

## Commissioners' Minutes of May 22, 2007

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, May 22, 2007 in regular session. 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 deletions.

**Judge Roy Mienk** addressed the Board regarding the minutes of May 8 and the committee meeting held regarding wages of the Judicial Secretary. Judge Mienk noted that “law suit” was not mentioned by the Judges, but by Chairman Whittington.

*Chairman Whittington replied that Mr. Kilmer had mentioned “funding dispute” and he must have understood his intent.*

Judge Mienk continued in noting that he was not “unhappy” with his office, he was pleased, but merely pointed out some things that could have been done differently.

The **minutes of the regular May 8, 2007 meeting** were then considered. Motion by Commissioner Reid, seconded by Commissioner Carl, to accept as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.

The **semi-monthly Finance Report** totaling \$ 79,653.54 was then reviewed. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Reid, to approve for payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – none at this time

**Chairman Whittington reported:**

- On communication from the Department of Treasury regarding the Convention Facilities Tax.
- On the Council on Aging second quarter performance analysis and comments on shrinking budgets due to funding cuts.
- On the Fax received from Clare County Administrator noting that Clare County had approved payment of 50% wages for Judge Mienk’s Secretary at \$17.87 per hour retroactive to March 18, 2007, and further that effective Jan. 1, 2008 Ms. Uhl would receive the same pay rate as Ms. Primeau.
- On the Notice of Special Commissioner Meeting for June 5 at 9 a.m. regarding the Chappel Dam project and Assessment Rolls.
- On receipt of the Region VII Area Agency on Aging second quarter analysis report.

**Marti Miller, Sherman Township Resident**, came before the Board regarding her 2006 tax bills. Ms. Miller stated that she had had her property resurveyed and receives several tax bills, which she paid. She noted that now she is getting notice from the Treasurer's office of non payment with late fees and penalties on one parcel. In researching the matter, Ms. Miller noted that the property while bearing her property code was listed under another persons name and the tax bill had originally been sent to that person. Ms. Miller stated that while she has no problem with paying the taxes owed, she feels that the penalties and interest should be waived because the error was made in the Treasurer's office and Equalization. Discussion.

*Equalization Director Denise Hall commented that discussions with Ms. Miller had revealed the error—which has since been corrected.*

*Treasurer Christy VanTiem stated that just because Ms. Miller did not receive a statement –that is not an excuse-- and that she (Ms. VanTiem) does not have the authority to waive late fees and penalties.*

Matter will be referred to the County Affairs committee for further consideration. Commissioner Reid moved that in the meantime it be recommended that Ms. Miller pay the taxes including penalties and interest, unless something can be worked out with the County Treasurer and State Treasury. Motion seconded by Commissioner Carl. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Hargrave-yes, Carl-yes, Rhode-yes, Reid-yes, Posey-yes, Hoag-yes and Whittington-yes. Ayes carried, motion passed.

County Treasurer Christy VanTiem came before the Board presenting a proposed **RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF 2007 GLADWIN COUNTY (CITY OF GLADWIN WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM) REFUNDING BONDS**. Motion by Commissioner Hoag, seconded by Commissioner Rhode, to adopt the resolution as presented. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Carl-yes, Rhode-yes, Reid-yes, Posey-yes, Hoag-yes, Whittington-yes and Hargrave-yes. Ayes carried, Resolution #2007-11 declared adopted. (copy of complete resolution available at the County Clerk's Office)

**Commissioner Hoag reported:**

- On the DPW meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup> and discussions regarding the City Water & Sewer Resolution.
- That he had attended the Beaverton City Council meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>, noting that Beverly Miller, City Clerk had been appointed as interim city manager.

**Chairman Whittington** commented on the Emergency Management Exercise held on Friday May 18<sup>th</sup> at Skeels School. The Chairman commended all those who participated and noted that he felt the exercise went very well.

**Commissioner Hargrave reported:**

- That he had attended the Sage Township meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>.
- On attending the May 10<sup>th</sup> Airport Commission meeting, and commented on current projects and activities.
- That he had attended the May 18<sup>th</sup> Finance committee meeting
- On attending the May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at Butman with Senator Stamas, Representative Moore and Larry Merrill of MTA.
- That he had been at the Airport for the Gypsy Moth spray on May 21<sup>st</sup> -- noting that all went well.

