

## Commissioner Minutes of March 23, 2010

*The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session March 23, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Vice-Chairman Rhode. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present, except Chairman Whittington who had been excused.*

**Agenda** – *no correction or additions.*

Vice-Chairman Rhode stated that this meeting has been scheduled as the statutory Equalization meeting, and because of the Equalization Director being out of state on a family emergency, the meeting would be recessed until April 13, 2010.

The **Regular minutes of March 9, 2010** were then considered. *Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Reid, 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 - \$65,899.96 231 Fund - \$75,806.04.*

The **semi-monthly Finance report totaling \$79,529.82** was then considered for payment. *Motion by Commissioner Posey, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve the bills for payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

### **Public Comments –**

*Rebekah Townsend, Chairman of the Gladwin County Parks and Recreation Area, came before the Board with a letter of request to keep the lodge open. Ms. Townsend read the letter to the Board, explaining ways to keep the lodge open with efforts from volunteers. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow the Parks and Recreation committee permission to operate the park under the conditions stated in Ms. Townsend's letter. Discussion. Commissioner Carl questioned the times the park would be open and who would be responsible to close the park after rentals. Commissioner Smith discussed that the deposit would be used to guarantee proper cleaning of the lodge, or that it would be kept and the volunteer would be responsible for cleaning. Discussion of separation of funds, and maintaining a cost neutral plan to the County. Commissioners Smith and Carl withdrew their motion and support. Commissioner Carl suggested that a member of Park and Recreation met with the Building and Grounds committee so that all the "wrinkles" could be ironed out. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Posey, to give permission to the Park and Recreation committee to re-open the Park for rentals effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, after a clarification meeting with the Building & Grounds committee. Ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioner Rhode voting no.*

*Gina Conrad, Gypsy Moth, reminded the Board that the Farm Show is today.*

**Correspondence from the Chairman** – none at this time.

*Frank Starkweather, EDC Director*, came before the Board and presented them with a 2010 CEDS list for approval. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Carl, to adopt the list as the “official” 2010 CEDS list for Gladwin County.* Mr. Starkweather handled questions from the Board. **Ayes carried, motion passed.** Commissioner Carl then asked for an update on Roll Right. Mr. Starkweather gave a briefing on the products made and the marketing structure being put into place. Discussion. Commissioner Carl noted that now would be the time to re-present to the Townships their interest in EDC for 2011.

**Reverend Karen Blatt** came before the Board as a *member of the Gladwin County Chamber of Commerce Board* to discuss the “merger” with EDC. Reverend Blatt spoke about the Chamber Mission Statement and the fact that the Chamber in Gladwin doesn’t endorse candidates; which has been a concern for some Commissioners. Reverend Blatt stated that the clear mission is to be non-partisan and serve the public. Discussion on past candidate issues. Commissioner Carl stated his concern from his Townships that they were already being asked to partially fund EDC, GIS, Uniform Addressing, Household Hazardous Waste, noting that he felt it was improper to designate monies passed by the Townships for EDC to be used for EDC / Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Carl further stated that he had emailed the Michigan Association of Counties and received a reply from their legal council as follows: “You cannot merge a public and private organization. You can however contact one to assist the other on their respective tasks.” Commissioner Carl then provided a copy of the e-mail to Reverend Blatt for her review. Reverend Blatt ended with saying that the issue is only being explored and this needs to be about helping each other.

**Lauren Essenmacher, City County Transit**, brought before the Board a stimulus contract for two busses and a computerized dispatch program. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Posey, to allow the Chairman to sign the contract as presented.* Roll call vote as follows: Walters – yes, Carl – yes, Rhode – yes, Reid – yes, Posey – yes, Smith – yes, Whittington – excused. 6 yes, 1 excused. **Ayes carried, motion passed.** Ms. Essenmacher then gave an update on Council on Aging. Commissioner Carl asked if 2-1-1 was having an impact on her staff. Ms. Essenmacher stated that there has been some activity, but they are working to educate so that calls are being directed properly.

Commissioner Reid then opened the sealed **bids for the Sheriff vehicle that was advertised for sale.** Rick Ghent - \$401.00 Leo Gary - \$510.00 Frank Grimes - \$785.00. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Smith, to accept the bid from Frank Grimes for \$785.00.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

## **Committee Reports**

### **Commissioner Smith reported-**

1. On attending the Beaverton City Council meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Ross Lake is not going to be lowered to complete the final dam project, noting that it had been rumored.

2. That she attended the Parks and Rec committee on March 18<sup>th</sup>, and the following information is being requested:
  - a. Rick Seebeck reported that the telephone poles have been delivered that will be used to complete trail construction and access. The committee is requesting Rick be granted **permission to use the large tractor** that is stored on the grounds to move these poles to the needed location. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Posey, to put the concept of leasing equipment to Mr. Seebeck into Building and Grounds for their review and recommendation to the Board. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***
  - b. The grant has been written and submitted for a snowmobile and groomer for use on the grooming of trails next winter. The results of this grant will be reported when known.
  - c. The committee is asking to be allowed to install a “**Doggie Park**”. Free fencing is available. *Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Walters, to refer the matter to Building and Grounds for their review. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***
3. On attending the NMSAS meeting, noting that Gladwin County had a total of 190 admissions for treatment in 2009. Commissioner Smith stated that she found it very interesting and that she had brought back a printed annual report that may be copied for each Commissioner.

