

Commissioner Minutes of October 27, 2020

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, October 27, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Smith and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present.

Chairperson Smith read the Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition drafted by Congressman Moolenaar for presentation to County Clerk Laura Brandon-Maveal in her response to communications dealing with the flood in May. The Chairperson also recognized that Jail Administrator Matthew McGourty had been re-appointed to the Corrections Risk Control Advisory Board through MMRMA, noting this is a wonderful accomplishment.

The Board reviewed the consent agenda. *Motion by Commissioner Vernier, supported by Commissioner Taylor, to proceed with the consent agenda as corrected. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

The **cash balances** were then read by Commissioner Taylor. *General Fund - \$1,218,266.16. The Treasurer commented that the \$500,000 balance due to the EMS (210 fund) will be paid by the end of the month.*

Finance Matters – Commissioner Taylor:

1. The Board has worked with Undersheriff Hartwell on the options of purchasing or leasing patrol units for their diminishing fleet. After much consideration, the Board has decided to move forward with purchasing two vehicles from the budget funds that are available in 2020. Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to authorize the Undersheriff to purchase two patrol units in the amount of \$72,512.00 from 101-900-981.301 and equipment in the amount of \$23,061.00 from 101-900-970.301. Ayes carried, motion passed.
2. The County Clerk requested permission to disburse a \$30,000 payment, as budgeted, to MERS for the unfunded liabilities within their plan. Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Kyle Grove, to approve the disbursement as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.
3. Undersheriff Hartwell has presented a request to purchase his annual supply of ammunition through Kielser Police Supply. Total expense is \$916.54 and would be paid from 101-301-728.000 upon approval. Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Rick Grove, to approve the purchase as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.
4. The Clerk and Treasurer have met with Court Administrators Schlese and Post on the administration of the CESF Grant. Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Kyle Grove, to establish a revenue and expense line for proper recording of revenue and expenses on the project:

Revenue line	101-000-528.001	CESF Grant – Courts
Expense line	101-131-727.002	CESF Grant Expense

Ayes carried, motion passed.

Public Comments:

Kelly Bax, Tobacco Township resident, came before the Board to voice her concerns on the actions of the Four Lakes Task Force. Ms. Bax read letters from other concerned property owners and a list of questions that she would like the Board to answer. There was a lengthy discussion and the Board took the correspondence from Ms. Bax so they could properly answer her questions after research with their attorney. The Board thanked Ms. Bax for coming to them with her concern and assured her they would answer and return her questions promptly.

Wayne Stover also voiced his concerns over the appointment of David Keppler to oversee the Four Lakes Task Force and discussion on a countywide millage to support the repairs to the lake, as the lakes benefit the entire community. Discussion.

LaVel Smith addressed the Board with uplifting news that Chairperson Sharron Smith has been selected as the Grand Marshall of the Gladwin City of Lights Festival.

New Business:

1. The Apportionment Report has been prepared to approve the taxable valuation for the County of Gladwin. Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Kyle Grove, to allow the Chairperson to sign the documents upon presentation. Ayes carried, motion passed.
2. The Library Board has two interested individuals for the vacancy created by Judy Johnston. Motion by Chairperson Smith, supported by Commissioner Rick Grove, to appoint Becky Miller into the position. Ayes carried, motion passed.
3. The MIDC Grant has been formalized by the State for approval. Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Kyle Grove, to allow the Chairperson to sign the contract as drafted. Ayes carried, motion passed.
4. The E-Fax proposal has been finalized and research has found that there will be no penalty to disconnect the current lines with AT&T. Motion by Commissioner Kyle Grove, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to allow the Chairperson to sign the contract upon presentation. Ayes carried, motion passed.
5. A Resolution has been drafted to “Ratify and Confirm Actions Approved by the Board of Commissioners During Remote Meetings” in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to adopt the Resolution as drafted. Roll call vote as follows: Kyle Grove – yes, Ronald Taylor – yes, Joel Vernier – yes, Sharron Smith – yes, Rick Grove – yes. 5 yes, 0 no. Ayes carried, Resolution 2020-017 declared adopted.

Chair Comments: none currently.

Commissioner Reports by District –

Commissioner Taylor reported:

- That he attended the Sage Township meeting on October 14th.
- On the Local Planning Team meeting on the 15th.
- That he participated in the Veterans meeting on October 20th.
- On the Pratt Lake Authority meeting also on the 20th.
- That he attended the Committee of the Whole meeting on October 21st.
- On the Health Board meeting that will be held tomorrow in Harrison.

