

Commissioner Minutes of November 14, 2006

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 14, 2006. 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 – there were no additions or changes. .

The **minutes of October 24, 2006** were then reviewed. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to approve as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed

The **semi-monthly Finance Report** totaling \$119,821.81 was then considered. Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Grimes, to approve for payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Marietta Sprott requested that the approved board minutes be posted to the county WEB site and also noted that if Township meeting minutes could be posted it would also be useful. Members noted that while they saw now reason why the board minutes couldn't be posted it would be a decision by each individual township regarding their minutes.

Ms. Sprott also wanted it noted that in the September 12 minutes Commissioner Hoag had stated that the Animal Rights Group had "demanded" to be present at meetings where Mr. Taylor is involved. Ms. Sprott stated that she had sent communication "requesting" to be present and wanted that matter clarified.

Ms. Sprott questioned the placement of the firing range so close to the animal shelter and the stress to the animals. Discussion.

Chairman Whittington reported:

- On the upcoming New Commissioner Workshop. Commissioner Rhode moved to allow attendance by current commissioners, newly elected commissioners, elected officials and the County Financial Coordinator, should they choose to attend. Motion supported by Commissioner Hoag. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- On communication received from Lt. Anthony, Michigan State Police. Chairman Whittington proceeded to read the letter which commended Officer Ron Taylor for his professionalism and services provided during a recent incident.

Chairman Whittington continued reporting:

- On communication from Walt and Linda Hart, requesting permission to place the nativity scene on the Courthouse lawn during the Christmas season. Motion by Commissioner Hargrave, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow placement as in past years. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- On communication from Living Hope Assembly of God, noting the vast improvement of sound since installation of the new ceiling in the Jail recreation area.
- On **Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Agreements** in the amount of \$185.00 each which have been presented by Bob Duby of Emergency Management. Commissioner Hoag moved to approve submission of the grants and authorize the Chairman to sign as needed. Motion supported by Commissioner Hargrave. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- On the Proposed Emergency Management Agreement which has been signed by Sage Township – noting that it will be held until the next board meeting pending meeting with Mr. Duby.
- That a **Courthouse Christmas luncheon** is being planned for Dec. 21 from 11:30 – 1:30 and that a “Swearing-In” ceremony will be held for newly elected County Officers.

Bob Moffit, Gladwin City Administrator, reported on the MDOT plans for 2008 with regards to streets and highways within the City. Mr. Moffit also spoke regarding property being donated to the City by the School, for installation of tennis courts pending grant applications. Mr. Moffit requested the County’s support in this project. Motion by Commissioner Hargrave, supported by Commissioner Kalinowski, that a letter of support be given for the project and related grant applications. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Chairman Whittington noted that Commissioners had been invited to the November 30th Airport Christmas Party.

Kara Paul of Community Mental Health, Dan Sheehan from Dept. of Human Services and Jill Sutton, Mid Michigan Community Action Agency, spoke to the Board regarding formation of a plan to end homelessness in Clare and Gladwin Counties. The ten (10) year plan includes case management, affordable housing and addresses other very real issues of the homeless in our County. Jill Sutton distributed a handout on the plan for board member review and spoke on the history of the plan and how it came into existence. Discussion regarding the plan and grant dollars that will be applied for.

Bob Moffit (filling in for John Caffrey) reported on **Airport matters** and progress of hangar construction. A specific item for consideration was the fact that the current fuel system has been “tagged” by the State. Fuel on hand can be sold, but the tanks cannot be refilled until required repairs are made. Mr. Moffit reported that the Airport Commission is working with the USDA to secure funding for the necessary repairs.

Commissioner Hargrave reported:

- That on Oct. 29th he attended the 4-H Awards banquet at the K of C Hall.
- On attending the Oct. 30th Veterans Affairs meeting and items addressed at that meeting
- That on Nov. 8th he attended the Sage Township meeting and matters of discussion at that meeting.
- That on Nov. 9th he attended the Airport Commission meeting – noting that Mr. Moffitt has covered those pertinent items of discussion.
- That on Nov. 11th he attended the dinner and auction for Heart of Michigan.
- Commented regarding a pay phone for County facilities and asked if anything further had been discussed on that issue. Discussion.

Commissioner Hoag reported:

- That he had attended the recent Finance committee meeting for Commissioner Grimes
- That he attended the Tobacco Twp. meeting on Nov. 13th and the pertinent items of discussion.
- On the Data committee meeting, noting that an additional phone line had been requested for the Clerk’s office and the committee is recommending approval of the same. Motion by Commissioner Hoag, supported by Commissioner Kalinowski, to authorize installation of an additional line for the Clerk’s office, with funds from the Clerk’s phone line. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- That the “old” Nextel phones (box lot) had been advertised for bids and that two had been received. Bids were then opened and were as follows:
 - Hope Uhl \$75.00
 - Leo Gary \$101.00Discussion on worth of the phones if sold individually. Motion by Commissioner Hoag to sell the “box lot” to the highest bidder Mr. Gary at \$101.00. Motion supported by Commissioner Kalinowski. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Hoag then moved that Mr. Frei be authorized to post the approved Commissioner Minutes on the County's Web site. Motion supported by Commissioner Reid. Ayes carried, motion passed.

