

Commissioner's Minutes of September 11, 2007

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioner's met in regular session on Tuesday, September 11, 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 – Mike Brubaker, 911 Administrator was added at 9:25 a.m. and the Personnel matters will be added to the Executive session regarding union negotiations.

The minutes of August 28, 2007 were then considered. Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Rhode, to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Carl commented on the no smoking policy adopted at the August 28th meeting and the need for adjustments. Ayes carried, on the vote to approve minutes as corrected. Commissioner Carl voting no.

Commissioner Carl then moved to rescind the August 28th Board action regarding no smoking within 25 feet of entrances and exits of county buildings. Commissioner Reid stated that he felt the matter should be sent to committee for clarification. Commissioner Carl withdrew his motion. Commissioner Reid then moved to send the matter to the County Affairs committee for further clarification. Motion supported by Commissioner Carl. Ayes carried, motion passed.

The semi-monthly Finance Report totaling \$35,626.43 was then considered. Motion by Commissioner Reid, to approve for payment as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hoag. Ayes carried, motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

Chairman Whittington reported:

- On the need to replace Don Doering on the EDC Board and appointed Kerry Posey to fill that vacancy.
- On the term expiration of Carol Donna-Beck on the Department of Human Services Board and reappointed Ms. Donna-Beck for another three year term 11/1/2007 -10/31/2010.
- On communication received from Mid Michigan Community Action on funding cuts. Moved by Commissioner Hargrave, supported by Commissioner Rhode, to adopt the provided resolution objecting to reductions in critical programs that benefit the low income residents of Gladwin County. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Hargrave-yes, Carl-yes, Rhode-yes, Reid-yes, Posey-yes, Hoag-yes and Whittington-yes. Ayes carried, Resolution #2007-20 declared adopted. (Resolution attached)

Chairman Whittington continued reporting:

- That a BS&A field representative will be here on Sept. 27th to address payroll software issues and the cost for that service would be \$900.00. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve payment as noted. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- That the Hazard Mitigation Plan is ready for the Boards review- and will be addressed at a later meeting.

Bob Moffit, Gladwin City Administrator, came before the Board to report on the EDC search for a director. Mr. Moffit commented on the interview process and informed the Board that Frank Starkweather from Bay City has been recommended for appointment. Commissioner Rhode then moved that Mr. Starkweather be appointed as EDC Director for a period of 12 months. Motion supported by Commissioner Reid. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Mr. Moffit also reported on current projects that will be an economic asset to Gladwin County – Family Farm and Home and Rite Aid. It was also noted that Michigan Brand Meats, Inc. will also be establishing in Gladwin County and Mr. Moffit noted that a letter of support from the Board would be asked for. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Posey, to send the letter in support of this new business and welcoming them to Gladwin County. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Mike Brubaker, 911 Administrator, reported to the Board on the status of SB 410 & 411 which have to do with 911 funding issues and the impact on County funding. Mr. Brubaker noted that Sept. 15 is the deadline to apply for State funding and with the uncertainty of the bills, he asked that the Board approve the continued collection of the current 4% and then adopt the resolution to apply for funding under the bills when approved. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Hargrave, to approve continued collection of the current 4%, as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Hargrave, supported by Commissioner Posey, then moved to adopt the generic resolution as presented in anticipation of the SBs passing. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Carl-yes, Rhode-yes, Reid-yes, Posey-yes, Hoag-yes, Whittington-yes and Hargrave-yes. Ayes carried, Resolution #2007-21 declared adopted. (copy attached)

Judge Tom Evans came before the Board with an update on court union negotiations. While no details were given, the Judge noted that substantial progress had been made in negotiations between the court employees and the court (himself). Judge Evans stated that he felt he should “up-date” the Board because they are the funding unit for the Gladwin Court employees.

It was then felt that an Executive Session would be in order for discussion of the Board's position on current union negotiations. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Hargrave, to go into executive session for those discussions. Ayes carried, motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Motion by Commissioner Hoag, supported by Commissioner Carl, to return to regular session. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Posey then moved that Mr. Borushko be authorized to proceed with union negotiations as discussed in executive session. Ayes carried, motion passed.

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

Commissioner Hoag reported:

- On attending the Sept. 4th Data committee meeting.
- On the Sept. 7th Finance Committee meeting
- That he had also attended the Sept. 10th Personnel committee meeting
- Regarding the Tobacco Township meeting held on Sept. 10th and discussions had on weed control and proposed expansion of the township facilities.

Commissioner Hargrave reported that his committees and township meetings were coming up in the next two weeks – so really had nothing to report on at present.

