

Commissioner Minutes of March 24, 2009

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session March 24, 2009. 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 except Commissioner Reid who was excused to be in court.

Agenda – There were no corrections or additions to the agenda.

The **Regular Board minutes and Public Hearing minutes of March 10, 2009** were then considered. *Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the minutes as presented.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

The **semi-monthly Finance report totaling \$175,806.77** was then considered for payment. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve the bills for payment as presented.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Public Comments:

Bev Przystas, MSU, thanked the Board for the action they took last meeting to allow her travel expenditure to Washington D.C., hoping that the entire Board read through the letter she had prepared to the Finance Committee outlining her anticipated yearly expenses. Ms. Przystas noted that she is very frugal with her department's spending and appreciated their action.

Commissioner Carl then brought the **resolution for Central Michigan Public Health Funding Costs** before the Board. Commissioner Carl commented that he has been working with Mary Kushion on past due Medicare payments due from the state to the Health Department totaling almost \$845,000.00. The State is now looking at further cuts to the Health Departments. Commissioner Carl then commented that this resolution will assist in taking care of the interests of the county residents. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Rhode, to offer the resolution as presented.* Roll call vote as followed: Walters – yes, Carl – yes, Rhode – yes, Reid – excused, Posey – yes, Smith – yes, Whittington – yes. 6 yes, 1 excused. Ayes carried, **resolution 2009-007 declared adopted.**

The Board then reviewed the **resolution against the reduction of state funding to the MSU Extension program.** Bev Przystas spoke on the impact of the proposed reduction. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Smith, to adopt the resolution as presented.* Roll call vote as followed: Carl – yes, Rhode – yes, Reid – excused, Posey – yes, Smith – yes, Whittington – yes, Walters – yes. 6 yes, 1 excused. Ayes carried, **resolution 2009-008 declared adopted.**

Correspondence from the Chairperson –

- On communication from Braun Kendrick Finkbeiner on the June 29, 2009 Jury Trial.

- On the invoices from CMDA through February 2009.
- On the expenditures from the Griffin case.
- On a letter received from Billings Township stating that their Board has requested to the Road Commissioner that all roads within their township be open for ORV use.

Chairman Whittington then asked that the Data committee set up a meeting for the Elected Official and Department Heads to bring to them any *unfinished computer repairs or equipment problems*. Chairman Whittington then asked that they bring a recommendation back to the Board on how to remedy the situation.

Doyle Donn, Gladwin County Road Commissioner, came before the Board to discuss the hiring policies that are in place. Mr. Donn stated that the Board follows these policies very closely and that 204 applications were reviewed under those policies. Discussion. Commissioner Smith commented that she believes there was a slight misunderstanding; and that it was not her intention to question their hiring practice, only to make sure that if applicants were equal that a Gladwin County resident was hired. Commissioner Carl noted that his concern came from the Council of Local Government meeting in regards to the question to Mr. Sohlden that if the hired individuals were from Gladwin County. Discussion. Commissioner Carl stated that if a suitable explanation was given at the meeting then the Board would not be in this situation. Keith Edick, Road Commissioner, then explained that after the Counsel of Local Government meeting he had taken the resident aside and fully answered her question. Commissioner Whittington thanked Mr. Donn for his time in coming to the Board.

Sherry Augustine, Drain Commissioner, came before the Board with a **Resolution for Chappel Dam Special Assessment Bonds – Series 2009** for consideration. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to adopt the resolution as presented by Ms. Augustine.* Roll call vote as follows: Rhode – yes, Reid – excused, Posey – yes, Smith – yes, Whittington – yes, Walters – yes, Carl – yes. 6 yes, 1 excused. Ayes carried, **resolution 2009 declared adopted.**

Committee Reports

Commissioner Smith reported:

- On attending the Beaverton City Counsel meeting on the 16th, noting an announcement of the May 5th school election, a renewal of the 18 mill non-homestead millage proposal, 2 candidates for School Board, and a backhoe purchased by the City.
- On attending the special Finance meeting on the 17th.

Commissioner Walters reported:

- On attending the March 10th Parks & Recreation meeting, noting that he would enjoy the Board taking a tour of the grounds once the park has been opened.

- On attending the Sage Township meeting on the 12th, noting ORV was a topic of discussion.
- On attending the Sherman Township meeting on the 17th.
- On the March 17th Fair Board meeting, noting that fair setup and programs were discussed.
- On the March 19th Farm Show commenting that it looked great and was enjoyable.
- On attending the Public Safety meeting on the 19th.

Commissioner Walters then shared with the Board the 6 Veterans who had passed away in February: Dora Yost – WWI, Jack Brown – Korea, Charles Stenger Jr. – WWII, John Phillips – WWII, Louis Toth – Korea, and James Shouse – Korea.

Commissioner Posey reported:

On the February 10th minutes that should reflect that Doug Jacobson did not look over and approve the revisions to the EJournal contract, but only prepared the initial contract for the Board.

