



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKING SESSION

April 2, 2009

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comms. Bergman, Gunn, Irwin, Judge, Ouimet, Ping, Prater, and Sizemore

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comms. Peterson, Schwartz, and Smith

OTHERS PRESENT:: Bob Guenzel, County Administrator; Verna McDaniel and David Behen, Deputy County Administrators; Jerry Clayton, County Sheriff; Mary Jo Callan, Andrea Plevak, Community Development; Jennifer Watson, Andy Brush, Support Services; Bob Tetens, Parks and Recreation; Ben Toole, ITS; Lisa Greco, Children's Services; Caryette Fenner, Audrey Tisdale, Nancy Heine, CSTS; 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

Construction Update

Discussion Items:

Outside Agency Support & Integrated Funding

Bob Guenzel, Lisa Greco, and Mary Jo Callan gave the Community Needs & Resource Allocation presentation (on file in County Clerk's office).

Comm. Prater asked if recommendations would be coming forward regarding this funding. Guenzel reported that he is going to ask the Board to deal with this by June.

Comm. Irwin thanked Administration for the documents provided. He stated that the County Administrator has done a good job with allocating smaller sums of money over the years. Comm. Gunn stated that she agrees. She added that the Urban County is federal human services allocation.

Comm. Ouimet stated that he is also impressed by these documents. He added that this funding has hopefully solved issues that allow non-profits to do what they need to do.

Comm. Bergman stated that she also appreciates these documents. She asked if there is a possibility to break down where funds are going in different parts of the community.

Comm. Gunn thanked all for the presentation. She stated that integrated funding is a remarkable way of funding non profit. She added that she sees an attitude of cooperation on the policy level. She stated that all applications are online and added that the committee has worked very hard. She added that it takes a lot of the politics out of this process.

Comm. Bergman stated that she supports the integrated funding model. She stated that there should be a way for all three agencies to create entities to determine priorities. She asked if the compliance officers would work across the board.

Comm. Gunn stated that she believes that the officers would work across the board and report back.

Comm. Bergman asked this group to include compliance and monitoring for County general fund dollars.

Comm. Judge stated that she believes this group knows what they are doing. She asked if there is a breakdown of representation. Callan stated that there could be three representatives from each agency. Callan stated that these agencies bring in dollars from all levels of government. Callan stated that federal funds require matching funds that are not federal. She added that non profits leverage funds from the locals to obtain more federal funds. Comm. Judge asked how much of an impact is being made on the average non profit. Guenzel stated that even some of the smaller grants are significant to the non profit organizations. Comm. Judge stated that she would like to see what the impact would be if funds were decreased. Guenzel stated that this information has typically come forward quickly so that work could be done over the summer. He added that this allows a start of January 1. She stated that she likes the idea of integrated funding and added that she would like more information.

Comm. Irwin stated that he has been asking for leveraging numbers for some time. He added that a lot of good comes to the community because of the non profits. He stated that he would not be interested in contracting that commitment. He stated that many of these programs touch the core mission of the County. He added that he would like to continue treating certain items as ear marks. He stated that he feels that the Humane Society and Delonis Center allocations are important. He added that he feels the relationship with the Humane Society is critical. Comm. Irwin asked about the contingency plan should the agencies not agree on recommendations. Callan stated that the contingency plan is making the committee figure it out.

Comm. Ouimet stated that he feels the workflow of the proposal is very good. He asked how success is described and judged in this model. Callan reported that the plan will enable a report to the Board unlike any report done before. She stated that she wants to ensure good management and meeting outcomes. Comm. Ouimet stated that this gives the Board the chance to help management outcomes from the standpoint of what the expectations are. Greco stated that this model gives the government the opportunity to lead the way. Callan reported that she can not guarantee a large change by the fall but added that in the future she would like to see more consultation from experts. She added that a more collaborative process would be more progressive.

Comm. Prater asked about the process that will be developed to give feedback to give outcomes on whether goal setting has been achieved. He added that there must be oversight. Callan reported that outcomes are tracked and monitored. She added that they are making sure that the County is getting the bang for their buck. Comm. Prater stated that he would like to see the Board informed of the goals that have been set. Callan stated that she would be reporting back.

Comm. Bergman stated that outcomes and not needs should be funded. She asked if there is an absolute that this money flow at once or if it can be broken down over time. Comm. Bergman stated that the Board is mandated to prevent cruelty to animals through its Humane Society funding.

Comm. Judge asked if the grant requests could come in first. Callan stated that this would make it more difficult. Comm. Judge asked why the decision on this money comes before the budget. Guenzel reported that there is a feeling that there is a need for the non profits to know. He added that he is hoping to bring forward enough information in June to give an idea about progress. Comm. Judge asked about asking MAC and SEMCOG for discounts given the financial situations. Guenzel stated that these are often based on formulas.

Comm. Irwin stated that a number could be set and proposals could be scored based on that number. He added that there are other things that are taken off budget including police services. He added that the \$1 million was a smaller portion of the general fund in the past.

Comm. Judge stated that she agrees with Comm. Irwin and Comm. Bergman. She stated that she feels taking the money out could lead to the County paying for it three fold later.

Comm. Sizemore asked if other counties have been examined. Guenzel stated that he will find this out.

Comm. Sizemore stated that he would like to see what other counties are doing on all aspects of the budget.

Comm. Ping stated that integrated funding is great. She added that she is concerned that the southwest portion of the County has only received \$7,500 in the materials presented. She stated that she would like to know when RFP's are rolling out to let communities know. She added that it is hard to nit pick this and stated that this must be looked at as a whole.

County Administrator's Report

None

Items for Current/Future Discussion

Comm. Sizemore stated that he would like to look at how meetings are scheduled. He added that he would also like to look at Boards and Committees.

Pending

None

Citizen Participation

None

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None

Adjournment

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Sizemore moved to adjourn until Thursday, April 16th, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Washtenaw County Administration Building. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Jessica Ping, Chair

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Jason Brooks, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: 04/15/09