Commissioner Posey reported:

- On attending the Sept. 4th Data Committee meeting
- That she had attended the Grout Township meeting of September 4th, noting those who were in attendance and topics of discussion.
- That she had received e-mails from county employees who wished to remain anonymous, commenting on dress code and questioning who is responsible for the flag flying at half mast and keeping current on those directives.
Mr. Ghent will be contacted regarding the flag questions and County Affairs Committee will address the dress code concerns.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- On the Planning Commission meeting of Sept. 5 – noting that the new plan is nearing completion.
- On attending personnel committee meetings of Sept. 7th and Sept. 10th

Commissioner Reid reported:

That while he had attended some local events – his committee meetings and township meetings were coming up and would be reported on at the next meeting.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

- On the EDC meeting of August 28th.
- On attending the Sept. 4th Emergency Management meeting
- That he had attended the Central Michigan District Health Finance meeting in Mt. Pleasant on Sept. 5th.
- On the Finance meeting of Sept. 6th.
- That he had also attended the E. Central Planning meeting in Ithaca on Sept. 7th.
- That he had missed a couple of committee meetings due to his wife's surgery – noting that she is home and doing fine.
- On matters before finance as follows:
 1. That the finance committee had been presented a **bill for Basic Assessing 101 class attended by Polly Height from Equalization**. The committee had denied the bill in that Ms. Height's employment with the county is that of a data clerk and not an assessor. Denise Hall, Equalization Director, notes that the training is beneficial to Ms. Height and the County as it pertains to changes and updates of the equalization process. Motion by Commissioner Posey, supported by Commissioner Hoag, to pay the bill as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 2. That Undersheriff Ray Hartwell and Court Officer Harlen Brushaber came before the finance committee requesting permission **to purchase a new Pelco monitor for the Courthouse security office**, to replace one that was broken. The cost of up to \$800.00 would be paid from 101-301-983.000. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to authorize purchase as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Rhode continued reporting on matters before finance:

3. **Ron Taylor, Animal Control Officer**, has requested **authorization to attend his fall conference October 2-4 in Lansing**. Registration fee of \$155.00 and lodging of \$135.20 would be paid from 101-430-860.000 if approved. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Hargrave, to allow attendance, with payment as noted. Ayes carried, motion passed.
4. That Jan Stoike, 911 Assistant Administrator, has requested that **four (4) dispatchers be allowed to attend APCO Fall Conference Sept. 26-28, at a cost of \$220.00 each** – which includes registration, lodging and meals. The total cost of \$880.00 to be paid from wireless funds 282-000-804.001 if approved. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow attendance as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Reid then commented on the need to look at Animal Control equipment for apprehension of horses, cattle or large animals. Public Safety will address the matter with Mr. Taylor.

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

Commissioner Hargrave then commented on the need for an Executive Session to address some personnel issues, and moved to go into Executive Session. Motion supported by Commissioner Posey. Ayes carried, motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Commissioner Hoag, supported by Commissioner Carl, to return to regular session. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Hargrave commented on payroll issues had between the Clerk and Treasurer's Office, noting that questions regarding pay rates and hours paid, have been addressed and fully investigated –that there were no criminal findings and that the payroll irregularities that were found have been corrected. In light of these findings, Commissioner Hargrave moved that the matter be concluded and put to rest. Motion supported by Commissioner Posey. Ayes carried, motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sheriff Shea commented on the flag in front of the Sheriff's Dept. and procedures used for determining if the flag is to be at half mast.

Commissioner Carl then moved to adjourn, supported by Commissioner Hoag. Ayes carried, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. until September 25, 2007, unless otherwise ordered.

Laura Flach
Clerk

Terry Whittington
Chairman

County of Gladwin Resolution #2007-20

Whereas, the State Board of Education has decided to reduce the number of people that Mid Michigan Community Action Agency can serve under the federally funded food commodities program that is distributed quarterly in our Gladwin, and

Whereas, this is not an overall reduction in federal dollars available but a decision by the State Board of Education to reallocate the County slots which have been in place since the inception of the program over twenty years ago, and

Whereas, this reallocation will severely penalize the low income County residents who are mainly senior citizens living on fixed incomes in our Northern Michigan Counties and the Upper Peninsula, and

Whereas, this program is crucial to the basic food needs of these low income County residents who make use of this program so they can make the most of their limited funds for other needs, and

Whereas, 40% of the 550 residents currently receiving quarterly food commodities in Gladwin County will not receive this needed service.

Now therefore be it resolved, that because there are no available alternatives to this program for our County residents, that we strongly object to the reduction of this critical program benefiting the low income residents of our County, and

Be it further resolved, that we wish to make this objection known to Governor Jennifer Granholm and our State Legislators and ask them to request that the State Board of Education rescind their decision and let the program distribution numbers remain as in the past and not take this food away from our people.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF GLADWIN

I, Laura E. Flach, Clerk of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Gladwin, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed by the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on September 11, 2007.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal at Gladwin, Michigan, this 11th day of September 2007.

Laura E. Flach, Clerk of the Board