

Commissioner Minutes of May 26, 2009

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session May 26, 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.

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

The **Regular minutes May 12, 2009** were then considered. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Smith, to approve the minutes as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

The **semi-monthly Finance report totaling \$126,754.59** was then considered for payment. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to approve the bills for payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Chairman Whittington then took a moment to thank everyone who had sent flowers, plants, cards, and their condolences to his wife's funeral service, stating that it was greatly appreciated and would not be forgotten.

Public Comments – none at this time.

Committee Reports:

Commissioner Walters reported:

- On attending the Sage township meeting on the 13th, noting ORV discussion.
- On the Sherman township meeting on the 20th.
- On the Fair Board meeting on the 20th and the set-up plans for the Fair.
- On attending the Rodeo on the 23rd and 24th.
- On the Veterans Memorial Service on the 25th, noting a super turnout, but a concern for traffic and the need to shut down the road during that time. Discussion.

Commissioner Walters then thanked all of the Veterans and Ginny for the placement of the flags, noting that it is a huge job and greatly appreciated.

Correspondence from the Chairman –

Chairman Whittington read two letters from MAC thanking the Board for their support to restore State Revenue Sharing to the Counties and for their resolution of support to Hold Counties Harmless from the Child Care Support Funding.

Commissioner Smith reported:

- On planting flowers for Beaverton Community Day on the 16th, noting that 150 flats of flowers were planted.
- On attending the Emergency Health Fund meeting on the 18th in place of Commissioner Rhode.
- On the Beaverton City Council meeting on the 18th, noting the following:
Reverend Karen Blatt had given a Leadership of Gladwin County report. The next Leadership group will begin the second Friday of September 2009 and continue through the 2nd Friday in May 2010. Applications and scholarships are now available.

City Manager, Kerry Posey, was presented with the Alumnus Award for past contributions to Delta College as an instructor at the Police Academy for many years, and support of the College and Basic Police Training Academy.

A Veterans dinner will be held June 14, 2009 at Ross Lake Park from 1-4 p.m. This dinner is free to Veterans.

Engineering plans have been allotted for the Dam repairs. Loan applications are being completed to cover the cost of repairs.

- On attending the Beaverton High School graduation on May 21, 2009
- On attending the Beaverton Memorial Day Parade, noting a good turnout and a nice parade with people lining the streets.

Commissioner Smith then commented that she has received many phone calls urging the County to develop a countywide recycling program.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- On attending the Bourret township meeting on the 12th.
- On the Clement township meeting on the 13th.
- On attending the Butman township meeting on the 14th.
- On the Gladwin township meeting on the 20th.
- On attending a portion of the ORV meeting at the Road Commission on the evening of the 20th, noting that most townships were pleased.
- On the Building and Grounds meeting on the 21st.

Commissioner Posey reported:

- On attending the Finance meeting on the 22nd.

Commissioner Reid reported:

- On additional communications with the City of Gladwin and Chief Jones on the 13th, noting that the ORV map was discussed. The City will still need to vote to approve the staging areas.
- On participating in the Gladwin City clean up on the 16th.
- On attending the Secord township meeting on the 20th.
- On the Buildings and Grounds meeting on the 21st, noting that they had cancelled Public Safety the same day. The Health Department roof project came in under budget. *Rick Ghent had obtained bids to have the wallpaper removed and the walls painted on each of the floors of the Courthouse with the money left from the roof project. There were three quotes: Bierlein - \$7020.00 Lake Painting - \$6860.00 Marshall Painting - \$8075.00.* Discussion. Commissioner Smith commented that she would like to see the roof project completed before any further projects are started. Commissioner Reid commented that Bierlein was not able to begin until the middle of July so there is time for the roof project to be completed before the Board proceeds forward.
- On attending the Cody O'Rourke fundraiser on the 22nd.
- On attending the "River of Flags" ceremony in Secord on the 24th where he was a guest speaker. Commissioner Reid commented that this was a great program and that there were over 600 flags displayed this year.
- On participating in both parades on the 25th.

