.

Comm. Sizemore asked if there are any other communities doing this that can be used as a model. Ackerman reported that there are not many at this time. Comm. Sizemore stated that he appreciated the presentation.

#### **County Administrator's Report**

None

#### **Items for Current/Future Discussion**

Comm. Sizemore reported that he wanted to bring in the Washtenaw utilities group and Huron River Watershed at some point for a Working Session meeting.

#### **Pending**

None

# **Citizen Participation**

None

#### **Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation**

None

#### **Adjournment**

Comm. Irwin seconded by Comm. Ping moved to adjourn until Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Washtenaw County Administration Building. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.		
Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register By: Jason Brooks, Deputy Clerk	Rolland Sizemore, Chair	

APPROVED: