

Commissioner Minutes of August 12, 2008

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, August 12, 2008. Chairman Whittington called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present, except Commissioner Hoag who had been excused.

Agenda – there were no additions or deletions.

The minutes of July 22, 2008 were then considered. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve the minutes as presented. Sharron Smith noted that on page four, item two, should read “not” instead of “no”. Ayes carried, motion to approve the minutes as corrected passed.

The semi-monthly Finance Report totaling \$108,806.61 was then presented for review. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to pay the bills as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Public Comments – none

Chairman Whittington reported:

On the MMRMA update – dated July 17, 2008

On the 2008 Mid-Year fund statement for Gladwin County EDC.

On the amended Gladwin County Non-Union Benefits Manual enclosed in the Board folders for review.

On filings for pending court case(s) #07-3670-CZ and #08-3967-CZ

On receiving the District Court Transmittal dated July 2008.

Katie Becker, Gladwin Housing and Transit, then came before the Board with two grant agreements for consideration that will replace three busses, and buy an additional one. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow for signature and approval of Project MI-04-0042. Ayes carried, motion passed. Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow for signature and approval of Project MI-04-0043. Ayes carried, motion passed. Mary Hess, Prosecuting Attorney, questioned if she could obtain a copy of the two grants that had been approved. The Board directed her to Transit for a copy.

Cynthia Krycian, then came before the Board with a concern of personal use of an Animal Control vehicle. Ms. Krycian stated that she was coming from Midland and was tailgated by a vehicle driven by an Animal Control officer weaving on the road and driving erratically with no lights on. Chairman Whittington referred the matter to the County Affairs committee for review.

Chairman Whittington continued reporting:

On the CMDHD 2008-2009 budget beginning October 1, 2008.

On receiving the Financial Report from Risk Management, and that it is available for review.

Committee Reports

Commissioner Walters reported:

On the 7/22/08 Emergency Management meeting in Bay City regarding grants.

On the 7/24/08 Lake Contos, Pratt, and Wiggins Lake meeting.

On the Relay for Life walk in Beaverton held August 9th and 10th.

On the Carriage Festival held August 8th – August 10th, noting that he had cooked breakfast with Kathy Wilton there.

On attending the Mental Health meeting in Midland regarding budget cuts and funding for the next budget year.

On the veterans we have lost – Francis Newcombe, Koren Army
Charles Dickman, WWII Navy
David Ross, Lt. Cpl. US Marines

Commissioner Walters also recognized Lt. Bobby Gerrin, noting that his thoughts are with his family and friends.

Commissioner Posey reported:

On attending the Grout Township meeting July 28th, noting that there were zoning issues that are now being resolved.

That there will be a hazardous waste pickup August 23rd.

On attending Data on August 5th.

On attending Finance on August 8th.

On attending the Beaverton Township meeting on August 11th.

Commissioner Carl reported:

On attending the July 25th Personnel meeting.

On attending the August 6th Planning meeting, noting that solutions to an issue had been sent to Attorney Jacobson for review.

On the August 11th Personnel meeting, noting that a tentative agreement had been reached with the Deputies.

Commissioner Carl then asked Commissioner Reid to discuss the ORV ordinances. Commissioner Reid stated that there are four resolutions for the county and townships to choose from under House Bill 4323 and Public Act 240 by September 5, 2008. The Board of Commissioners will make their choice based on the opinions received by the townships. Commissioner Reid stated that letters should go out to the townships with their options for review, and that there would be an article in the paper tomorrow. Discussion. Commissioner Carl noted that the townships should be made aware of any meeting that the county holds on this matter. Mary Hess commented on the need for input from townships and people with their concerns.

Commissioner Reid reported:

On attending the July 23rd Buckeye Township meeting.

On the fundraiser held for Kathy Wilton at his home on July 26th.

On the August 5th Data Committee meeting, noting issues that were being addressed.

On attending the Carriage Festival August 8th, noting that it had gone well.

On the need of receipts for the shingles on the roof of the Health Department for warranty purposes.

On the Appellate Court actions regarding Wiggins Lake, asking if the Board has heard anything. Commissioner Whittington commented that as of last week Sherry has still not heard anything.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

On attending the July 23rd Mental Health meeting in Mt. Pleasant.

On the July 24th meeting with the Courts. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to not fund the Court contract as proposed. Judge Evans then made comment to the Board that he had left the last meeting with the understanding that the Board would fund the contract if the

Judges increased revenue to cover the increase in funding. Judge Evans stated that they have honored their commitment to increase funding and that the Board should honor their commitment to fund the contract as stated at the last meeting. Mary Hess urged the Board to consider the comments made by Judge Evans and seriously consider this matter. Commissioner Rhode commented that the Board has been advised by their attorney and consideration has been made. Magistrate, Mike Greer stated that he is frustrated with this process and has not seen any projected costs on funding. Mr. Greer wished to encourage people to look at figures rather than theory. Commissioner Reid stated that the revenue reflected shows that it is cost neutral. Roll call vote as follows: Walters – no, Carl – yes, Rhode – yes, Reid – no, Posey – yes, Hoag – absent, Whittington – yes. 4 yes, 2 no. Motion passed. Court contract will not be funded.

