

Commissioners Minutes of November 13, 2007

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 13, 2007. Chairman Whittington called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present.

Agenda – Chairman Whittington noted that Mary Hess would be removed from the agenda.

The **minutes of October 23, 2007 and November 6, 2007** were then considered. Commissioner Reid moved to approve the minutes with the addition of comments to the 3rd page of the Nov. 6th minutes –“*Commissioner Reid also voiced his concerns about the amount of deficit to come from unallocated, the drastic cuts in State funding to the County and Wiggins Lake /Chappel Dam bond that must be considered before year end.*” Motion supported by Commissioner Carl.

Commissioner Hargrave stated that he felt the Clerk’s comments recorded on page 6 of the October 23rd minutes should be deleted because this was only an opinion of the Clerk. **County Clerk Laura Flach** replied that she did make the comment in open session, and yes!-- it was her opinion, it is a correct rendition of what she said at the meeting and it should remain in the minutes.

Vote was then had on the motion to approve the minutes, with addition of comments by Commissioner Reid. Ayes carried, motion passed. (Commissioner Hargrave voting no)

The **semi-monthly Finance Report** totaling \$84,115.53 was then considered. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Hoag, to approve for payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – none

Chairman Whittington reported:

- On the plan submitted by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority for Emergency Shelter Grant and Rural Housing Initiative – 2008 Continuum of Care Planning Update which required signature. Motion by Commissioner Hoag, second by Commissioner Posey, to allow the Chairman to sign the document. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- On the report of the Michigan League for Human Services.
- On request submitted by Walt & Linda Hart to place a nativity scene on the Courthouse lawn as has been done in past years. Motion by Commissioner Hargrave, seconded by Commissioner Hoag, to allow placement as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Chairman Whittington continued reporting:

- On the revision of figures for apportionment. Equalization Director Denise Hall noted that while the information sent to the State was fine –she had discovered some formula errors, which have been corrected and resulted in some minor figure differences. Discussion.
- On the need to appoint someone to serve on the ZBA and with the Board approval appointed Don Kelly to replace Dan Grant on that Board.
- That the County has four appointees to the Library Board and he is concerned that not one of those members has reported back to this board on Library activities. He noted that he will be contacting those members.

Commissioner Hoag reported:

- On attending the Public Hearing on the Budget on November 6th.
- On the Tobacco Township meeting and discussions had regarding weed control.
- On the Data meeting – noting that the IT contract expires the end of December. Motion by Commissioner Hoag to place an ad for bids for IT services, to be reviewed by the Data committee who will make recommendation to the Board at the first meeting in December. Motion supported by Commissioner Carl. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Carl then voiced some confusion as to which minutes were actually approved. Chairman Whittington noted that it was his understanding that both the October 23rd and the November 6th minutes were covered with the motion of Commissioner Reid. Commissioner Carl then commented on the confusion and moved to clear that up by moving to adopt the Nov. 6th minutes as corrected. Motion supported by Commissioner Hargrave. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Hargrave reported:

- On attending the Solid Waste meeting and the progress being made there.
- On attending the October 26th Department Head meeting.
- On the October 26th County Affairs committee meeting and discussions had regarding the Boards directive that county cars should be parked after work hours and not driven home. The Sheriff is still refusing to make his employees comply.
- That he attended the 4-H Banquet and awards ceremonies on October 28th.
- That he also attended the Nov. 6th Budget Hearing.

Commissioner Hargrave continued reporting:

- On attending November 8th Airport Commission meeting.
- That he attended the Public Safety meeting on Nov. 9th.
- That an appointment of a Korean War Veteran is needed for the Veterans committee—noting that he will get with the Chairman when a recommendation is made. .

Commissioner Posey reported:

- That on October 24th she attended the Insurance committee meeting.
- On attending the Solid Waste committee meeting on October 25th.
- On October 26th she attended the County Affairs committee.
- On attending the October 29th Council of Local Government meeting – noting that the next meeting would be held in February at Beaverton Township.
- That on Nov. 5th she attended the Grout Twp. meeting.
- That on Nov. 6 she attended the finance committee meeting, the Public Hearing on the Budget and the Data committee meeting.
- On Nov. 6 she attended another Finance committee meeting
- On the Beaverton Township meeting of Nov. 12th and projects underway there.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- On the Oct. 31st Personnel committee meeting regarding court negotiations.
- That on Nov. 6th he also attended the Public Hearing on the Budget.
- That he attended the Bldg. & Grounds committee as well as the Zoning meeting on November 7th.
- That on Nov. 7th he attended Clement Township meeting.
- On Nov. 8th he attended the Butman Township meeting.
- On the closing of public access trails on State land and the negative impact on local businesses. Discussion on possible options.