On attending the Solid Waste meeting on the 12th, noting that they had a booth at the Farm Show. Jan Stewart spoke to the Board on the few items that are able to be recycled in Gladwin County, and the education they provide the youth of the County.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- On attending the Bourret Township meeting on the 10th.
- On the Clement Township meeting on the 11th.
- On attending the Butman Township meeting on the 12th.
- On the Gladwin Township meeting on the 18th, commenting that ORV was discussed, and that the township is satisfied with the roads that are open. Commissioner Carl then noted that each township should be encouraged to communicate with the Road Commission if they are satisfied with the road closures, or send revisions once their Board takes action.
- On attending the Building and Grounds meeting on the 19th.

Commissioner Carl then commented that he will be on vacation next month.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

- On attending the Gladwin City Housing Commission meeting on the 10th.
- On the EDC meeting on the 11th, noting that stimulus package items were discussed.
- On the house numbering committee meeting on the 12th, commenting that funding and grant applications were discussed.
- On the Eastern Michigan Counsel of Government meeting on the 13th.

- On attending the MAC Conference on the 16th, noting that a lot of legislative items were discussed and resolutions passed.
- On the Human Services meeting on the 17th with discussion on the 211 phone lines.
- On attending the Central Michigan Health meeting on the 18th.
- On the Michigan Works meeting on the 19th, noting that \$4 million was awarded for job location assistance.
- On the Finance meeting on the 20th.
- On attending the Downtown Blueprint showing on the 23rd.

Finance Matters:

1. Gina Conrad, Gypsy Moth has requested an upgrade to her **Arc View annual license**. Total cost of **\$613.54** includes a free year of tech support. If approved the cost will come from 239-000-933.000. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Posey, to approve the purchase as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
2. Ms. Conrad has also requested a new **plotter printer**. Total cost of printer is **\$4475.00** and can be paid from 239-000-933.000 if approved. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Smith, to approve the purchase as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
3. Jan Stoike, Ass't 911 Director, is requesting that **3 dispatchers be allowed to attend a one day "911 Liability" training**. If approved cost to come from 282-000-804.001. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Smith, to approve the training request. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
4. Last meeting the Board passed the ORV ordinance and asked that **two revenue lines be created to deposit enforcement revenue by the District Court**. The Treasurer and Clerk have made the following suggestion: **Create fund 295**. Establish line items **295-000-601.201** for the 50% revenue for the Road Commission and **295-000-601.000** for the 50% revenue for the County. The Board should adopt the creation of these lines and all other lines that may need to be created within this fund by the Treasurer for maintenance of the fund. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow the Clerk and Treasurer to create fund 295 and the respective line items as suggested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
5. The Board then discussed the possibility of entering into a **CHRP grant for the funding of three new deputies for three years with the fourth year to be paid for solely by County funds**. Discussion on funding of the fourth year and the purchase of new vehicles. Commissioner Carl asked that if it had to be three deputies. Undersheriff Hartwell commented that any amount of officers could be requested, but the fourth year funding would be paid for by the County. Commissioner Smith noted that she does not believe that this issue can be tabled for a committee meeting, and that she is comfortable in handling it today. Commissioner Whittington noted that there are funding questions that he feels needs to be addressed before entering into this grant. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Smith to allow the Sheriff to apply for two deputies under the CHRP grant with a committee of the Whole meeting to be setup to establish funding within a week. Motion supported by Commissioner Walters. Discussion. Ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioner Whittington voting no.*

Undersheriff Ray Hartwell then requested that the Traffic **Enforcement position be allowed to be posted and filled**. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Undersheriff to fill the position as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Frank Starkweather, EDC, then came before the Board with an *update of events and grant information*.

Chairman Whittington then recessed at 10:10 a.m.

Meeting called back to order at 10:20 a.m. by Chairman Whittington.

Chairman Whittington then brought to the Board's attention a matter that needed direction in regards to **Good Friday**. Units 6 and 7 both have a full day off per contract and the Personnel Policy and Court Policy both state that offices will be opened until noon. Discussion. *The Board decided that there would be no change to the policy and that offices will remain open until noon.*

Gina Conrad, *Gypsy Moth / GIS*, came before the Board with a **presentation on the GIS system**. Ms. Conrad spoke on the program and the benefits to be realized. Discussion. Commissioner Whittington noted that he believes it would be beneficial to hold another meeting so that Ms. Conrad can have more time for her presentation. Commissioner Smith stated that she is pleased to know the information is readily available for public use.

Commissioner Whittington then asked for the Board to approve the **Correction Officers contract for adoption**, stating that signatures are still needed on the contract. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Smith, to approve the contract as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Commissioner Whittington then presented the **audit agreement with Burnside and Lang** for consideration. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Rhode, to enter into the letter of engagement with Burnside and Lang as provided. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Public Comments:

Christy VanTiem, County Treasurer, briefed the Board on those departments comprised only of Unit 6 and 7 staff that would be closed on Good Friday. The Board's Secretary will send a memo to the departments asking that they post notice that their office will be closed on Good Friday per union contract.

Bob Frei, IT Manager, then discussed options for monitor placement, and suggested that the monitor be located behind the desk of the Chairperson. Discussion.

Commissioner Whittington noted that the next Finance meeting would be held in the Clerk's Office April 10, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

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

*Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Posey, to adjourn. Ayes carried, **motion passed**.* Meeting adjourned at 11:25 until April 14, 2009, unless otherwise directed.

Laura Brandon
County Clerk

Terry Whittington
Chairman