

Commissioner Minutes of May 8, 2007

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 8, 2007 at 9 a.m. Chairman Whittington called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present.

Agenda – no additions or corrections.

The **minutes of April 24, 2007** were then considered. Clerk Laura Flach noted a correction in spelling of the Treasurer's name from "Christi" to "Christy". Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Carl, to approve the minutes with change as noted. Ayes carried, motion passed.

The **semi-monthly Finance Report** totaling \$87,157.61 was then reviewed. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Reid, to approve payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jan Stewart of FORGE, reported on the recent paper drive – noting that over 3 ton of paper was collected. Ms. Stewart also questioned if any funds were budgeted for Solid Waste.

Chairman Whittington replied that he did not think any funds were budgeted for 2007, but would be looked at in the 2008 budgeting process, which would start soon.

Dan Provost County Road Commission Engineer/Manager, spoke to the board – noting that he will be retiring in 18 days, and introduced Mark Sohlden who will be taking his place. Mr. Provost spoke on funding issues of the Road Commission, especially the rising cost of gasoline, high cost of health care and cuts that have been made to balance the current budget. Discussion was had with Mr. Provost and Mr. Sohlden on various road issues.

Chairman Whittington reported:

- On communication from Sue Fortune, noting that she had received verbal confirmation that the Gladwin Hazardous Mitigation Plan has been approved by FEMA.
- On communication received from Community Mental Health with important facts about mental illness and the programs offered.
- On receiving the MMRMA newsletter, which he found to be very informative.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

- On attending the Central Michigan Health meeting on May 2.
- On the May 2 Finance committee meeting with Clare County Commissioners and the Circuit Court Judges **regarding wages of the new Judicial Secretary**. The Judges had informed those present that Commissioners had no say over who they (the Courts) hired, what those employees did or what they were paid. It was also mentioned that if the County's did not pay as directed there would be a law suit. The respective Boards will **propose that Ms. Uhl's wage be set at 90% of the Assignment Clerk wage (90% of \$19.64) for the balance of 2007 and at 100% in 2008**. Commissioner Hargrave moved to pay Ms. Uhl at the 90% and 100% as stated. Motion seconded by Commissioner Reid. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Hargrave-yes, Carl-no, Rhode-no, Reid-yes, Posey –yes, Hoag-no and Whittington-no. 3 yes and 4 no, **motion fails**.
- That he attended the Finance committee meeting on May 3
- That he also attended the 911 meeting on May 3 and asked that Board members review their copy of **proposed Administrative Rules and Regulations for Gladwin County (Uniform House-Numbering System)** and the matter would be further considered at the next Board meeting. Discussion. Commissioner Hoag then moved that copies of the proposed Rules and Regulations be sent to the Townships for review. Motion seconded by Commissioner Posey. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- That he attended the May 4th East Central Michigan Planning and Development meeting—noting that it was his conclusion that the County should continue membership in this organization. It was noted that the County had paid dues for the first six months of 2007 and had received billing for the final 6 months. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Hoag, seconded by Commissioner Rhode, that **the Board authorize payment of dues to E. C. Mi. P & D. for the last six months of 2007**. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- On matters before Finance as follows:
 1. That Equalization Director Denise Hall had presented the finance committee a County survey on mileage rates. Currently the County is reimbursing at \$.41 and the IRS rate is \$.485. Ms. Hall **asked that the Board vote to make the County rate the same as IRS and establish a “floating” scale to fluctuate with the ITS rates**. Commissioner Rhode moved to approve the matter as requested, to get the matter up for discussion. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hoag. Discussion.

Commissioner Posey noting that this will be a big expense that has not been budgeted for and the county really can't afford.

Comments by others, both for and against the proposal.

Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Carl-no, Rhode-yes, Reid-no, Posey-no, Hoag-yes, Whittington-yes and Hargrave-yes. 4 yes and 3 no, **motion passes**.

Commissioner Rhode continued reporting on matters before Finance:

2. That **Undersheriff Hartwell** has requested that he, **Sheriff Shea and Judd Eastman be allowed to attend the MSA Summer Conference at Crystal Mountain**. The registration fee of \$275.00 each for Shea and Hartwell can be paid from 285-000-804.000 and the Registration fee of \$275.00 for Eastman would be paid from 101-351-804.000. It was noted that two nights lodging would also be required and would be paid from the 302 fund. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Hargrave, to allow attendance as requested. Ayers carried, **motion passed**.
3. That the **CBI maintenance contract** for Circuit Court is up for renewal. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to renew the contract and authorize signature by the Chairman. Ayes carried, motion passed.
4. That a copy of the **2006-2007 BAYANET Grant** in the amount of \$40,440.00 has been received and needs Board approval. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Hoag, to approve the grant as presented and authorize signature by the Chairman. Ayes carried, motion passed.
5. That **Nancy Stankowski**, of the Clerk's Office, has retired and is requesting **payment for unused vacation and sick time benefits** as allowed under UAW #6 contract. The total payout of \$3,269.25 will be paid from 101-215-705.000. It was noted that this was anticipated and budgeted for in the 2007 budget. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, to authorize payout as requested. Motion seconded by Commissioner Carl. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Rhode was then excused from the meeting.

Commissioner Hoag reported:

- That he had missed the Data meeting due to health issues.
- That he had attended the Gladwin County Central Dispatch meeting and commented on topics of discussion at the meeting.
- That he had attended the May 3 meeting on Uniform House-Numbering System.

The Board then recessed for a short break. Recalled to order by Chairman Whittington.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- That he had attended the pre-bid meeting at Chappel Dam with Commissioner Reid and the Drain Commissioner.
- That on April 30th he attended the Council of Local Government meeting at Butman Townhall, noting that the Council had adopted the Resolution in Support of Township Government and the State Budget Crisis Resolution.

