

## Commissioner Minutes of February 25, 2014

*The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 25, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Walters. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present, except for Commissioner Carl who had been excused. Reverend Karen Blatt gave a short prayer before the meeting.*

*Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to suspend the order of regular business to allow for the presentation of honor to the Whittington family. Ayes carried, **motion passed**. The family of Terry Whittington came forward to accept a plaque in his honor. A resolution for appreciation of service was read by Commissioner Aultman. Chairman Walters told the family the Board appreciated the 26 years of service their father gave, noting Terry's many levels of service to the County. *Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to adopt the resolution as read by Commissioner Aultman. Roll call vote as follows: Carl – excused, Walters – yes, Aultman – yes, Smith – yes, Birgel – yes. 4 yes, 1 absent. Ayes carried, **resolution 2014-005 declared adopted**.**

*Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to return to the regular order of business. Ayes carried, **motion passed**.*

*There were no changes or additions to the agenda.*

The **cash balances** were then read by Commissioner Birgel. *General Fund - \$161,575.73. Unallocated has a balance of \$75,516.56.*

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

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

1. Rick Ghent, Maintenance Supervisor, came before the committee with a **quote to fix the elevator in the amount of \$20,088.46**. This repair is necessary immediately due to ADA and will be paid from 101-265-933.000. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Aultman, to repair the elevator with the costs quoted by Otis Elevator. Ayes carried, **motion passed**.*
2. **Mr. Ghent** also requested that he be paid for **106 hours of unused vacation time** due to understaffing. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to pay Mr. Ghent \$2,505.84 for the 106 hours of unused vacation time as requested. Ayes carried, **motion passed**.*
3. The Finance committee addressed the janitorial issue with Mike Hudson, his Union Representative and Rick Ghent. There is no action on this item at this time and the committee will continue to update the Board as needed.
4. Jim Maveal, Animal Control, has requested permission to **begin the dog census in March**, explaining that each worker will be paid \$2.00/card and that the Treasurer has funding in her budget of \$5,000 to cover the expense of the payments. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow Mr. Maveal to hire and train these individuals and that the County provides each of them a badge before they begin, noting that the badge must be returned to the County before they are paid for their services. Ayes carried, **motion passed**.*

5. Bob Evans, Drain Commissioner, spoke to the committee on the ongoing FEMA issue, noting there is no resolution to the issue at this point, but he will keep the Board posted on any developments.
6. Paul Graveline, Recovery Court, asked that the **revenue that has been deposited into line # 101-000-608.136 be transferred to Clare County** in lieu of paying any of the appropriation that has been budgeted for at this time. Because this revenue line will be depleted, there should not be a budget attached to it. The Board will handle the revenue offset during the semi-annual budget amendments. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Clerk and Treasurer to pay out the 2013 revenue to Clare County as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
7. Undersheriff Hartwell has requested to **hire one part time corrections officer at 30-35 hours per week on a temporary basis** due to a full time officer being off on a short term disability claim. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Sheriff to hire a part time temporary officer. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
8. Bob Frei, IT Director, presented **final prices to the committee for the computer purchase/upgrades**. Mr. Frei would like the Board to authorize him to spend up to **\$14,000 on 38 used computers and software**. A listing of the departments and their expenses lines have been given to the committee. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the purchase as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
9. Two employees from Probate Court would like to attend the **Juvenile Registers Association meeting June 18-20, 2014 at Mission Point Resort**. Cost for the 2 nights of rooms will be \$436.00 plus a luggage fee of \$6.00/person and 12% local & resort tax. The registration for the conference is \$75.00/person. Total expenses will be paid from 101-148-860.000 once approved. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Clerk to make the hotel reservations using the county's credit card and to pay for the expenses upon presentation. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
10. The District Court has requested several budget amendments to fund the part time position in their office to full time. Below are the changes for the full time position:

101-136-706.000	\$20,000.00	
101-000-601.136		\$10,000
101-000-602.003		\$ 2,500
101-000-609.000		\$ 2,500
101-136-817.000		\$ 5,000

*Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow amendments to the budget as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

11. Magistrate Greer also asked that the following line items be removed from department 137 (PIT) and set in the 136 (District Court) budget. The department 138 (Recovery Court) will need to be created to remove the funding that has been identified in the District Court budget for recovery court purposes only. The budget amendments are listed as follows:

Create line items	101-000-568.138	101-000-608.138	101-000-609.136
	101-137-715.000	101-136-727.002	101-136-727.001
	(Recovery Ct. Exp)	(Testing Supplies)	(ADE Supplies)

Budget Amendments	101-137-703.000	<del>-\$18,645.40</del>	15046.30
	101-137-720.000	<del>\$1,975.18</del>	149735
	101-137-727.000	\$ 500.00	
	101-137-727.001	\$ 375.00	
	101-136-706.004	<del>-\$18,645.40</del>	15046.30
	101-136-720.000	<del>\$1,975.18</del>	149735
	101-136-727.002	\$ 500.00	
	101-136-727.001	\$ 375.00	

*Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Aultman, to approve the budget amendments as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

12. On a letter prepared to **reconsider the action to terminate the MSU memorandum of agreement under the 120 termination clause.** Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Chairman rescind the action of the 120 day action of termination of the MSU program. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
13. The Board is exploring the **options of alternative health care and to review the existing health care to ensure that the rates provided are within the best interests of the County's budget.** Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow Chairman Walters to act on behalf of the County as the authorized agent for these purposes. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
14. **Sheriff Shea has requested to attend his summer conference at Mission Point Resort June 8-10<sup>th</sup>.** Total of \$275.00 for the registration will be paid from 285-000-804.000 and \$129.00/night for two nights of lodging to be paid from 101-301-804.000. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Sheriff to attend the conference as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

#### **Commissioner Reports by District –**

##### **Commissioner Smith reported:**

- That she attended the Council of Local Government meeting last night in Billings Township where they elected Colin Combs, Secord Township Treasurer, as the Chairman. Madelyn Hubble and Susie Ruppert will remain in their current positions. Several Elected Officials spoke including the Chairman on the Headlee millage, Joel Johnson and a representative from Senator Moolenaar's office. The next meeting will be April 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. at the Courthouse.
- On attending the Hay Township meeting ton the 13<sup>th</sup>.
- That she toured the Animal Shelter on the 18<sup>th</sup> with a concerned citizen over the staffing shortage, noting the tour was very informative.
- On attending the Library Board meeting.
- That there is a County Affairs meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the millage.
- On communications with IT Right, noting that their contract does cover the installation of the new computers to assist Bob Frei.
- There will be a Data meeting scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Anyone who has a Data concern, please call the secretary so that it can be scheduled for that day.

##### **Commissioner Birgel reported:**

- On attending the Airport meeting, stating Forward Shell has donated signage for their use and they will begin trimming trees this spring.

- That he attended the Fair Board meeting where they discussed supplemental revenue that is “keeping them afloat”. The Board is also working on reducing insurance costs by looking at other agents.
- On the upcoming Board of Health meeting, noting he had one last week as well.
- On the presentation given by Lapham & Associates on the “Rail Trail project” with Beaverton, Buckeye and Grout Townships.

**Commissioner Aultman reported:**

- That she attended her first Airport meeting, commenting that she received a warm welcome. The Board discussed the donated signage from Forward Shell and the tree removal/trimming process that would occur in the spring. They also discussed the upcoming activities; Thunder on the Strip, Fly in Breakfast and Fall Flights.
- On attending the Secord Township meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>, noting the Township is working on the new cell tower and natural gas lines. Secord would like an update on the FEMA project and would like to see the Marine Patrol re-instated.
- That she missed the Region 7B meeting, due to a change in meeting time.
- On attending the Council of Local Government meeting last night.

**Comments from the Chairman:**

- That he attended the Sage Township meeting, commenting that all is well.
- On the Gladwin City meeting, stating that they run a very nice meeting.
- That he has attended numerous Finance meetings over the past couple of weeks.
- That he also attended the Council of Local Government meeting last night.
- On the Mental Health meeting in Mt. Pleasant tonight.

Chairman Walters asked for the Board’s consideration in **appointing Linda Birgel to the vacant Region VII Area on Aging vacancy**. *Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Aultman, to appoint Linda Birgel to the vacant position. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Chairman Walters then addressed the letter sent from Justin Schneider, Building Official, on the need to **re-appoint Milton G. Alward to the Construction Codes Board of Appeals**. *Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to appoint Milton G. Alward to the Construction Codes Board of Appeals. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

**Public Comments** –Reverend Karen Blatt informed the Board of the upcoming Legislative Breakfasts, commenting that they would be held on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the former St. Anne’s Catholic Church in Edenville and April 11<sup>th</sup> at the 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church in Beaverton.

*Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter with the Emergency Management Director. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION 9:55 – 10:32 a.m.**

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

The Board then reviewed various pieces of correspondence:

- March for Meals held the week of March 17<sup>th</sup> to volunteer with the preparation or delivery of senior meals.
- Souper Challenge held March 1<sup>st</sup> from 5-8 pm to benefit the Gladwin County Endowment Fund.
- The Farm and Garden Show that will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Ice Arena.
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*Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Aultman, to adjourn. Ayes carried, **motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m., until the next regular Board meeting on March 11, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise ordered.*

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Laura Brandon-Maveal  
County Clerk

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Terry Walters  
Chairman

**RESOLUTION**

NOW COMES the Board of District Commissioners for Gladwin County, Michigan, on its behalf and on behalf of the citizens of Gladwin County and, now adopts the following Resolution of Commemoration on this 25th day of February, 2014.

WHEREAS, Terry Whittington served Gladwin County as a District Commissioner for 26 years, following service to his home Township of Billings as its Supervisor, and

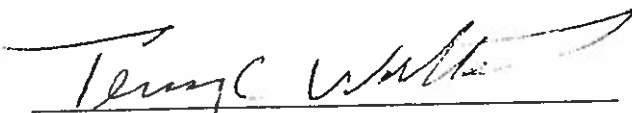
WHEREAS, Terry Whittington carried himself with dignity and patience in his public work, speaking well of all and able to engage in civil discourse even when others were beset with emotion, and

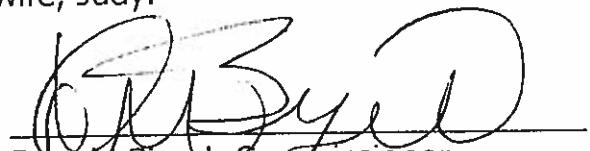
WHEREAS, Terry Whittington earned the respect of his fellow County and Township officials and the public at large, by his willingness to do the extra effort that others might avoid, and

WHEREAS, Terry Whittington's public life mirrored his private life, which centered on helping his family and friends, with sage advice and honest sweat, always with a cheerful attitude, and

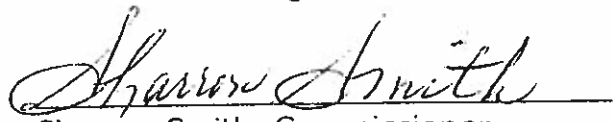
WHEREAS, Terry Whittington's passing on January 14, 2014 creates a void which will be difficult to fill, although Terry would be modest and never recognize how important he was to all who knew him.


NOW THEREFORE, in session assembled, the Board of District Commissioners commends the memories of Terry Whittington as a true servant and friend of the public, and expresses its appreciation for the time spent with Terry Whittington and joins all in its sorrow at his departure from this Earth to his just rewards and reunification with his beloved wife, Judy.

  
Terry Walters, Commissioner

  
Donald Birgel, Commissioner

  
Dennis Carl, Commissioner (opp)

  
Sharron Smith, Commissioner

  
Sandra Aultman, Commissioner