On the August 8th Finance meeting.

On attending the Homeland Security meeting, and Personnel meeting, both on August 11th.

Finance matters:

1. Gina Conrad, Gypsy Moth, has requested the below listed budget amendment to her fund.

239-00-970.0	\$1,900.00	
239-000-802.000		\$1,900.00

 Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve the transfer as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

2. The refrigerator in the jail was replaced due to the old model failing. Attached is a bill from Central Restaurant Products for \$2259.00 for the new model. Because this expense was not budgeted for, the below budget amendment needs to be approved for the purchase.

101-891-969.0		\$2,259.00
101-900-970.355	\$2259.00	

 Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow the expense and budget amendment as outline. Ayes carried, motion passed.

3. Since the Prosecutor’s office is now working through Maximus for State and Federal reimbursements, it is necessary to transfer funds to their contractual services line to pay for the quarterly service fees from Maximus for their service. Below is the budget amendment for the final 2 quarters in 2008.

101-891-969.0		\$2000.00
101-229-802.0	\$2000.00	

 Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Posey, to transfer the funds as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

4. Attached are 3 requests for employee training from Denise Hall, Equalization. If approved, all costs will come out of line #101-225-860.000. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Posey, to approve the training as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

5. An employee in the Prosecutor’s Office will be going on FMLA effective September 18th through November 3rd. Mary Hess, Prosecutor, has requested to hire a temporary part-time employee for that time for 80% of the unit #6 wage. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow the hiring of the part time employee as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

6. An employee has made a request to the Finance committee to have 105 hours of sick time donated to the employee mentioned above. (see attached) Because the Board has implemented a policy for donation of sick time not to exceed 35 hours per employee annually, it is the recommendation of the Finance

Committee to allow 35 hours be transferred to the employee. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow the donation, per the policy, as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

7. Attached is a thank you letter from Barb Miller, Medical Examiner, thanking the Board for their approval and payment of her conference fee in October.
8. Attached is a requested budget amendment from Bob Duby, Emergency Management. Listed below is the transfer for consideration.

101-426-933.0	\$2000.00	
101-426-804.0		\$1000.00
101-426-860.0		\$1000.00

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Posey, to approve the budget amendment as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.

9. The Finance committee has started discussing the budget for 2009, and the position of the Financial Coordinator. The committee would like opinions of all Board members on maintaining the current position, or seeking the hiring of an administrator, or controller for 2009. Commissioner Posey stated that she believes this position is a conflict of interest and double checks are necessary. Commissioner Rhode stated that he disagrees stating that Ms. Brandon has the information the Board needs available and there are many other counties that have this same situation. Commissioner Carl questioned whether there was additional salary given in those situations, and believes that it needs looked into. Commissioner Rhode stated that the Financial Coordinator position is budgeted for \$15,000 and to hire a Controller, or Administrator, they would have to budget \$80,000. Commissioner Posey stated that alternatives need to be looked at and that the Board should begin preparing their own budget. Commissioner Reid commented on the "day to day" items that are being addressed by the Financial Coordinator, and the need to get creative and get an opinion from MAC. Commissioner Carl then requested that this matter be tabled so it can be looked into. Mary Hess, Prosecuting Attorney, stated that the Board should get an opinion from Washington on whether this is a conflict in regards to the HATCH Act. Commissioner Posey stated that she already had information regarding the HATCH Act. Denise Hall, Equalization Director, asked that the Board please discuss this matter with the department heads before the decision is made. Commissioner Whittington stated that he has seen a lot of changes, and has put together a lot of budgets, noting that there is a lot involved and if you have not done it you don't know. Commissioner Whittington then referred the matter to County Affairs for review.
10. Attached is the request for a 2% increase in appropriations for the Health Department. Because these appropriations are a request for their 2008-09 budget, a motion to approve by full Board is needed. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Whittington, to approve the increase as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioner Reid voting no.

Justin Schneider, Construction Codes, then came before the Board to discuss the Plumbing & Mechanical Inspector position for the County. A new fee schedule was presented to the Board for their approval. Mr. Schneider discussed with the Board that the application had been made to the State for approval for a Plumbing and Mechanical inspector, and he would ask their approval to hire a person for this position contingent upon the State's approval. Discussion. Motion to hire Richard Robinette for the part time inspector position (4 days/week – 6 hour days) by Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl. Ayes carried, motion passed. Mr. Schneider then pointed out the areas that needed to be corrected in order to meet the State's criteria. Members Varner and Krahner would need to be removed from the Board of Appeals committee until 12-31-08, appointing Joe Pleiman and Craig Wolfe in their place. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Reid, to remove and add the members as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed. The fee schedule was then considered. Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Rhode, to approve the fee schedule as presented to the Board. Mr. Schneider then noted that his department would be handling 500-600 more permits per year if the plan goes through the State, and at this time he would request that the part time clerk in his department be reinstated to full time.

Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Posey, supported by Commissioner Carl, to reinstate the part time clerk to full time contingent upon State approval. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl to receive and file various correspondence and reports. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Rhode then moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Reid. Ayes carried, meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m. until August 26, 2008 unless otherwise ordered.

Lisa Fisher
Deputy Clerk

Terry Whittington
Chairman