

Commissioner Minutes of June 22, 2010

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session June 22, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Whittington. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present.

Agenda – no changes or additions.

The **Regular minutes of June 8, 2010** were then considered. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Smith, to approve the minutes as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

The **cash balances** for the General Fund and the Judicial Management Fund were then read. *General Fund - \$123,947.98 231 Fund - \$76,635.34.*

The **semi-monthly Finance report totaling \$90,154.61** was then considered for payment. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the bills for payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Public Comments –

Tab Faber, Beaverton Resident, asked for permission to use the grounds of the Courthouse for an assembly for “political awareness” sponsored by the “We the People of Gladwin County Tea Party” group. Discussion on only non-political use. Commissioner Whittington commented that he feels this should not be allowed, due to denial of groups in the past. Commissioner Carl commented that the setting of precedence if allowed and that traffic is a safety concern. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow the group to assemble a non-partisan political gathering in the parking lot of the Courthouse on August 21, 2010 from 1-3 pm with permission being granted by the Gladwin City Police Department, and that this matter is being granted without precedence. Roll call vote as follows: Walters – yes, Carl – yes, Rhode – yes, Reid – yes, Killian – yes, Smith – yes, Whittington – no. 6 yes, 1 no. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Resolutions for consideration – none at this time.

Correspondence was reviewed by the Board.

Bev Przystas, MSU, welcomed Commissioner Killian to the Board, and then introduced her new District Coordinator, Shari Spoelman, to the Board. Ms. Spoelman spoke to the Board about the program changes occurring within MSU and provided handouts to the Board members. Discussion. The Board thanked Ms. Spoelman for attending their meeting and for the information.

Linda Kaufman, Executive Director – Community Mental Health, handed copies of the Annual Report out to the Board members for their review. Ms. Kaufman, and her

associate Paul Crawford, briefed the Board on patient statistics, budget cuts, and National health care. Discussion. Commissioner Walters commented that it is an honor to sit on the Mental Health Board, and until you serve you are unaware of the amount of work that they do for the community and what a fabulous job they are doing.

Lauren Essenmacher, Housing Commission, came before the Board to ask for adoption and approval of the 2010-11 budget. Ms. Essenmacher reviewed the increases to the budget and the need to take additional funds from her millage funds to balance the budget. Discussion on budget cuts and the possibility in reducing home delivered meals. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to approve the budget as presented, and to allow the additional funds to be moved from millage money. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Chairman Whittington then called for a short recess at 9:38 a.m.

Meeting called back to order by Chairman Whittington at 9:47 a.m.

Committee reports –

Commissioner Smith reported:

- That she had a lot of fun at Nationals.
- On sending a report via e-mail to Tobacco Township since she was out of town when the meeting was held.
- On attending the Beaverton City meeting on the 21st. The Board renewed the City Manager's Contract and renewed the contract with Waste Management for trash removal.
- That the District Library Board meeting is this evening and she will be attending.
- That the Miss Beaverton Scholarship pageant is Saturday June 26th at 7pm in the old Elementary School gym, noting all are welcome to attend.

Commissioner Walters reported:

- On attending the Sage Township meeting on the 9th.
- On the Sherman and Fair Board meetings on the 15th, noting that the Fair is July 12-17th and all is going well.
- On the Wiggins, Pratt, and Lake Contos improvement meetings on the 16th.
- On attending the Veterans meeting, noting that there have been comments daily on the outcome of the Veterans wall stating that it looks great. On two casualties from Michigan while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. First Lieutenant Joel Gentz of Grass Lake and Corporal Jeffrey Standfest of St. Clair. Also on the passing of WWII Veteran Emerson Guiliat of Sage Township.

Commissioner Killian reported:

- On attending the Beaverton Township meeting on the 14th, noting concerns with the EDC and Chamber "merger" and that he needs further information to take back to them for consideration.

- On the Insurance committee meeting held on the 16th with Brian Cote from Cadillac Insurance, commenting that he found this very interesting.
- On attending the Personnel meeting with Attorney Stoker, in place of Commissioner Smith.
- On the Beaverton All-Star Tournament held this weekend as a kickoff to the 4th of July activities.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- On attending the Bourret Township meeting on the 8th.
- On the Clement Township meeting on the 9th.
- On attending the Butman Township meeting on the 10th.
- On the Gladwin Township meeting on the 16th, and the Central Michigan Health Department Meeting on the same evening.
- On the Building and Grounds meeting on the 17th.

Commissioner Whittington reported on attending both of his Township meetings.