Commissioner Carl continued reporting:

- Regarding the May 21st meeting scheduled for 6 p.m. at Butman Township regarding proposals to consolidate and/or eliminate Township government – noting that Senator Stamas and Representative Moore will also attend.
- That on May 3rd he attended the Planning and Zoning meeting.
- That Gladwin County volunteers delivering meals on wheels get \$.43 cents while volunteers in other counties get more. It was asked if the board could look into that and see if some adjustments could be made Contact will be made with the Housing Commission/ Sr. Meal program for more information.

Commissioner Posey reported:

- That on April 25 she had attended the County Department Head meeting and on topics of discussion there.
- That she had attended the Data Committee meeting.
- On the Council of Local Government meeting and the resolutions adopted.
- That she had attended the May 7th Grout Township meeting and that they had also adopted the Resolution in Support of Township Government and the State Budget Crisis Resolution.

Commissioner Hargrave reported:

- That he also had attended the last Department Head meeting.
- That on April 26 he attended several Lake Board meetings.
- That he also attended the April 30th Council of Local Government meeting.
- On meeting with the Judges at Clare on May 2nd.
- On attending the May 3 Finance committee meeting.

Commissioner Hargrave continued:

- That he wished to comment further on the non-public hours of the County Clerk. Stating that the Clerk's office is closed two hours a day and often during lunch hours, Commissioner Hargrave went on to say that several people have gone to the Clerk's office only to find the doors locked. He feels that this situation needs to be addressed.

Clerk Laura Flach, again explained the reasons for the non-public hours –noting that outside of a retirement luncheon, her office hasn't been closed for lunch for well over a year. Mrs. Flach further noted that court scheduling necessitates that she be open at 8:30 and that the office is only closed to the public from 3:30 to 4:30. Mrs. Flach again noted that this is only a temporary measure to allow employees un-interrupted time to accomplish their "desk" work, until staffing proposals can be addressed at budget time. It was also added by Ms. Flach, that she has received no complaints about the hours – except those continually brought up by Commissioner Hargrave, and asked that should Commissioners receive complaints they please refer those people to her. Mrs. Flach also noted that she would be happy to meet with the personnel committee regarding this situation.

Commissioner Reid reported:

- That on April 25th he attended the Buckeye Township meeting and on discussions had at that meeting.
- That he had attended the April 26th pre-bid hearing at Chappel Dam.
- On the Data committee meeting on May 1st:
 1. That a computer in Gypsy moth is being moved temporarily to Equalization.
 2. Discussions on 911 IT issues --equipment owned by the County will be handled by Mr. Frei, and the other 911 equipment will be handled by their IT person.
 3. On the need for a dedicated server and initial one-time cost of \$1350. Motion by Commissioner Reid, seconded by Commissioner Posey, to approve the new server at the cost stated. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 4. That discussions were had regarding location of the law library computer.
 5. On coordination between Equalization and the County Treasurer, on rates to services. (Rate Schedule attached) Motion by Commissioner Reid, seconded by Commissioner Hoag, to approve and adopt the new fee schedule as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 6. That the Treasurer had informed the committee that she would be purchasing paper and envelopes for tax mailings from Pummill in the amount of \$1154.50 which will be reimbursed by the local entities. Motion by Commissioner Reid, seconded by Commissioner Carl, to approve purchase as noted. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 7. That the Treasurer had also notified the committee that she would be purchasing a new Mailer/folder/stuffing machine at a cost of \$7,365 from Pummill with funds from Tax Reversion. The old machine will be donated to Equalization. Motion by Commissioner Reid, seconded by Commissioner Posey, to allow purchase as noted. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Reid continued reporting:

- On the Buildings and Grounds committee meeting:
 1. That the Board approved up to \$5500.00 for ramp construction at the rear of the Jail and that quotes for the project came in as follows:

Northeastern Builders	\$7600.00
Uhl and Son Construction	\$6030.63

Commissioner Reid moved to have the ramp constructed by Uhl Construction at \$6030.63 and further that an additional \$531.00 be authorized for the project. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hoag. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 2. Noted that the committee had received communication from Judge Mienk stating that he was not happy with his office renovation. Commissioner Reid related that the Committee felt that they did what they could with the finances available.
- On the EDC Annual Report prepared by Mr.Abernathy and gave a short progress report on current EDC projects. Commissioner Reid also commented on EDC meetings held in Beaverton and the need to move the meetings around – proposed using the Commissioner’s meeting room for all EDC meetings to avoid confusion.

Meeting recessed until 11:10. Recalled to order by Chairman Whittington.

Drain Commissioner Sherry Augustine and Pete Chapman Spicer Group Engineer were present for the **bid opening for the Chappel Dam project** . Bids were as follows:

Porath Contractors	\$ 977,225.00
Gerace Construction	\$ 1,223,270.10

The engineer will now go through the bids-- checking figures, references and doing interviews. They will then make recommendation to the Drain Commissioner on who they feel can do the job. Discussion on the bidding procedure and complete project cost.

Ms. Augustine then noted that a Public Hearing with the Wiggins Lake Property owners is scheduled for 10 a.m. on June 4 at Sage Township Hall. All property owners will be sent a notice.

Commissioner Hoag then moved to receive and file the various reports and correspondence. Motion seconded by Commissioner Posey. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Posey then moved to adjourn, supported by Commissioner Hoag. Ayes carried, meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m. until May 22, 2007 unless otherwise ordered.

Laura Flach
Clerk

Terry Whittington
Chairman