**Commissioner Posey reported:**

- That she had met with Laura Brandon on May 10<sup>th</sup> regarding financial questions – noting that it was good to get the other side of the financial picture as she previously had been working with the County Treasurer.
- That she had attended the Beaverton Township Board meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> and commented on items addressed there.
- That on May 18<sup>th</sup> she had attended the special financial meeting as an audience member and felt that it went well.
- That on May 21<sup>st</sup> she had attended the Parks and Rec. commission meeting. Russ Skinner and Rick Seebeck were doing work on the trails for bikes and hiking and had requested ID badges - as they had been questioned about their rights to be there. Motion by Commissioner Posey, seconded by Commissioner Reid, that some type of ID badges, be issued as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed. Parks and Rec. board members – who volunteer their time asked if there is or could be some discount for them when they rent the facilities. Matter referred to committee to formulate written rental policies and fees.

**Sheriff Shea** informed Board members that Officer John Tyler would be receiving a “life saving” award at Arenac County this evening (May 22<sup>nd</sup>)

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

**Chairman Whittington** reported on the computer situation in Equalization and asked that the Data Committee meet with Ms. Hall and look at options to insure that this situation will not happen again.

**Commissioner Carl reported:**

- On attending the May 8<sup>th</sup> Bourret Township meeting and commented on items of discussion there.
- On the May 9<sup>th</sup> Clement Township meeting and discussions on road issues.
- On the May 10<sup>th</sup> Butman Township meeting and agenda issues.
- That on May 16<sup>th</sup> he had attended the Gladwin Township Board meeting
- That on May 21 he attended the meeting held in Butman, regarding proposals in Lansing to eliminate and/or consolidate township government, and specifically HB 4780 which if passed would strip townships of the responsibility of elections, assessing and tax collection –moving them to the County level. Commissioner Carl noted that approximately 65 township and county officials were present voicing their opposition and concern regarding these issues. Senator Tony Stamas, Representative Tim Moore and Larry Merrill from Michigan Townships Association, were also present to field questions and participate in discussion. While all present at the meeting were opposed to the proposed legislation, concern was expressed because the bill seems to be on a “fast track” in Lansing and was being backed by the Speaker of the House Andy Dillon. Commissioner Carl moved that the recent resolutions passed by this Board be sent to Michigan Association of Counties with a request that they take a stand against this legislation. Motion supported by Commissioner Hoag. Ayes carried, motion passed.

**Commissioner Reid reported:**

- On the May 9<sup>th</sup> EDC meeting, current activities and discussions had regarding meeting location. .
- That on May 15 he and Commissioner Carl had met with Drain Commissioner Sherry Augustine regarding Chappel Dam issues. .
- That on June 4<sup>th</sup> a Public Hearing was scheduled at Sage Township regarding the Chappel Dam project.
- That there would also be a Special Board meeting on June 5 at 9 a.m. regarding the Chappel Dam Repair Project and Assessment Rolls.
- On attending the May 16<sup>th</sup> Secord Township meeting and discussions had regarding road issues.

Commissioner Reid continued reporting:

- That the Bldg & Grounds meeting had been canceled as there was no items to be addressed, however quotes had been received for paving to cap off the new parking spaces at the west end of the courthouse. .

Pyramid Paving	\$9950.00
Central Asphalt, Inc	\$5500.00
Janet Asphalt Co.	\$3387.00

Motion by Commissioner Reid to have the project done by Janet Asphalt at \$3387.00 to be paid from Grounds Care & Maintenance 101-265-935.000. .

Motion seconded by Commissioner Carl Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Hoag voting no.

- That work on the ramp at the jail will start on June 4 or 5.

**Bev Przystas, Cooperative Extension Director**, presented County Partner reports on current projects and activities.

*Coral Beth Rowley updated Board members on the family nutrition program, the current Project Fresh Season and cooking and canning classes that will be offered.*

Ms. Przystas noted dates for the County Fair were June 18 – 23, and informed members of the Economics of Rural Preservation Workshop scheduled for 8:30 on June 5 at the Doherty in Clare. Ms. Przystas also introduced Amy Gleason Brubaker the new 4-H program associate. Report was also had on completion of the Leadership program and plans that are underway for next year's program.