Commissioner Reid reported:

- On attending the EDC regular session on the 9th.
- On the Airport meeting on the 10th, noting that the fuel farm will be complete by the end of July.
- On attending the EDC Executive meeting to discuss the cooperation of EDC and the Chamber, noting both Boards are in agreement that options need to be reviewed and that they need to work together. Commissioner Carl commented that the term “merger” shouldn’t be used because the opinion received by MAC, but does agree that they should help each other and move cautiously.
- On the Building and Grounds meeting on the 17th and the bid received from Valley Roofing to repair the drainage issue at the Annex building. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the bid for repairs as discussed. Ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioner Carl asked if we have a local contractor that could do the repairs. Commissioner Reid commented that it is warranty work and they were the original contractor. Building and Grounds also discussed the moving of Bob Frei and Frank Starkweather to their new locations and that the law books in the hallway will be moved back into the room on the third floor. The Energy grant project is almost complete. Light bulbs are available to the public at no cost. The shed at the Parks and Rec area was discussed; noting that at this time there is no possibility in moving the items out to accommodate the new grooming equipment. Discussion on needed repairs and the opening/closing of the Park and Rec area.
- On discussion with Attorney Stoker and the Personnel committee regarding required liability insurance on the Parks and Rec workers. Communication will be sent to Mr. Seebeck. Commissioner Smith thanked the committee for researching the issue.
- On attending the Public Safety meeting on the 17th, noting pricing is being obtained to repair the eroded bank at the firing range. Discussion.
- On attending the Finance meeting on the 17th.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

- On speaking with outside insurance agencies on the 10th and 11th regarding 2011 insurance costs. Mr. Cote will be drafting some options and get with the committee at a later date.
- On attending the Health and Human Services meeting on the 1st, commenting that the 211 call sheets were reviewed.
- On the Michigan Works meeting in West Branch.
- On attending the Personnel meeting held on the 18th to discuss the Equalization Director position with Attorney Stoker. Discussion. Denise Hall, Equalization Director, requested that she speak to the Board on this matter in Executive Session. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to go into executive session to discuss a personnel contract issue with Ms. Hall. Ayes carried, motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to enter into a three month contract with Equity Assessments, Inc. at a monthly rate to be equal to the wage and fringe budgeted for the position to begin July 1, 2010 and to re advertise for the position through Michigan Works, Michigan Assessors Association, and MAC. Roll call vote as follows: Carl – yes, Rhode – yes, Reid – yes, Killian – yes, Smith – yes, Whittington – yes, Walters – yes. 7 yes, 0 no. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Rhode continued to report:

- On attending the Grayling Northern MAC and the visit to a juvenile facility. Legislative updates were discussed. Commissioner Rhode urged the Board to continue to remind their Legislatures to support the mandates that are already in place and stop passing new ones.

Finance Matters:

1. Leo Gary, Emergency Management, has requested that an expense line be established to cover storage costs for his equipment. A motion is needed to allow the Clerk to create line item 101-426-759.000. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to establish the line item as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
2. Mike Brubaker, 911 Administrator, is requesting to hire a 10th dispatcher to cover medical leave of two dispatchers and a pending retirement of another dispatcher. Mr. Brubaker explained that this individual would be hired now so that training can be complete before a retirement vacancy occurs. The committee is recommending that the position be allowed to be filled for training purposes, and for filling of vacancies to prevent overtime costs only through 2010, and that the 2011 budget will only contain expenses for 9 dispatchers. In addition, a motion is needed to allow the Clerk to calculate the additional amount needed in appropriations from the 280 fund to the General Fund to cover the expense. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to allow Mr. Brubaker to hire the additional dispatcher through January 1, 2011. Ayes carried, motion passed.

3. A request has been made to donate 16 hours of sick time from a Jail employee to an employee in the Treasurer's office. Per the Personnel Policy this is an acceptable transfer, and motion is needed to allow the Clerk to transfer the hours as requested. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow the Clerk to transfer the hours as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
4. The Committee has researched the possibility of making changes to the part-time Drain Commissioner position before the vacant position is filled. The committee is recommending that the wage remain the same, but no benefits will be paid for the part time position. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Smith, to eliminate the benefits of the Drain Commissioner and allow the wages to remain the same. Ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioner Whittington voting no.

Commissioner Carl then excused himself from the meeting.

Commissioner Rhode then commented on the cash balances by fund and the need to continue to watch departmental spending. The Treasurer noted that the General Fund balance includes the last of the tax payments due.

Commissioner Reid stated that he was approached by an individual organizing a canoe race that would like to launch from Chappel Dam. Commissioner Reid stated he would be responsible for opening the gate and could help organize. Cathy Roehrs commented that there is a lot of liability in having individuals out there, noting that fencing is not yet complete around the generators and other areas out there and that there is new grass seeding. Discussion. Commissioner Smith stated she would like more specifics on the event before she could support.

It was noted that Tom Hinman dropped off flyers for the Solid Waste disposal.

*Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to receive and file various reports with corrections. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***

*Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Reid, to adjourn. Ayes carried, **motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m. until July 13, 2010 unless otherwise directed.*

Laura Brandon-Maveal, Clerk

Terry Whittington, Chairman