Commissioner Reid then gave a short update on the ORV maps, noting that there would be general ORV Q&A put on the website, and a list of general rules to be printed on the back of the maps. Commissioner Carl asked if the new map would show the route from Easton to Cedar Avenue Inn. Commissioner Reid commented that Gladwin City still had to vote on that amendment and there were other amendments coming from the Road Commission.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

- On the Board meeting on the 12th with Brian Cote from Cadillac Insurance. Commissioner Rhode commented that he would like to see the new plans implemented in July when they become available, and will be contacting Mr. Cote for more information.
- On the 211 Call Service. Commissioner Rhode has been asked to prepare a letter of support for this program to the Midland United Way. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Smith, to prepare a letter of support for the 211 Call Service program. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
- On attending the Housing Commission meeting on the 12th, noting shortages in State funds and cuts in staff.
- On the EDC meeting on the 13th.
- On attending the Central Michigan Health finance meeting in Mt. Pleasant on the 13th.
- On the Grayling Northern MAC meeting on the 18th.

- On the need to start budgets early this year due decreasing revenue. Departments will receive their budget worksheets by the first of the month.

Commissioner Rhode then briefed the Board on the need to *borrow from the unallocated fund to support payroll and finances through the month of June until tax collection begins*. Treasurer VanTiem commented on the current cash balances and the need to establish “Due To...Due From” account between Unallocated and the General Fund. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow the Treasurer to establish a due to due from line from Unallocated to the General Fund and to allow “borrowing” to support the finances of the General Fund, with the lines being reviewed and potentially paid back in full by December 1, 2009.* Commissioner Posey asked if this would be the time to consider changing the County’s fiscal year to be more in line with our tax collection. Discussion. Ayes carried, **motion passed**. Lengthy discussion was then had on ideas to cuts costs, with several Commissioners offering their views. Treasurer, Christy VanTiem, made comment that each department was given a budget to operate under, and as long as they are spending within their budget, they should not be told they can’t attend training. Sheriff Shea commented that most of the trainings that his employees attend are reimbursable through other funds, and are no cost to the General Fund. Commissioner Rhode suggested that travel and training lines are looked at for reductions in the 2010 budget. Commissioner Carl noted that he believes that the Union Representatives and a designee from the courts should be invited to attend the Board’s budget meetings so that they are aware of the County’s financial situation before the contracts are bargained. Commissioner Rhode stated that a representative from MSU is willing to come and discuss with the Board their finances and the impact the State’s budget has on the County.

Commissioner Rhode continued to report:

- On attending the Gladwin City Council meeting on the 18th, noting that streets were being paved.
- On the Human Health Services meeting on the 19th.
- On attending the Gladwin township meeting on the 20th.
- On the Sports Complex meeting held on the 19th, commenting on a large baseball tournament that was bringing in revenue to the local motels.
- On the Michigan Works summer work program. Applications are being reviewed for placement of several young people.
- On attending the Building and Grounds meeting on the 21st.
- On the Finance meeting on the 22nd.

Finance Matters –

1. The **EMS Budget** has been presented to the Board members for their review. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to adopt the budget as presented.* Ayes carried, **motion passed**.
2. The **Drain Commissioner has requested to attend the summer conference** with her Deputy July 8-10th at Crystal Mountain. Total cost of \$504.00 for lodging and \$250.00 for registration to

be paid from 101-275-860.000 upon approval. Discussion on the necessity of trainings. *Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Posey, to allow one person to attend and only if mandatory.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

3. The **Clerk and Treasurer are converting to laser checks for payment of bills.** This change will allow for the signature to be stamped on the check at the time of printing and a savings to the County of \$35.08 / 1000 checks. This item was only for informational purposes.

Public Comments – None

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

Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Reid, to adjourn. Ayes carried, **motion passed.** *Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m. until June 9, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise ordered.*

Laura Brandon
Clerk

Terry Whittington
Chairman