

Commissioner Minutes of January 22, 2013

The Public Hearing to discuss the USDA grant funds for purchase of Emergency Response vehicles was opened at 8:50 a.m. There was a brief description of the project and no public comments. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Whittington, to recess at 8:55 a.m. until regular session. Ayes carried, motion passed.

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session January 22, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Reid. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present.

Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Chairman Reid noted that he would be addressing the Walk for Warmth Proclamation during his report. Ayes carried, motion passed.

The **cash balances** for the General Fund were read by Commissioner Rhode. *General Fund - \$156,253.23 after the finance bills have been paid.*

Public Comments – *Colin Combs, Secord Township Supervisor, spoke on the Natural Gas project that is beginning in April, noting there will be a press release done on the project and that it is "good news for Secord Township and surrounding areas".*

Bill Lang, Tobacco Township resident, spoke about a future issue on Wixom Lake with Boyce Hydro lowering the lake levels for repairs to the dam. Discussion on how to address the issue before becoming a problem. Chairman Reid stated that he has been in contact with Joel Johnson and he is willing to assist. Commissioner Whittington noted that the Wixom Lake Improvement Board has also shown concern with the issue. Jim Lambert, Tobacco Township resident provided the Board with FERC documents from Stabenow's office regarding the 2013 draw down and repairs.

Commissioner Reports by District -

Commissioner Walters reported:

- On attending the Gladwin City meeting on the 7th.
- That he attended the Sage Township meeting on the 9th.
- On the Sports Complex meeting held on the 14th.
- That he attended the investiture of Judge Klaus on the 18th, commenting that there was a large turnout and a nice event.
- That the Veterans meeting is today. The committee has recommended that Don Hall take the place of Fred Kline on the committee. *Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Whittington, to make the appointment as recommended. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
- That the City is working on a buyer for the Gladwin IGA property and has asked for support from the County on the tax program to "freeze the valuation". The Chairman will sign a letter of support.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- On attending the County Affairs meeting on the 9th with the FEMA Task Force. The hard mapping and data are complete and will be sending all the data to FEMA. The Attorney fees charged to the Townships were also discussed.
- That he attended the Clement, Butman, Sherman and Gladwin Township meetings.
- On also attending the investiture for Judge Klaus.
- That there is a vacancy on the Uniform Addressing committee, noting the bylaws could be changed to state a Board Member representative or a member of the public. Commissioner Carl stated that he would like to see Bill Rhode stay on the committee since he has been involved since the start of the project. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to amend the Uniform Addressing bylaws to state a Board Member or a member of the public.* Roll call vote as follows: Carl – yes, Walters- yes, Reid – yes, Whittington – yes, Birgel – yes. 5 yes, 0 no. Ayes carried, **motion passed.** *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Carl, to appoint Bill Rhode to the Uniform Addressing committee.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Commissioner Birgel reported:

- That his wife is doing well.
- That Beaverton Township is moving along well with their new Supervisor.
- On having six meetings last week and four this week, noting he has been very busy with “Bill’s old schedule” and will continue to keep the Board posted.

Commissioner Whittington reported:

- That he is in support of the Board working ahead to ensure there is not an issue with the lowering of Wixom Lake in the fall.
- On attending the meetings in Bourret, Billings and Bentley, noting we was not able to make the meeting in Secord due to a meeting conflict.
- That he also attended the Klaus investiture.
- On Airport operation, noting things are going well and they will have figures to the Board at the next meeting for snow removal equipment.

Finance Matters –

1. Debbie Primeau has requested payment for 35 hours of unused vacation per the Court Non-Union Benefits Policy. Total payment of \$751.80 to be paid from 101-131-704.000 upon approval. *Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to approve the payment of time as requested.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**
2. Mike Greer has requested payment for 32.5 hours of unused vacation per the Court Non-Union Benefits Policy. Total payment of \$1030.90 to be paid from 101-136-704.000 upon approval. *Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve the vacation time payment as outlined.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**
3. Sue Walker, Sheriff’s Department, is requesting to attend the annual LERMA meeting in Wyandotte on February 8th. There is no cost for the training, only lodging and mileage. Expenses to be paid from 101-301-804.000 once approved. *Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to approve the expenses as requested.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

4. Michael Brubaker, 911 Director, has submitted for payment of annual contracts as listed below:
Radio North – Software /System upgrades and services - \$29,805.00
Van Belkum – Voice and Media Recording - \$2,780.00
InterAct – CAD services - \$12,364.00

All payments will be made from 280-000-933.000 once approved. *Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Carl, to pay the annual contracts as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

5. The Finance Committee has reviewed a proposal from Neil Hammerbacher to provide administrative and budget services to the County. His cost will be at \$30.00/hour and will average approximately 8 hours per week. The committee would like the Board to consider a six (6) month trial period with Mr. Hammerbacher with payment coming from 101-101-802.000. *Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow the committee to meet with Mr. Hammerbacher and offer the position if they choose. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Chairman Reid reported:

- On the meeting with Great Lakes Assessing on the 9th to discuss their resignation from Equalization services with the County. There has been one interested party in the vacant position, noting there will be a meeting tomorrow at 10:45 to discuss the re-organization of the department.
- That he attended the Hay Township meeting on the 10th.
- On the Tobacco Township meeting on the 14th.
- That the Finance committee met with the Undersheriff and District Court Magistrate on the deficit in revenues. Judge Farrell also requested the hiring of a full time employee to replace an employee that had left. It is the recommendation of the Finance committee to hire an employee at only 30 hours/week. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to uphold the recommendation of the Finance committee for the hiring of an employee at 30 hours/week. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
- That there will be a meeting today with Mr. Borushko to discuss upcoming negotiations for 2013.
- Attorney Jacobson is almost finished with the “dog ordinance” for the Board’s approval.
- The Personnel committee met with the candidates for the Emergency Management Director position. It is the recommendation of the committee that the County enter into a contract with Leo Gary for \$25,000 annually. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to approve the contract with Leo Gary and allow the Chairman to sign the contract once prepared. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Leo Gary, Emergency Management Director, came before the Board with an update of services and provided the Board a handout for their review.

Commissioner Whittington commented that Attorney Jacobson is working on progress to the AT&T issue and a “non-emergency travel voucher”. Both items will be ready for the Board’s consideration at the next meeting.

Chairman Reid then read a proclamation for Walk for Warmth declaring February 23rd Walk for Warmth Day. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Carl, to support the declaration of Walk for Warmth. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Chairman Reid asked the Board to review the rider agreement for LRN Enterprises, noting this is the company that is working with the County on the utility bills. *Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Whittington, to allow the Chairman to sign the rider agreement as drafted. Ayes carried, motion passed.* Chairman Reid also commented on the new process to sell County vehicles, stating that it is a longer process and will re-visit the process with the next sale of vehicles.

Chairman Reid commented that the Board received a letter from Chemical Bank thanking the Sheriff on solving the recent crime involving their bank and thanking the deputies for their efforts.

Public Comments –

Sheriff Shea spoke on his concern of the AT&T bill situation.

Mike Brubaker commented on recent communication with John Shaffer, EMS, on 911 contributions.

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

Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Whittington, to adjourn. Ayes carried, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m., until February 12, 2013 at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise ordered.

Laura Brandon-Maveal
County Clerk

Josh Reid
Chairman