

## Commissioner Minutes of August 25, 2020

*The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, August 25, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Smith. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present.*

The Board reviewed the consent agenda and made the following corrections: Add the approval of the Special Board meeting minutes and Executive Session minutes of August 13, 2020 under Section D and remove the reading of the cash balances from the consent and make it a business item. *Motion by Commissioner Vernier, supported by Commissioner Taylor, to proceed with the consent agenda as corrected. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

The **cash balances** were read by Commissioner Taylor. *General Fund – \$398,674.37.*

### **Finance Matters – Commissioner Taylor:**

1. Commissioner Taylor would like to table the matter for additional compensation for the Juvenile Referee until the next Committee of the Whole meeting.
2. Jennifer Matteson, 911 Dispatcher, has made a request to donate 24 hours to a fellow dispatcher. *Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to allow the Clerk to transfer the hours as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
3. Karee Barlow, 911 Assistant Director, has made a request to donate 24 hours to a fellow dispatcher. *Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to allow the Clerk to transfer the hours as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
4. Detective Jim Cuddie has requested the use of the county's credit card to purchase three camera flashes. *Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to allow the Clerk to use the credit card to make the purchase as outlined. Total purchase will not exceed \$180.00 and will be paid from 101-301-831.001 upon approval. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

### **Public Comments –**

Dave Kepler, Four Lakes Task Force, came before the Board with an update and provided the members a handout proposing a timeline to restore water levels to our lakes. Discussion.

### **New Business:**

1. The Board reviewed several requests from Veterans Director Ken Roberts and made the following motions:
  - a. *Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to submit the application for the County Veterans Service Fund Grant, with permission to allow the Chairperson to sign the grant upon presentation. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
  - b. *Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to allow the Veterans Office to process and submit all grant reporting on a quarterly basis to the MVA as required under the grant. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

- c. *Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Rick Grove, to allow the employment of a part time employee using grant funding at the time of the grant award being announced and to allow Director Roberts to post to fill the vacant position in November to hire a new employee. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***
  - d. *Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Kyle Grove, to allow the Veterans Affairs Office to begin using the awarded grant funding upon notification of approval not upon deposit of funds. Discussion on using this process and the advancement of General Fund monies until the State deposits that grant funds for use. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***
  - e. *Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to allow the Clerk and Treasurer to create line items as directed by the Veterans Director specific to this grant in accordance with the guidelines of the grant. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***
2. The 2021 Group Benefit for the Blue Care Advantage Plan has been reviewed by the Board. *Motion by Commissioner Vernier, supported by Commissioner Smith, to approve the document to be signed as presented. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***
  3. Funding has become available for Gladwin County for use on COVID related projects and supplies through a CDBG Grant. *Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to submit a Letter of Intent on behalf of the County. Discussion that this submission does not guarantee the funds but rather provides consideration for funding. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***

**Comments from the Chair:** none currently.

**Commissioner Reports by District:**

**Commissioner Kyle Grove reported:**

- On his attendance at the Butman Township meeting, noting discussion on the following:
  - The Fire Department has received their grant for the chest compression machine.
  - Issues with campers dumping their septic systems on their lots. The Township is working on a new ordinance that will require sewer hookups on all lots, new and old.
  - The boat launch has been very busy with revenues exceeding \$23,700. These revenues must be returned to the DNR.
  - The DNR denied the Township's request to expand the parking lot at the boat launch, stating that it was the appropriate size for the size of the lake.
- That he attended the Clement Township meeting where they discussed the new financial software for the Clerk and the MCF grant received toward the new roof at their community center. They are also working on grant opportunities to improve the 23 acres of trails at the community center.

**Commissioner Ron Taylor reported:**

- That he participated in the USDA meeting with Congressman Moolenaar on August 12<sup>th</sup>.
- On attending the Sage Township meeting also on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

- On the Airport meeting on August 13<sup>th</sup> where they displayed their equipment improvements through the CARES grant.
- On the negotiations held with the Deputies on the 13<sup>th</sup>.
- That the Board held an executive session on August 13<sup>th</sup> to receive an update from their Attorney on an ongoing lawsuit.
- That he attended the Gladwin City meeting where they approved the plans to install a 9-hole disc golf course.
- On the Veterans meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup>.
- On attending the Committee of the Whole meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup>.
- That he participated in the Lake Improvement meetings of Contos, Pratt and Wiggins on August 19<sup>th</sup>.
- On his phone conference with MMRMA on the 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss the loss of retention funds and increase in annual premium due to the multitude of lawsuits against the county. Commissioner Taylor commented that this is one of the largest reasons for tabling the Juvenile Referee matter, as the County needs to finalize this assessment and verify that they are potentially paying an additional \$100,000 in premiums next year before giving any raises or additional compensation.
- On attending the LPT meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup>.
- That the bids for the repairs at Chappel Dam were opened on August 21<sup>st</sup>, noting they came in much higher than anticipated. The committee is waiting for MMRMA to decide if there will be any claim funding on the damages.
- On the Wiggins and Pratt Lake Authority meetings on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- That he participated in the telephone conversation with a representative from CDBG on the COVID reimbursement funding yesterday.

**Commissioner Joel Vernier reported:**

- That he has attended all Board meetings and Committee of the Whole meetings except for the Health Board which does not meet in July.
- On the Wixom Lake Weed Treatment meeting, noting discussion of not doing treatment this year on the terrain vs. a water treatment as this would prompt a public hearing. They will re-examine this project again next year.
- The water well project for Billings and Secord have been denied by FEMA. USDA has offered funding for the project and the State will be covering the balance.
- That he has spent a lot of time volunteering for the Secord Lake Association. A newsletter will be sent out to all residents providing them the most current updates and those businesses and townships that are in support of the Four Lakes Task Force.
- Secord Township has a very old pumper truck that needs to be replaced. The Fire Department is looking for grants or USDA funding to help offset the cost of a new unit.

**Commissioner Sharron Smith reported:**

- That she attended the Hay Township meeting.
- On the Airport meeting.
- That she would like to thank Dr. Karen Moore and Commissioner Rick Grove for sitting in on her meetings for her.

**Commissioner Rick Grove reported:**

- On participating on the CDBG call regarding the Letter of Interest.
- That he attended the Zoning meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup>.
- On discussion at the Grout Township meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup> with concerns of allowing living quarters for seasonal workers at the marijuana facility.

**Administrative Reports/Comments – none**

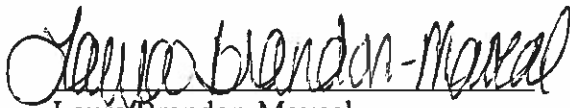
*Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to go into an Executive Session to discuss union negotiations. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***

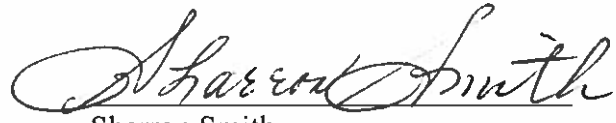
**EXECUTIVE SESSION 9:59 a.m. to 10:24 a.m.**

*Motion by Commissioner Vernier, supported by Commissioner Taylor, to return to regular session. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***

*Motion by Commissioner Taylor, supported by Commissioner Vernier, to allow Mr. Borushko to proceed with negotiations with the Deputies Unit with the parameters set forth in the executive session. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***

*Motion by Commissioner Vernier, supported by Commissioner Kyle Grove, to adjourn. Ayes carried, **motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m., until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting on September 8, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise ordered.*

  
Laura Brandon-Maveal  
County Clerk

  
Sharron Smith  
Chairperson