Commissioner Kyle Grove reported:

- On the meeting in Sherman Township where the cemetery is being reviewed by a forester to address the issue with the dying oak trees.
- That he attended the Gladwin Township meeting.

Commissioner Vernier reported:

- That the water well has been completed at the Secord Fire Department and the electrical and pump system is being installed. The well at the Billings Township Fire Department will be underway soon. Both projects were made possible thanks to funding from USDA Rural Development, Region VII and Mid Michigan Community Action Agency.
- Mid Michigan Community Action Agency has a funding program for hot water tanks and plumbing issues through the end of December. There are financial requirements to receive this assistance.

Comments from the Chairman:

- That she attended the Department Head meeting on October 13, 2020.
- On the award's presentation at the Beaverton Activity Center for Sheriff Michael Shea and Marty Govitz from the Road Commission where Congressman Moolenaar presented them both with a recognition of their heroic efforts on the night of the flood.
- On the Committee of the Whole meeting on October 21st where County Clerk Laura Brandon-Maveal and Dave Pettersch from the Road Commission were presented with Certificates of Appreciation for their efforts during the flood and pandemic.
- That she attended the Buckeye Township meeting on October 21st.
- That she reports to the Courthouse daily to check for mail and sign documents as needed.

Commissioner Rick Grove reported:

- On attending the Grout Township meeting on October 13th.
- On the Zoning meeting on the 20th.
- That he participated in the Committee of the Whole meeting on October 21st.
- That he also attended the awards presentation at the Beaverton Activity Center.
- That he would like to congratulate the Clerk on her achievement.

Public Comments:

Kelly Bax inquired about the appointment to fill Commissioner Vernier's position on the Four Lakes Task Force. Discussion on the appointment process by the County Board.


Sheriff Shea would like to clarify the record of the September 22, 2020 Board minutes and the statement that was recorded in his opposition of the Qualified Immunity Bill. Sheriff Shea commented that "He is not supporting Senator Peter's bill that will strip qualified immunity for Law Enforcement."

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

Motion by Commissioner Vernier, supported by Commissioner Rick Grove, to adjourn.
Ayes carried, **motion passed**. Meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m., until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise ordered.



Laura Brandon-Maveal
Gladwin County Clerk



Sharron L. Smith
Chairperson

**RESOLUTION TO RATIFY AND CONFIRM ACTIONS APPROVED BY
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DURING REMOTE MEETINGS**

RESOLUTION # 2020-017
Amended - Nov 10, 2020

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor declared a State of Emergency by Executive Order 2020-4 on March 10, 2020 and extended the State of Emergency by subsequent Executive Orders; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the State of Emergency, on March 18, 2020 the Governor issued Executive Order 2020-15 which authorized remote participation in public meetings and specifically allowed public bodies to hold meetings electronically, either by telephonic or video conferencing; and

WHEREAS subsequent Executive Orders extended the authorization to hold remote meetings and ultimately, on July 17, 2020, through Executive Order 2020-154, extended the authority to hold remote meetings through the remainder of the State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, in reliance on the Executive Orders authorizing remote meetings, the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners, has conducted some meetings electronically since April 30, 2020.

WHEREAS, on October 2, the Michigan Supreme Court issued an opinion in which a majority of the Justices agreed that Executive Orders issued after April 30, 2020 are invalid as the law under which they were issued allowed an unconstitutional delegation of authority to the Governor; and

WHEREAS, in response to the October 2, 2020 Michigan Supreme Court Opinion, 2020 Public Act 228 was adopted by the state legislature and signed by the Governor. This Act is effective immediately and retroactively, and modifies the Open Meetings Act authorizing remote meetings through the December 31, 2020 for any circumstance and through December 31, 2021 for certain qualifying reasons.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in light of the October 2, 2020 Michigan Supreme Court Opinion and 2020 Public Act 228 amending the Open Meetings Act, the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners affirms and ratifies all actions approved by the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners at the following meetings:

Committee of Whole (COW) meetings:

May 6, 2020
May 20, 2020
June 3, 2020

Gladwin County Commissioners Board Meetings:

May 12, 2020
May 26, 2020
June 9, 2020

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

ABSENT/ABSTAIN _____

Sharron Smith

SHARRON SMITH, CHAIR
GLADWIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

11-10-20

DATE

Laura Brandon-Maveal

LAURA BRANDON-MAVEAL, CLERK
GLADWIN COUNTY

11-10-2020

DATE