

## Commissioner Minutes of January 12, 2016

*The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 12, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Walters. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a short prayer was given. Roll call found all Commissioners present.*

*Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Aultman, to proceed with the agenda as prepared. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***

The **cash balances** were then read by Commissioner Birgel. *General Fund - \$628,456.89.* Treasurer VanTiem stated that she has not had to move any appropriations for 2016 to date and that the County was in good shape at the end of 2015.

**Public Comments** – *none at this time.*

**Dave Pettersch, Gladwin County Road Commission**, came before the Board with an annual update for 2015 and spoke to the Board on the 2016 upcoming projects. Discussion. Mr. Pettersch then spoke on the unfunded liabilities for his agency and what they are working on to correct the issue. Commissioner Smith spoke on the letter received from the Road Commission asking the County's support in continuing to perform construction and major work maintenance projects in excess of \$100,000. *Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Aultman, to continue to support the Road Commission in using local labor sources when possible in their construction efforts. Ayes carried, **motion passed.*** Commissioner Aultman spoke on the satisfaction from all of her Townships with the work of the Road Commission.

Commissioner Smith spoke on the letter to be drafted by Aaron Miller to Ejourney on the following issues:

- re-acquisition of the Gladwinco.com domain
- removal of Ejourney's equipment from the tower effective 6-1-2016.
- option to Ejourney to lease the space for \$1,250.00 per month.

*Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Hinman, to allow Aaron Miller to prepare the letter with the terms that were discussed. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***

Karen Willing, District Court Administrator, introduced herself to the Board and spoke on her duties, noting Judge Farrell is the new Chief Judge for the County effective 1-1-2016.

Discussion on the creation of a Public Defenders Office.

### **Finance Matters – Commissioner Birgel:**

1. Rick Ghent, Maintenance Supervisor, has requested to take the County truck home to better respond to "call in" situations. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Hinman, to allow Mr. Ghent to take the vehicle home effective today for county business only. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***
2. Mike Greer, Magistrate, has requested payout of 35 hours of unused vacation time per the Court Non-Union Benefits Manual. Total pay of \$1110.20 will be paid out of 101-136-704.000 on his anniversary date of 1-16-16. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Hinman, to allow the Clerk to make the payment as requested. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***
3. After much discussion, the Committee is recommending that the County share their Quill discount with Townships and Cities. Commissioner Birgel would like to clarify that the original action was not taken to exclude the Cities and Townships, and should have read only "non-governmental" groups.

Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Clerk to make the purchases as discussed.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

4. Christy VanTiem, County Treasurer, has made a request to attend her winter conference in Novi on February 7-10<sup>th</sup>. Total cost of \$250.00 to be paid from 101-253-860.000 once approved. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Treasurer and her employee to attend the conference as requested.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**
5. Constance Thurlow and Nicole Sheehan, Clerk's Office employees, have requested to donate 42.5 hours of sick time to an employee in the Prosecutor's Office who is undergoing medical treatments. Discussion on the request from Marinanne Hill to make a similar donation. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Hinman, is needed to allow the Clerk to adjust the leave balances as requested for Sheehan and Thurlow.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

## **Commissioner Reports by District –**

### **Commissioner Birgel reported:**

- That he has been working on financial and contract matters for the Headlee proposal, noting there will be a workshop tomorrow to begin drafting a presentation.

### **Commissioner Aultman reported:**

- On attending the Legislative Breakfast last Friday.
- That she attended the Billings and Bentley Township meetings last night. Bentley Township had a question regarding the increase of kennel inspections. Discussion.

### **Commissioner Hinman reported:**

- On attending the DATA meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup>, noting the intention of the letter to EJournal is to terminate the business relationship and “move on”.
- The he attended several personnel meetings.

### **Commissioner Smith reported:**

- That she attended the special budget meeting for the Library on December 29<sup>th</sup>.
- On the Organizational Board meeting held on January 4, 2016.
- That the DATA committee met on January 6, 2016.
- On attending the Department Head meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup> to speak on the possible domain change from .com to .gov.
- That she also attended the Legislative Breakfast on January 8<sup>th</sup>, noting the information shared by the Cities, Beaverton Schools and MMCC was very interesting.
- On the Tobacco Township meeting last night where there was discussion on the Headlee proposal.
- The Beaverton Activity Center will hold their next community event on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. “Starry Nights – Kids of Gladwin County” will be the name of the event.

### **Comments from the Chairman:**

- Rick Ghent, Maintenance, is out sick today, noting he would like to thank the Sheriff and Undersheriff for their organization in getting the snow removed from the doorways this morning. Chairman Walters spoke on the need to get additional help for the maintenance department. Discussion.
- That WWII Veteran, William Yoder, will be receiving his Purple Heart and Bronze Star this Thursday during a ceremony to be held in the Circuit Courtroom. Chairman Walters

thanked Krystal Peck from Veterans on her efforts that she has put into the ceremony. There will be a reception following the ceremony in the Commissioners' Chamber.

- On attending the Gladwin City meeting on January 4<sup>th</sup> and discussion on the “lights project” designed by the Mayor. Mayor Winarski also announced his candidacy for 97<sup>th</sup> State Representative and stated he and his wife just shared their 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary together.
- That he has a Veterans meeting this afternoon.
- On the resignation of Bill Rhode from the EDC committee, noting the Board will need to make an appointment.
- That his Townships are coming up.

Veterans Lost:

Charles O'Rourke Jr.	WWII	Gladwin Township
Michael Sago	WWII	Sherman Township
Harold Walters	WWII	Tobacco Township
Harley Brewis	Korea	Secord Township
Herman Lower	WWII	Gladwin City
Francis Faustman	WWII	Beaverton Township
Kenneth Kurash	Vietnam	Tobacco Township
Mickey Yager	Vietnam	Tobacco Township
John Cameron	Korea	Sage Township
James Aubin	Korea	Sherman Township
Leonard McIntosh	Vietnam	Buckeye Township

*Commissioner Smith stated that the Land Bank committee needs to re-appoint Bob Moffit and Theresa Newman to a three year term expiring 12-31-2018. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Hinman, to make the appointment as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

*Commissioner Aultman spoke on the passing of Dennis Perry.*

*Chairman Walters commented on the need to alternate three members through the Finance Committee so that all Board members have the ability to become familiar with the financials. Discussion on posting the meetings as a “Committee of the Whole”.*

*Commissioner Smith stated that she will be working with Yvette Keast tomorrow on literature for the March 8<sup>th</sup> Headlee proposal. The County Affairs committee will be working together to present “then and now” information for the public. Discussion on the importance of all Board members having the same information to present to the public.*

**Public Comments** – Christy VanTiem, County Treasurer, spoke on her communication with the State on the “Swamp Tax” payout for 2015. Treasurer VanTiem stated that the State increase the parcel price from \$2.00 in 2014 to \$3.00 in 2015 and 2016.

The committee appointments will be ready at the next meeting, January 26<sup>th</sup>, for approval. Discussion.

*Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Hinman, to receive and file various correspondence and reports. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***

*Motion by Commissioner Hinman, supported by Commissioner Aultman, to adjourn. Ayes carried, **motion passed**. Meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m. until the regularly scheduled Board meeting on January 26, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.*

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Laura Brandon-Maveal  
County Clerk

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Terry Walters  
Chairman