Commissioner Reid reported:

- That he attended the Buckeye Twp. meeting on October 24th.
- That he also attended the special meeting on Nov. 6th.
- On the Buildings and Grounds committee meeting of Nov. 7th. Discussions were had on the following topics:

Review of remodeling requests for the County Clerk's office as well as the Prosecuting Attorney's office.

Gas supply at the tower location.

Possible lumbering project at Parks & Rec.

Sewer problems at the Annex building

Discussion was then had regarding the remodeling project for the Clerk's office, with anticipated cost of \$5000.00.

Commissioner Reid stating that the committee is recommending that the Clerk move all of the election materials from the room across the hall and that it revert to an employee lunchroom.

Clerk Laura Flach explained the convenience of having all election supplies in one area close to her office, for ease in distribution — noting that if election supplies are moved upstairs-- then hundreds of pounds of ballots and supplies must be "hailed" upstairs for sorting and storage and then "hailed" back down for delivery to local clerks.

Motion by Commissioner Rhode to proceed with the project and that Buildings and Grounds committee locate another room to be used as an employee lunch room. Motion supported by Commissioner Hoag. 3 yes and 4 no, motion defeated.

Commissioner Reid reported further:

- On a recent incident with a little girl calling 911 from a cell phone –noting that the location of the caller was zeroed in and the situation was handled. Commissioner Reid noted that "the system" (911) does work.
- On the Nov. 9th Public Safety committee meeting and matters of discussion there.
- On a 2003 accident had by a county car, which caused damage to a landowners property. The owner is now replacing the gate, which will be paid for by the county.
- On the process and need to link central dispatch to dog license records.

Commissioner Carl the brought up the Clerk's remodeling project for further consideration, and moved to proceed with the project, moving the election supplies upstairs and re-open up the lunch room across from the Clerk's office. Motion supported by Commissioner Rhode. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

- On meeting had with Brian Cote' of Cadillac Insurance
- On the Oct. 25th meeting with the Courts in Harrison.
- That he attended the Michigan Works meeting in West Branch on October 26th.
- On attending the Personnel meeting of October 29 and the Personnel meeting with POLC on October 31st.
- On meeting with the Courts on Nov. 1st.
- That on Nov. 2nd he attended the East Central meeting in Mt. Pleasant.
- On attending the Gladwin City Council meeting on Nov. 5th.
- On Nov. 7th he attended the Finance committee meeting
- On attending the Insurance meetings conducted by Clerk Laura Flach on November 8th.
- On matters before finance as follows:

1. That Court Administrator Darrell Schlese, has requested a **transfer to the Probate Court travel line** to accommodate expenditures for the balance of 2007

101-148-803.0		\$2500.00
101-148-860.0	\$2500.00	

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Hoag, to allow transfer as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

2. That Undersheriff Ray Hartwell, has requested **to sell the 2000 Ford Explorer** by sealed bid, with proceeds of the sale to be placed in the Sale of Fixed Assets Revenue line 101-000-673.001. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to sell the vehicle as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Rhode continued reporting on finance matters:

3. That Undersheriff Hartwell has also requested that the department be allowed **to participate in the Northern Michigan Law Enforcement Training Consortium** through Kirtland again for 2008. Total cost of \$1500.00 to be paid from 101-301-804.000. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Hoag, to participate as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
4. That the finance committee is reminding Elected Officials and Department Heads that no calls are to be made to the county attorney, unless approved by the Chairman of the Board or the appropriate committee chairperson.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

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

Commissioner Hargrave then questioned –“What’s new with Chappel Dam?” Drain Commissioner Sherry Augustine explained that nothing is happening pending a ruling by the Court of Appeals. It was noted that she is working with the DEQ to get extensions on permits and she is also working with the bond attorneys regarding the bond due Dec. 1st. Discussion

Chairman Whittington then took the opportunity to wish all members and those present a Happy Thanksgiving!

Commissioner Posey questioned a matter that came before finance on the 7th regarding an employee whose glasses had been damaged in the line of duty. Discussion. The matter will be addressed in negotiations.

Commissioner Hoag then moved to adjourn, supported by Commissioner Carl. Ayes carried, meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m. until November 27, 2007 unless otherwise noticed.

Laura Flach
Clerk

Terry Whittington
Chairman