

Commissioner's Minutes of April 24, 2007

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, April 24, 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 except Commissioner Carl.

There were no corrections or additions to the agenda.

The minutes of April 10, 2007 were then reviewed. Commissioner Rhode noted that on page 2 on Chairman Whittington's report – he did not attend the insurance seminar with Chairman Whittington. Commissioner Hoag moved to approve the minutes as corrected.

Treasurer Christy VanTiem then stated that she wanted a correction made to the Budget Workshop minutes of April 10. Ms. VanTiem called the Board's attention to the paragraph which reads "Ms. VanTiem noted that she did not want to do that, it is her feeling that she should be given copies of everything in advance." Ms. VanTiem stated that she did not say "that she did not want to do that", but noted that she does read the minutes and it is her feeling that she should be given copies of everything in advance.
(Budget hearing minutes will be changed as requested)

Commissioner Rhode seconded the motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Ayes carried, motion passed.

The semi-monthly finance report totaling \$151,152.12 was considered. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Hoag, to approve for payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Karen Eighmy presented a handout on Adopt-a- Pet day at Animal Shelter, commented on the program.

Chairman Whittington reported:

- Communication received from Terry Lynn Land regarding organ donations.
- On recent proposals regarding reducing or eliminating township government and the meeting scheduled at Butman on Monday May 21st at 6 p.m. for discussion of these issues.
- On the scheduled dates for MAC meetings.
- On communications from Region VII Agency on Aging regarding their "draft" budget.

Chairman Whittington continued reporting:

- On the Human Services Board meeting notice.
- On the grant for cameras in the patrol cars, which needs to be signed. Motion by Commissioner Hoag, seconded by Commissioner Reid, to allow signature by the Chairman. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- On the MMRMA paperwork to establish separate liability policy for courts – noting that there will be no change in coverage. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Reid, to approve the separate policy as recommended by MMRMA and allow the Chairman to sign as necessary. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Denise Hall, Equalization Director, presented the Annual 2007 Equalization Report. Ms. Hall reviewed several items of interest for the Boards information. Ms. Hall also presented figures for the last 5 years (of the 13 years under Proposal A) which show the County loss of over 7 million dollars as well as the loss of over 4 million by County Services – 911, Seniors, EMS etc. Ms. Hall asked that the Board adopt the Report as presented and authorize her to appear on behalf of the County before the State Tax Commission if required. Motion by Commissioner Rhode to accept the report as presented and authorize Ms. Hall to represent the County before the Tax Commission if necessary. Motion seconded by Commissioner Posey. Ayes carried, motion passed.

9:30 a.m. Commissioner Carl arrived at the meeting.

Drain Commissioner Sherry Augustine presented the Annual Drain Commission Report.

Ms. Augustine commented on the Chappel Dam project noting that bids would be opened on May 8th at 11 a.m. Review was had of the Annual Report with discussion on various county drains and drain issues.

Bob Duby, Emergency Management Coordinator reported on activities of his department, homeland security issues and grant dollars available to regions for various projects. Mr. Duby explained the exercise being planned with Skeels School and scheduled for May 18th from noon to 3 p.m. Mr. Duby noted that he is currently working on an Emergency Plan for the Fairground. Mr. Duby also informed the Board that Gladwin County has been selected to host a regional exercise (a multi-county exercise) and that plans are underway for the fall event.

Commissioner Reid thanked Mr. Duby for reporting on activities of his department and asked that it be a matter of record - that Mr. Alward, of the Fire Chiefs association, wanted it noted that the Fire Chiefs Association has no problems with Mr. Duby – that he is working well with them. Discussion was had with Mr. Duby on various emergency management issues.

Chairman Whittington then read communication from Ms. Stewart requesting that

Nancy Buzzell, TomTuchulski, and Linda Ellis be appointed to the Solid Waste Committee. Absent any objections from the Board, Chairman Whittington appointed the three individuals as requested.

