

Commissioner's Minutes of September 23, 2008

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, September 23, 2008. 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 corrections.

The **minutes of the September 9** regular meeting **and the September 16** special meeting were then reviewed. Clerk Laura Flach noted a spelling correction in the Sept. 9 minutes of “costs” and Commissioner Rhode noted that Laura Brandon’s comments on the first page of the Sept. 16 minutes should include that she stated “that both sides should come together for resolution of the issue”. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Posey, to approve the minutes with the correction and addition. Ayes carried, motion passed.

The **semi-monthly Finance Report** totaling \$74,874.51 was then considered. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to approve for payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed

PUBLIC COMMENTS: – none

Consideration was then given to the Huron County **Resolution regarding sewage spills and the environmentally destructive problems as a result of those spills**. Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Carl, that the same resolution be adopted by Gladwin County. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Walters-yes, Carl-yes, Rhode-yes, Reid-yes, Posey-yes, Hoag-yes and Whittington-yes. Ayes carried, **Resolution #2008-30** declared adopted. (Resolution attached)

Chairman Whittington reported:

- On communication from Gladwin City Administrator Bob Moffit with regards to the City’s desire to work with the County on recent ORV law changes. Commissioner Reid commented on the process and noted that he feels things will all be worked out to have something concrete in place by the spring of 2009. Discussion.
- On a resolution received from the AFL-CIO Labor Council urging the county to adopt and fund the court contracts

Zoning Administrator Sandy Walling then commented on the need for a **Resolution adopting the County Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments**, which were approved by motion at the last meeting. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Walters, 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 Walters-yes. Ayes carried, **Resolution #2008-31 declared adopted**. (Resolution attached)
Discussion was then had regarding current zoning issues.

Chairman Whittington then commented on the Board's receipt of unsigned letters, accusing members of trying to hide the fact that one board member is not living in the district that they represent. The Chair wanted it a matter of record that the letters had been received, but noted that the Board has no authority to address the matter. Commissioner Posey replied that she has purchased another home within the City –that she has contacted State Elections Division and was advised that as long as she does not sell or rent the house within her district, and as long as she does not change her voter registration from that address – she is within the law.

Commissioner Hoag reported:

- That he attended the Beaverton City Council meeting on September 15th.
- On attending the special board meeting on Sept. 16th.
- That there was not a quorum for the Sept. 17th DPW meeting.
- That he attended the Public Safety meeting of Sept. 18th.

Commissioner Walters reported:

- That he had attended both the Sage & Sherman Township meetings-- and that both boards had questions and concerns regarding the ORV legislation and ordinances.
- On attending the “Adopt-a-Dog” event at the park over the weekend – commenting on activities and noting that it was used as a fund raising event for the Animal Shelter.
- On activities of the Veterans committee --special thanks to the Master Gardeners for doing the flowers at the memorial. Information was also given on the recent passing of veterans Robert Lee Barnes and Neil Woodruff as well as long time businessman Dick Priemer.

Commissioner Posey reported:

- On attending the Sept. 11 Solid Waste meeting – commenting on the October 22 Recycling Summit scheduled to be held at the Beaverton Presbyterian Church.
- On attending the Special Board meeting held on Sept. 16.
- That she also had attended the Public Safety committee meeting on Sept. 18.
- On progress of the “Helping Hands” Restaurant and noted that a yard sale will be held on October 4th to raise funds.

Chairman Whittington then commented on the baby pantry located in Beaverton and the need for infant and children's car seats—noting that if anyone has unused seats -- donations would certainly be appreciated.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- That he attended the Bourret Township meeting on Sept. 9, the Clement Township meeting on Sept. 10 and the Butman Township meeting on Sept. 11.
- That he attended the Personnel committee meeting of Sept. 16th.
- On attending the Gladwin Township meeting on Sept. 17th.
- On the Buildings and Grounds committee meeting on Sept. 18th.
- On the townships' desire to be included in the decision making process regarding ORV regulations.

Commissioner Reid reported:

- On the passing of his Grandfather Dick Priemer and thanked the Board for their thoughtfulness.
- That he had attended the Airport meeting on Sept. 11 –and commented on current activities there.
- That on Sept. 11 he had attended the Hay Township meeting.
- On attending the Sept. 12 Budget committee meeting and review and work being done on the 2009 budgets.
- That he also had attended the special meeting on Sept. 16th.
- On the Secord Township meeting held on Sept. 17 and the concerns had regarding some Emergency Management grants that were allegedly not taken advantage of.

Commissioner Reid continued reporting:

- On the Building and Grounds and Public Safety committee meeting and matters of discussion as follows:
 - Unfinished tasks/business – which will be addressed with Mr. Frei.
 - Needed repairs of the health Department roof and that nothing had been received from IKO.
 - Concerns with speeding within the county –which had been addressed by Sharon Thurston
 - That the committee had again looked at fixing the Detective car (\$1000 deductible)–and while he (Commissioner Reid) feels it should be fixed because it is County property and hopefully will be pass on for future use -- the committee had no recommendation. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Hoag to proceed with having the car repaired, supported by Commissioner Reid. Vote of 4 yes and 3 no, motion passed.