**Commissioner Walters reported:**

- On attending the Sage Township meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup>, noting that the Board has requested that Mr. Starkweather come back to answer EDC questions.
- On the Sherman Township meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup>.
- On attending the Democratic meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>.
- On attending the Mental Health meeting, noting Regional Director of Finance, Jim House, passed away. Commissioner Walters asked that the Board’s thoughts be with Mr. House’s family at this time.
- On the Veterans meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup>, noting Commissioner Rhode attended. There will be a Memorial Wall presentation at the next Board meeting. Commissioner Walters then read the Veterans who had passed since their last meeting: Charles Taylor – WWII, Gladwin City Donald Davis – Korean, Beaverton Township Loren Smith – Korean, Grout Township. Commissioner Walters then reported that Marine Corporal Jacob Turbett of Canton was killed in Afghanistan on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Commissioner Posey reported:**

- On attending the Finance meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Commissioner Carl reported:**

- On attending the Bourret Township meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>.
- On the Clement Township meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

- On attending the Butman Township meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup>, thanking Gina Conrad for her GIS presentation.
- On the Personnel meeting with the Judges, Mr. Schlese, and Attorney Stoker to discuss the Facilitator position. Several Commissioners commented on their feelings. Commissioner Rhode commented on discussions to hire a Budget Director, and to refer the matter to Personnel to draft a job description.
- On attending the Michigan Works meeting in West Branch with Commissioner Rhode.
- That he will be attending the CMDHD meeting tomorrow.
- That there will be a Data meeting on Friday.
- That the Clement Township Supervisor, Bob Doke, has passed away.

Commissioner Carl then asked the Board to consider allowing Commissioner Smith to take his place on Personnel and he would take her place on County Affairs as they had talked and they were agreeable. Commissioner Carl asked if a motion to do this was necessary. Vice-Chairman Rhode stated as long as both parties were agreeable and the Board was not opposed. No Board comment was made.

#### **Commissioner Reid reported:**

- On attending the Sherman Township meeting to answer EDC and ORV questions. Ms. Conrad passed out revised maps, noting that Sargent Road was removed in the Northwest corner. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Posey, to post the revised ORV map effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, after the March 30<sup>th</sup> deadline to the Townships.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**
- On attending the Secord Township meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>, noting things are going well.
- On the Building and Grounds meeting, commenting that the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor vault is being repainted and cleaned, the office will be back in before the week's end, and the Register of Deeds office is working on quotes for the water damaged books.
- That the **Energy Grant Bids** are due back by March 30<sup>th</sup> and the Consortium meets on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Commissioner Reid stated that Building and Grounds will meet on March 31<sup>st</sup> to review bids, but would like a formal meeting before the 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the bid for a contractor. *Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the committee to choose a contractor and spend up to \$25,000 toward the project; with formal approval at the Board meeting of April 13<sup>th</sup>.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**
- On the request from **Zeitzy daycare to use a portion of the County grounds** behind the "dance studio" for playground equipment. Discussion of Jacobson's opinion for use of County property. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow Attorney Jacobson to draft a lease agreement with the property to be used within State laws.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.** Commissioner Rhode voting no.
- On the spreadsheet of events for Gladwin County that needs to be referred to the Data committee for it's uploading to the County website.

**Commissioner Rhode reported:**

- On attending the Health Summit and discussion of Education, Transportation, and Finance.
- On the ECMCLG meeting and current projects going on.
- On the Health and Human Services meeting and the stats received from 2-1-1.
- On attending the Finance meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

***Finance Matters –***

1. Bob Frei, IT Director, has submitted a bill of **\$2,424.00** for the County's **anti-virus subscription**. If approved, purchase to come from 101-258-815.002. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow for the purchase as outlined. Ayes carried, **motion passed**.*
2. The Equalization Director has requested that her part-time clerk be allowed to work and extra 1.5 hours/day for three days while she is out of town on a family emergency. The Finance committee approved this request already since the extra hours took place on March 19, 22, 23.
3. Christy VanTiem, County Treasurer, requested that she be allowed to **change credit card processing companies** in order to save the user 2.05% in fees. *Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Posey, to allow the Treasurer to change companies as requested. Ayes carried, **motion passed**.*

**Public Comments-**

Charles Screws, Eagleson Road resident, spoke to the Board about the closing of the Park area and the amount of use it receives from the public. Discussion. Commissioner Smith gave Mr. Screws the dates and times of the Parks and Recreation meetings so that he may attend. Discussion.

Christy VanTiem, County Treasurer, asked that she be allowed to **advance funds from the 275 and Unallocated** in the event that General Fund has a "cash flow" issue. *Motion by Commissioner Posey, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow the transfer of funds as needed through 2010, and to be paid back to the funds by December 31, 2010. Ayes carried, **motion passed**.*

Ray Hartwell, Undersheriff, inquired how fast the energy grant project would be starting. Commissioner Reid stated it should be within two months.

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

The Board then recessed at 11:15 a.m. until April 13, 2010 at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise ordered.