Chairman Whittington explained that **Commissioner Carl had volunteered for the Saginaw R. C. & D. and is so appointed.**

Chairman Whittington also noted that **Commissioner Reid and Carl** have volunteered to work with Ms. Augustine on the Chappel Dam/Wiggins Lake project and would be known as “Project Assistants”.

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

Commissioner Reid reported:

- That he had attended the April 11th EDC meeting and discussions had on various topics.
- That he had attended the Hay Township Board meeting on April 12.
- That he had missed the Secord Township meeting because of a fire.
- On the April 18th Building and Grounds Committee meeting-
 - **Request from the Sheriff Dept./911 employees for installation of a sidewalk from the annex drive across the front lawn of the Sheriffs Dept. to the front entry.**
Quotes for the installation were as follows:
\$1630.00 from Kirk French
\$2581.00 from Hardwood Hills
Motion by Commissioner Reid to have the walk installed by Kirk French. Motion supported by Commissioner Posey. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 - Reported that the **Handicap ramp at the rear of the jail** is pulling away and needs to be removed from the building. Quotes for removal as follows:
\$3100.00 from Greaves Trucking
\$4470.00 from Doyle Donn
Motion by Commissioner Reid to have the ramp removed by Greaves, leaving the footings intact, with payment to be made from Cigarette Tax monies. Motion seconded by Commissioner Carl. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 - Reporting that the intent is to replace the ramp with a wooden structure and no estimates have yet been obtained, Commissioner Reid moved to **approve up to \$5500.00 for ramp construction.** Motion supported by Commissioner Carl. Ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioners Hoag and Posey voting no.
 - Reported that **sidewalks are in need of repair outside the District Court Offices and at the Health Department** and that quotes have been obtained as follows:
\$1650.00 from Hardwood Hills
\$2020.00 from Kirk French
Commissioner Reid moved to have the repairs done by Hardwood Hills at \$1650.00. Motion seconded by Chairman Whittington. Ayes carried, motion passed. Payment to be made from 101-265-935.000.

Commissioner Hargrave reported:

- That he attended the Sage Township Board meeting on April 11th and on issues of discussion.
- That he attended the Airport Commission meeting on April 13 and discussions had regarding budget, snow removal and hangar issues.
- On the April 17th Sherman Township Board meeting.

Commissioner Hoag reported:

- That on April 16th he attended the Beaverton City Council meeting and on topics of discussion at that meeting.

Commissioner Hargrave reported that Beaverton City has received grant monies and are putting in a walkway across the bridge to Ross Park.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- That he attended the Bourret Township Board meeting on April 10th.
- On attending the Clement Township Board meeting on April 11th.
- That the Gladwin Township Board meeting was held on April 18th and he attended.
- That he was also able to attend the Butman Township Board meeting, several Personnel committee meetings and the Finance committee meeting.
- On township concerns with recent proposals regarding the possible consolidation or elimination of Township Government and how the proposals are being met with great opposition from townships.

Commissioner Carl then read a proposed **Resolution in Support of Township Government** and moved for adoption of the same. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hoag. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Hargrave-yes, Carl-yes, Rhode-yes, Reid-yes, Posey-yes, Hoag-yes and Whittington-yes. Ayes carried, **Resolution #2007-9** declared adopted. (Resolution attached)

- On the State budget crisis and read a proposed **State Budget Crisis Resolution** and moved for adoption of the same. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hoag. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Carl-yes, Rhode-yes, Reid-yes, Posey-yes, Hoag-yes, Whittington-yes and Hargrave-yes. Ayes carried, **Resolution #2007-10** declared adopted. (Resolution attached)

Commissioner Posey reported:

- That on April 17th she was invited to attend the Personnel Committee meeting and stated that she felt the meeting was very beneficial.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