Discussion was then had regarding **Emergency Management grants** and the concerns addressed by Secord Township. It was noted, for clarification, that one grant for \$25,000 was returned unused – as it was a matching grant for an emergency management secretary and it was felt that as the Emergency Management position is part-time, a secretary was not warranted. It was also noted that there remains approximately \$7000 in the NIMS training grant – which is still available through the end of the year.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

- That he had attended the September 9th Community Service meeting.
- On the Sept. 11th Economic Development meeting.
- On the progress of the house numbering project.
- That he had attended the MAC meeting in Grayling.
- On attending the City Council meeting
- On the Personnel committee meeting and the special meeting of September 16th.
- That a tentative agreement has been reached with the Deputies.
- On the Sept. 17th Central Michigan Health Dept. meeting in Mt. Pleasant
- That he had also attended the Gladwin Township meeting.
- On the Sept. 19th Finance committee meeting.

Commissioner Rhode continued reporting:

- That the agreement reached on Sept. 16th --to transfer the difference in the higher insurance rates of court employees (because the courts and county have not agreed on the court's contract) from general fund to the Judicial Management fund, has been completed. The cost difference of \$52,958.32 has been transferred as agreed.
- On matters before finance as follows:
 1. On the request of Emergency Management Coordinator Bob Duby for mileage for his personal vehicle in the amount of \$535.50 for January – August. If approved the bill would be paid from 101-426-860.000. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Reid, to approve payment on the condition that any future mileage bills be submitted at least quarterly.
 2. On the budget amendment needed to bring the Emergency Management's equipment maintenance line out of the red as follows:

101-426-860.0	\$1000.00
101-426-933.0	\$1000.00

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Hoag, to transfer as stated. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 3. That Circuit Court Probation is requesting that a security window be installed at their front counter. Cost of installation is \$545.00 and would be paid from 101-151-933.000. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve installation with work to be done prior to year's end. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 4. That the Sheriff's Department is requesting to make their annual ammunition purchase –total of \$1850.56 to be paid from 101-301-728.000. *Sheriff Shea noted that this purchase should be sufficient for now and into 2010.* Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to approve purchase as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 5. On the request of Sheriff Dept. employees wishing to donate sick time to a fellow employee. The hours being donated are all within current policies. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow transfer as requested – the Clerk's office will make necessary entries to record for payroll purposes. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 6. That because of GASB 34 requirements, an actuarial study on retirement benefits needs to be calculated for inclusion in the 2008 audit. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to proceed with getting the actuarial done as required. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Discussion was then had regarding the Emergency Management Coordinator using his personal car. Motion by Commissioner Reid to allow Mr. DUBY to drive his personal vehicle, while on county business, with mileage to be turned in quarterly. Motion supported by Commissioner Carl. Ayes carried, motion passed.

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

Commissioner Reid then commented on the County budget and budgeting process--and specifically on a recent incident where a county employee spent time and travel costs to purchase an item at the K- Mart in West Branch—an item which could have been purchased locally at a number of businesses. Commissioner Reid pointed out that it is small “stuff” such as this that adds up and negatively affects the budget and county operations.

Commissioner Reid then moved to adjourn, supported by Commissioner Hoag. Ayes carried, meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m. until October 14, 2008, unless otherwise ordered.

Laura Flach
Clerk

Terry Whittington
Chairman

COUNTY OF GLADWIN

Resolution #2008-30

WHEREAS, Michigan's municipal sewer systems released 26 billion gallons of raw or partially treated sewage into surface waters during 2007, and

WHEREAS, even though this figure is down 30% from the 37 billion gallons released in 2006, this amount is largely excessive and completely unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, these sewage spills promote algae growth, which in turn perishes and results in the muck that is contaminating our beaches; and

WHEREAS, due to this muck and the E. coli that goes with it, this is no longer just a tourism issue, this is a public health issue that needs to be addressed immediately; and

WHEREAS, it is noted that much of the amount of sewage that spills into waterways is dependent on the weather, yet at the same time Michigan's largest city released 23 billion gallons while Michigan's second-largest city only released 1.6 million gallons, which leads us to believe it's not just the weather and there is definitely room for improvement; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners strongly urges our State and Federal leaders, along with other Great Lakes states and Canada, to address this issue posthaste. Funding needs to be provided to build a better infrastructure to alleviate this ongoing, environmentally-destructive problem; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners strongly opposes the continued allowance, without consequence, of these spills. We cannot continue to pollute the Great Lakes, the world's largest fresh-water source, any more than has already been done; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Representative Tim Moore, Senator Tony Stamas, U. S. Senator Carl Levin, and Congressman Bart Stupak.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF GLADWIN

I, Laura E. Flach, Clerk for the County of Gladwin and Clerk to the County Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting on September 23, 2008.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal at Gladwin, Michigan, this 23rd day of September, 2008.

Laura E. Flach, Clerk to the Board