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

Commissioner Kalinowski reported:

- On the Data committee meeting and the request for purchase and installation of new servers. The question was then raised as to "which" committee should hear the matter- Data, 911, Public Safety or Finance. Chairman Whittington commented that if the equipment is for 911 it should go first to 911 committee and if it is for the Sheriff's Dept. the request should be taken to Public Safety committee. Sheriff Shea explained that the equipment will separate lein lines from current 911 equipment. Sheriff Shea feels that the cost of the new equipment should be taken from 282 funds as they can be used for safety and lein. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Hoag, to allow the Sheriff to proceed with purchase of these servers at the cost of \$1949.97 with payment from 282 funds. Motion supported by Commissioner Kalinowski. Discussion. Commissioner Hargrave commented on "piece mealing" the operations and stated that the companies doing the work need to be held accountable for the installations and repairs. Commissioner Reid noted that he felt the matter should be addressed by the 911 committee as there were people on that committee "familiar" with equipment required for these tasks and that this matter should have gone to them at least 2 months ago. Further discussion. Vote on the question – ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioner Reid voting no.

Commissioner Reid reported:

- That on Oct. 25th he attended the Buckeye Township meeting and items of concern and discussion at that meeting.
- On attending the Nov. 7th Data committee meeting
- On the Nov. 8th EDC meeting and progress being made by that group.
- That he was not able to attend the Hay Township meeting due to prior commitments.
- That on Nov. 13th he had attended the Secord Township meeting.
- On interest expressed in re-cycling and questioned how re-cycling was handled and funded in the past. Discussion.
- That the Emergency sirens are now being tested on the 1st Sat of each month @ 10 a.m.

Commissioner Grimes reported:

- On the site plan review that took place when the firing range was constructed south of the animal shelter.
- That on Oct. 25th he attended the Health Bd. Meeting in Harrison
- That on Nov. 1st he attended the Expenditure Review meeting in Mt. Pleasant and then the zoning meeting in the afternoon.
- On the Nov. 6th Personnel committee meeting regarding a grievance appeal – noting that investigations are continuing and the committee will be getting back to the union.
- That on Nov. 6th he attended the Grout Twp. Board meeting
- That he has been contacted by a realtor regarding the county parks and rec. area, questioning if the County would consider selling. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Hargrave, supported by Commissioner Hoag, that the County **will not** consider sale of this property. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- On the **Nov. 13th Parks and Rec.** meeting and on the bids received for select cutting at the parks and rec. area. Because the bids were low, the committee recommends not cutting this year. It was then noted that the forester is recommending the thinning of trees on the Clendenning Road property. Commissioner Grimes stated that he feels that any revenue received from the “thinning” should go to parks and rec. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Grimes, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow Phil Swarden to seek bids for thinning of trees on the Clendenning Rd. property. Ayes carried, motion passed.

That Russ Skinner – skiing instructor and mountain biker, had approached the parks and rec. committee and expressed interest in having cross country and mountain bike trails at parks and rec. area. Discussion was had on the grooming of trails and cost of trail maintenance. The Committee is recommending that these ideas be pursued, noting that the boy scouts have volunteered to assist in clearing trails. Motion by Commissioner Grimes to allow Mr. Skinner to proceed with plans and cost estimates for this project. Motion supported by Commissioner Hoag. Ayes carried, motion passed.

That Phil Swardon also recommended that the County might check into acquiring the state owned property adjacent to the County acreage on Clendenning road.

Commissioner Grimes continued reporting:

- On the Oct. 31st Personnel committee and the union negotiations with Corrections officers, noting that an Executive session would be needed to further address the matter.
- Reported that bids had been received for the 1996 Ford Explorer, and asked that Commissioner Reid open the bids as he had submitted one. Bids opened by Commissioner Reid were as follows:
 - Susan Fitzpatrick \$635.00
 - Frank Grimes \$675.00Motion by Commissioner Hoag, supported by Commissioner Hargrave, to sell the Explorer to the highest bidder Frank Grimes for \$675.00. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- That a meeting is scheduled for Nov. 20th at 4 p.m. with the Library Board.

