



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKING SESSION

September 16, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Schwartz 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, Prater, Schwartz, Sizemore, and Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comms. Judge, Peterson, and Ping

OTHERS PRESENT: Verna McDaniel, County Administrator; William Reynolds, Deputy County Administrator; Kelly Belknap, Finance; Patrick Barrie, WCHO; Donna Sabourin, CSTS; Ben Toole, ITS; Joanna Bidlack, County 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:

Jail Renovation and 14th District Court Project Update – *Dave Shirley*

Dave Shirley reported that the court is completed with the exception of punch list items. Shirley added that the jail is scheduled to be completed in the first week of October.

Shirley stated that the plan for the driveway entrance off of Washtenaw Ave. resembles the plan presented 1 ½ years ago. He added that an RFP is out and stated that plans are being reviewed. Shirley reported that the bid opening is scheduled for October 7th. He added that he would recommend having a final date for a contract to ensure that Washtenaw traffic does not need to be rerouted all winter.

Comm. Bergman asked if there would be a land agreement with St. Luke's. Shirley reported that there will be an easement agreement. Comm. Bergman stated that she would like more than one entrance during the winter. Shirley stated that he agrees.

Comm. Ouimet asked what type of feedback has been received from people regularly parking at the church. Shirley reported that feedback has been positive recently.

Comm. Schwartz asked what happened to religious relics and stained glass that was in the seminary. Shirley reported that some of the relics are at the storage facility. He added that everyone that asked for something received something. He stated that that stained glass is still there because no one wanted it.

WCHO/CSTS Integration – Patrick Barrie and Donna Sabourin

Patrick Barrie and Donna Sabourin presented the WCHO/CSTS Integration (on file in County Clerk's office).

Comm. Irwin asked if there has been thought around identifying individuals in the community that will now become eligible for more benefits given the passage of health care legislation. Barrie stated that single, childless, non-pregnant adults are typically the ones that cannot get on Medicaid. He added that everyone will need to be insured and stated that Medicaid will be based on income. Barrie reported that a lot of money would be coming into the state next year to set up the exchange. He added that undocumented aliens will be the group should be the group remaining underinsured based on changes. Barrie reported that that 60% of children were eligible for Medicaid and had never gotten on it. He added that local entities can be used to reach out to people and let them know their options. Sabourin stated that WHP has gotten the word out that the health plan would be reopening again. She stated that she feels there are strong local partnerships in place that may allow for a quick ramp up. Comm. Irwin stated that he feels many people fall into the group of single adults without kids. He added that much of this population will be difficult to reach. Barrie stated that aggressive outreach will be needed for people that do not file tax returns.

Comm. Prater asked how many patients are treated on an annual basis. Barrie reported that this tracking is required. He stated that the number is between 2,600 and 4,000 depending on what is being counted. Sabourin reported that patients stay around for varying degrees of time depending on individual situations.

Comm. Sizemore stated that he is proud of the work is being done.

Comm. Bergman stated that there is still a long way to go. She asked if there could be a description of a program shared with UM. Barrie reported that people with severe mental illness were found to die 25% earlier than the rest of the population. He stated that management of chronic illness such as diabetes is a focus. Barrie stated that nobody had looked at the Medicaid claims data. He added that a lot should be learned from this in the next year. Comm. Bergman stated that as less comes from Medicaid more will come from the County general fund. She added that if more is not done than a specific group will be treated like second class citizens. Barrie reported that residents often utilized Detroit hospitals and moved money from UM and St. Joseph to those Detroit hospitals. Barrie stated that employees have been extremely receptive to changes and added that this has been a key. Comm. Bergman stated that she would like to thank the Board of Commissioners for their trust and interest.

Comm. Smith asked if government structure and goals and measurements can be discussed. Barrie reported that management was not being done as a joint enterprise. He stated that the state required performance reporting and added that it did not have an impact locally. Barrie stated that getting down to key indicators on fiscal solvency is important. He added that Mary O'Hare is working on getting a way to refocus and putting it all on one sheet. Comm. Smith asked what role the BOC and the UM Regents play in the future in outcome orientation. Barrie stated that it will be important for these organizations to point out what is missing. He added that he sees this as a consensus project. Comm. Smith asked if certain projects like the health impact study will be affected positively by this integration and if products that will not be produced in the future have been identified. Sabourin reported that Medicaid services have to be provided. She stated that she does not know of any specific service going away. Barrie reported that some services that were big in the 90's are not necessary wanted now. Comm. Bergman stated that Sabourin has taken a much more proactive role in the Housing Alliance.

Comm. Schwartz stated that he would like to thank Comm. Bergman for being a great liaison to these organizations as well as Sabourin and Barrie for their work and honesty on what is going to be needed in the future.

County Administrator's Report

None

Items for Current/Future Discussion

None

Pending

None

Citizen Participation

None

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None

Adjournment

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Prater moved that the meeting be adjourned until October 7th, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.
Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Ken Schwartz, Vice Chair

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Jason Brooks, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: October 6, 2010