- That he attended the April 11th EDC meeting
- That on April 12th he attended a Workman's Comp. seminar in Bay City.
- On April 12th he attended the Sports Complex meeting.
- That he had attended the Gladwin City Council meeting as well as the Fair Board meeting, as well as various personnel and finance committee meetings.
- On matters before Finance as follows:
 1. That Undersheriff Hartwell has submitted a **request for two Deputies to attend a one- day training at Delta College.** Cost is \$85.00 each and would be paid from line #285-000-804.000 and no lodging would be required. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Hoag, to allow attendance as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 2. That Undersheriff Hartwell has also **requested to purchase the two in-car camera systems** that were budgeted for in the 2007 budget. It is expected that the estimated total cost of \$20,000.00 will be off-set by an MMRMA Grant in the amount of \$4500.00. Commissioner Rhode moved to authorize the purchase and allow the Undersheriff to proceed with grant application. Motion seconded by Commissioner Carl. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 3. That 911 Administrator Mike Brubaker, has **requested that Chuck Peters be allowed to attend a 40-hour training course at Delta.** The Cost of \$350.00 to be paid from 282-000-804.001. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Reid, to approve attendance as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
 4. That Mr. Brubaker has also requested **renewal of the CAD Annual Maintenance Agreement** with the total cost of \$12,364.00 to be paid from 282-000-933.000. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, seconded by Commissioner Carl, to approve renewal as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

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

Commissioner Hoag then moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Posey. Ayes carried, meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. until May 8, 2007 unless otherwise ordered.

Laura Flach
Clerk

Terry Whittington
Chairman

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT
#2007-9

WHEREAS: Township government is the oldest form of government continuing to function in America today, and

WHEREAS: Townships are a product of Michigan's early history, and

WHEREAS: It is the decision of the voters of each county to choose to establish township governments, and

WHEREAS: Township government provides services tailored to meet the needs of their residents, and

WHEREAS: Township officials represent the level of government closest and most responsive to the wishes of the people, and

WHEREAS: The citizens of Gladwin County have determined by vote years ago that they want township government,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Gladwin County Commission is opposed to the elimination or downsizing of any townships in the County of Gladwin , and request that the Michigan Senate and House leadership support the voters rights to government at the township level, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Jennifer Granholm, and the leadership of the Michigan Senate and House.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED: April 24, 2007

I, Laura E. Flach, County Clerk of the County of Gladwin, State of Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting held on April 24, 2007 at Gladwin, Michigan.

Gladwin County Clerk

**STATE BUDGET CRISIS RESOLUTION
#2007-10**

WHEREAS, after seven straight years of state budget deficits and four years of budget cuts, we are facing yet another \$3 billion shortfall in state revenue for the current and 2007-08 fiscal years; and

WHEREAS, major taxes have been cut over 32 times in the past decade, our unemployment rate remains one of the highest in the country, and our industrial base and auto industry continue to struggle; and

WHEREAS, the Single Business Tax (SBT), the primary tax paid by business in Michigan, will be entirely phased out by the end of the year with no replacement for the \$1.2 billion in revenue generated from this tax; and

WHEREAS, higher education in Michigan has already been cut by \$250 million which has resulted in college students and their families having to pay double digit tuition increases, while a college education is moving further out of reach for the state's middle class; and

WHEREAS, funding for local governments has been cut by \$2 billion for the last five years resulting in a loss of over 1,600 police officers and 2,000 fire fighters statewide, thereby compromising the safety of our local communities; and

WHEREAS, further cuts to the state safety net programs for food assistance, childcare and health care will only result in a shift of demand to already overburdened county and municipal programs.

WHEREAS, Gladwin County cannot sustain further cuts in essential state services and that further funding cuts will result in a loss of quality of life for the citizens of this state and our county, and further burden our ability to attract new business to our communities; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Legislature must demonstrate bipartisan leadership by (1) identifying a full replacement for the SBT and, (2) affirm their commitment to finding funding solutions to address the budget deficit in a manner that will move Michigan into a sound economic future and ensure a high quality of life for our residents, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm and our Senate and House leadership.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED: April 24, 2007

I, Laura E. Flach, County Clerk of the County of Gladwin, State of Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting held on April 24, 2007 at Gladwin, Michigan.

Gladwin County Clerk