Commissioner Grimes then moved to go **into Public Hearing** on the 2007 Special Fund Budgets. Motion supported by Commissioner Kalinowski. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Hargrave-yes, Kalinowski-yes, Rhode-yes, Reid-yes, Grimes-yes, Hoag-yes and Whittington-yes. Ayes carried, motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARING – on the proposed 2007 Special Fund Budgets. Financial Coordinator Laura Brandon presented the proposed budgets – noting that no changes had been made since the workshop.

Discussion on various budget items.

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

Commissioner Grimes then moved **to approve and adopt the Special Fund budgets** as presented. Motion supported by Commissioner Reid. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Grimes then moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing union negotiations. Motion supported by Commissioner Hoag. Ayes carried, motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Kalinowski, to return to regular session. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Grimes then moved **to approve the agreement reached with the POLC – Corrections unit**. Motion supported by Commissioner Hargrave. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Kalinowski-yes, Rhode-yes, Reid-yes, Grimes-yes, Hoag-yes, Whittington-yes and Hargrave-yes. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commission Rhode reported:

- That he had attended the 10/24 Library Board meeting.
- On the Oct. 27th Insurance committee meeting with Cadillac and review of the BC/BS rate increases for 2007. It was noted that the HRA savings from April to current were approximately \$24,000.00 and that the committee is encouraging employee participation in the HRA program by offering discounts of \$600 per year on family coverage payroll reimbursement \$300 per year on single payroll reimbursements. Commissioner Rhode also noted that Cadillac will be doing an information meeting with Sheriff Dept. employees regarding the HRA program.
- That he attended the Personnel committee meetings on Oct. 31st, Nov. 6th and Nov. 11th.
- That he had attended the Sports Complex meeting and items of discussion at that meeting.
- Regarding the Nov. 8th EDC meeting
- That he had attended the Nov. 9th Finance committee meeting
- On matters before Finance as follows:
 - That two employees have requested to donate sick time to Melissa Simpson, and motion is needed to allow the Clerk to transfer 49 hours of donated time to the employee as requested. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow transfer of time as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Rhode continued reporting on matters before finance:

- The Christy Van Tiem, County Treasurer, has requested that the Board formally approve the Appropriations and Indirect Costs that have already been approved in the 2006 budget.

Appropriations

215 Fund – FOC	\$ 64,000.00
216 Fund – 911 Millage	\$365,021.00
265 Fund – Drug Enforcement	\$ 41,300.00
280 Fund – 911 Surcharge	\$238,184.00
286 Fund – Jail TX	\$ 56,500.00
516 Fund – Unallocated	\$317,259.00
517 Fund – Tax Reversion	\$ 43,957.00

Indirect Costs

201 Fund – Road Tax	\$ 1,481.59
210 Fund – EMS	\$ 14,957.59
216 Fund – 911	\$ 2,805.64
239 Fund – Gypsy Moth	\$ 8,572.46
256 Fund – ROD	\$ 6,821.08
264 Fund – Corrections	\$ 746.39
271 Fund – Library	\$ 46,815.00
280 Fund – Surcharge	\$ 4,070.02
282 Fund – Wireless	\$ 1,669.67
283 Fund – Commissary	\$ 2,705.40
285 Fund – Sheriff Training	\$ 243.89
286 Fund – Jail Tx	\$ 1,350.30
287 Fund – Project Fresh	\$ 2,534.54
288 Fund – COA	\$ 3,429.13
517 Fund – Tax Reversion	\$ 9,782.71
588 Fund – DAR	\$ 4,820.94

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Kalinowski, to formally approve these as requested by the Treasurer. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Chairman Whittington reported on the Quill Savings Report prepared by the Financial Coordinator- which shows that the County is realizing an average 30% savings on office equipment and supplies.

Commissioner Grimes reported that a railing is needed for the new parking area west of the Courthouse and that the cost estimate from Hardwood Hills was \$3649.00. Commissioner Grimes noted that he could do the project for \$1800.00. Motion by Chairman Whittington to have Commissioner Grimes do the railing project for \$1800.00 to be paid from Cap. Improvement. Motion supported by Commissioner Kalinowski. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Discussion had with Sheriff Shea on the possibility of using inmates for re-cycling efforts.

Sheriff Shea commented on the firing range and dollars needed to increase height of the berm. It was also noted that he would donate white pines for planting on the north side which will serve as a sound buffer.

Sheriff Shea also announced a spaghetti fund raiser for a Sheriff Dept. employee with serious health issues would be held at 6 p.m. on Dec. 8th at the VFW Post 7303.

Board discussion on various matters - emergency management grants, NIMS compliancy etc.

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

Commissioner Hoag then moved to adjourn, supported by Commissioner Kalinowski. Ayes carried, meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. until November 28, 2006 unless otherwise ordered.

Laura Flach
Clerk

Terry Whittington
Chairman