**Commissioner Rhode reported:**

- That he had attended the May 9<sup>th</sup> EDC meeting.
- On the May 14<sup>th</sup> Personnel committee meeting had with the County Clerk regarding office hours and staffing. The Clerk's office currently has "non-public" hours from 3:30 – 4:30 each day because of additional duties and staff shortages. It was noted that this is only a temporary solution and that staffing issues would be further addressed at budget time.
- That he had attended the Fair Board meeting;
- On attending the Health Board meeting in Mt. Pleasant
- That he had attended the Gladwin Township meeting and related items of discussion there.

**Commissioner Rhode continued reporting:**

- On the Finance meeting on May 18 and the meeting following on budget issues. Discussion was had regarding funding issues, the effect of State requirements and information on funding that will be available in July.
- On matters before finance as follows:

1. On the need for a formal motion for billing of 2005 Indirect Costs as follows:

201 County Road	\$ 4,955.00
210 EMS	\$18,495.00
216 E-911	\$ 1,740.00
239 Gypsy Moth	\$ 8,586.00
256 ROD –Technology	\$ 4,513.00
280 911 Surcharge	\$ 2,845.00
282 911 Wireless	\$ 1,312.00
283 Inmate Commissary	\$ 2,327.00
286 Jail Telephone	\$ 800.00
288 Senior Services	\$ 2,286.00
517 Tax Reversion	\$ 8,708.00
588 Dial A Ride	\$ 3,343.00

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Hoag, to approve billing as stated. Ayes carried, motion passed.

2. That Laura Brandon has requested payment for 5 unused vacation days as allowed under UAW #7 contract. Total payment of \$570.15 to be paid from 101-215-704.000. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Carl, to approve payment as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
3. That Don Spencer, Ass't FOC, has requested permission to purchase 500 handbooks at a cost of approximately \$800.00. Payment to be made from 101-141-727.000. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Reid, to approve purchase as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
4. That District Court Magistrate Mike Greer has requested permission to transfer funds within his budget to accommodate training requirements for his staff and allow additional funds for a visiting judge.

101-136-706.0	\$3,225.00
101-136-860.0	\$3000.00
101-136-804.0	\$ 225.00

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Reid, to approve transfer as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

**Commissioner Rhode continued reporting on finance matters:**

5. That Drain Commissioner Sherry Augustine, has requested that she and her Deputy be allowed to attend the Annual Summer Drain Commissioners Conference. Total cost of \$444.00 for lodging and meals and \$250.00 registration to be paid from 101-275-860.000. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Carl, to approve attendance as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
6. That after discussions with the Sheriff regarding the pay rate for Kitchen Manager, Tammy Wuelfing; it is the recommendation of the committee to grant a 1% increase to Ms. Wuelfing effective 6/1/07. It was noted that Ms. Wuelfing had received 1% in January and the additional 1% is with the understanding that she not work holidays and overtime, but make use of part-time employees. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Hargrave, to approve the recommendation of the committee. Ayes carried, motion passed.
7. On the requested wages for Judge Mienk's secretary, noting that Gladwin had not passed the requested increase, but that Clare had approved the proposal.

Commissioner Hoag then moved to reconsider the action of May 8<sup>th</sup> regarding the wages of Judge Mienk's secretary, seconded by Commissioner Carl. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Discussion. Commissioner Carl then moved to approve payment of wages as approved by Clare County and stated below: Motion seconded by Commissioner Reid.

1. **Adjust pay to \$17.87 per hour retroactive to March 18, 2007.**
2. **Effective January 1, 2008 adjust pay to \$19.64 per hour or the same rate as Ms. Primeau, Judge Evan's Assignment Clerk**
3. **that adjustments given to other Court non-union positions (i.e. FY 2008 pay changes) would be applied to Ms. Uhl.**

Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Rhode-no, Reid-yes, Posey-yes, Hoag-yes, Whittington-no, Hargrave-yes and Carl-yes. Ayes carried, motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Gina Conrad** commented on progress of GIS

**Commissioner Hargrave** questioned computer issues in Equalization. Ms. Hall reported that the information that was lost could not be recovered.

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

Commissioner Hoag then moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Reid. Ayes carried, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. June 5, 2007 unless otherwise ordered.

Laura Flach  
Clerk

Terry Whittington  
Chairman