

Commissioner Minutes of June 10, 2014

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, June 10, 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. A short prayer was given before the meeting by Pastor Martin Hodge.

There was one addition to the agenda. Sandra Aultman, stated the Landbank appointment needs to be addressed. *Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Smith, to proceed with the agenda as amended. Ayes carried, motion passed. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Birgel to appoint Sandra Aultman to the Landbank in addition to Commissioner Smith. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

The **cash balances** were then read by Commissioner Birgel. *General Fund - \$989,486.96 Unallocated has a balance of \$90,784.79. Total General Fund and Tax Unallocated Cash \$1,080,271.75. There has been an advance from the 216 fund (911 millage funds) in the amount of \$400,000 and the TAN note of \$1.3 million is included in the totals.*

Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Smith, to approve the regular minutes of May 27, 2014. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Public Comments –

Daniel Zunich, Billings Township Clerk, stated he was giving a vote of confidence for the Clerk's and Treasurer's Offices. In the Clerk's Office, they handle all the voting and training as well as all the rest. Cuts made in those offices will affect the entire county. Mr. Zunich, asked the Commissioners to please keep this in mind.

Attorney Scott Moore, also spoke on behalf of all County employees. Stated he understands that difficult choices have to be made. We are all people serving people and that's what it's all about. We can not afford to lose anyone on the payroll today. Mr. Moore said he has been in many other state and county offices and this county is by far the best. Asked Commissioners to do the right thing.

Madelyn Hubble, Beaverton Township Clerk, spoke on behalf of the Clerk and Treasurer's Offices. We have elections coming up and we all need the help.

Finance Matters – Commissioner Birgel:

1. The bill for Point Addressing Services to 911 has been sorted out with the GIS department in the amount of **\$15,630.65** from **282-000-933-000**. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to pay the bill. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
2. Equalization Director, Bill Mason has requested to attend the MARD conference in Bay City. The registration fee is \$100.00 with approximately \$220.00 in lodging plus mileage, to be paid from 101-225-860.000. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Aultman, to pay the requested fees. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
3. Lt. Troy Rabidue requested payment for 80 hours of unused PTO time, total payment of \$1,927.20 to be paid from 101-301-704.000. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to pay Lt. Rabidue's PTO time. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
4. Matthew McGourty, Jail Administrator, has requested the creation of a revenue line for out county medical reimbursement, the revenue received for this purpose be moved to line #101-000-678-001, created for such

purpose. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Treasurer to move \$2,308.05 from 101-000-671.301 to the medical revenue line of 101-000-678.001.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

5. Bill Mason, Equalization Director, prepared a Resolution for signing and adoption of the L-4029 for the 2014 Tax Rate Request. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow for the signing of the prepared L-4029.* Roll call vote as follows: Carl-yes, Walters-yes, Smith-yes, Aultman-yes, Birgel –yes. 5 yes, 0 no. Ayes carried, **motion passed.**
6. Ray Hartwell, Sheriff Department, proposed the purchase of ammo in the amount of \$1,219.50. This will take approximately 8 to 10 months to receive. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Carl to purchase ammo, in the amount of \$1,219.50.* . Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Mike Brubaker, Director of Central Dispatch, stated they are losing a Dispatcher to Clare County and the need to have that position filled as soon as possible, one employee is off on medical leave and an Administrator was never hired. He placed an ad in the paper asking for applications. Ray Hartwell, expanded on the need to have the position filled quickly. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow for the posting of the position.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Commissioner Birgel, stated Consumers Energy will no longer assign house numbers and per the Addressing Ordinance, Section 5.2, no fees are to be charged. The County can not do this, at no cost. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Aultman to Amend the Addressing Ordinance to include a \$20.00 charge to be coordinated between 911 and GIS.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Commissioner Birgel, was approached by a logging company in regard to harvesting the Red Pine out on Clendening Road. Stated a plan needs to be adopted and bids obtained. *Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Carl to adopt a plan and pursue bids.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Commissioner Birgel, stated there will be a change from Cadillac Insurance to Burkhart Presidio, effective July 1, 2014.

Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Smith to appoint Dirk Presidio and Douglas Janes as Agent of Record for BCBS Vision. Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Carl, to appoint Dirk Presidio and Douglas Janes as Agent of Record for Short Term and Long Term Disability. Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Aultman, to appoint Dirk Presidio and Douglas Janes as Agent of Record for Dental and for the Group Term Life. Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Commissioner Birgel discussed the county vehicles, to be sold by sealed bids. *Motion by Commissioner Carl supported by Commissioner Aultman to open the sealed bids.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

At this time the sealed bids were opened by Commissioner Birgel and Ray Hartwell, Sheriff Department. The following vehicles were sold to highest bidder as follows: 2009 Crown Vic (26-12) to Yousef Dabbagh for \$1,334.00, 2009 Crown Vic (26-13) to Yousef Dabbagh for \$835.00, 1998 F-150 (097-301) to Kable Thurlow for \$1,100.00, 1998 F-150 (097-300) to Joe Smith for \$632.00, 2003 Taurus (FPN088) to Yousef Dabbagh for \$637.00, 2007 Crown Vic ((6FTU86) to Yousef Dabbagh for \$638.00 and the 2004 Expedition (26-11) to David Heinz for \$1,250.00.

Commissioner Birgel opened by stating he would like to bring everyone up to date in regard to the reduction of departments, stating they have worked very hard and had many discussions to make sure all their figures are accurate. We have been turned down by the public twice. The County will need to cut approximately \$380,000 in the General Fund by year end. The proposed cuts are roughly \$210,000 and additional cuts will be looked at by the end of the year. MERS is underfunded and the Board has no choice, must act on their fiduciary responsibility.

Commissioner Birgel, continued to relate that Obama Care will increasingly affect the future; we don't know what will happen. We have to look at all the facets. If we, the County, default in any area we can be subject to take over by an Emergency Financial Manager. Commissioner Birgel stated they appreciate everything they have heard from the public and departments.

Commissioner Walters, asked Commissioner Birgel to read a list of the cuts made previously by the Board. Commissioner Birgel read the list.

The Animal Control Department will not be cut at this time due to public donations of approximately \$7,000 with more to come from fund raisers proposed by Sharon Thurston. This will likely cover the part-time position in that department. Budget Amendments as follows:

Circuit Court: \$16,500, Secretary

Clerk's Office: Part-Time Clerk eliminated and one full time Clerk reduced to 29 hours

Emergency Management: \$5,000

Friend of the Court: \$40,500, Clerk Position

Probate Court: \$23,000, Clerks Position

Prosecuting Attorney: \$15,000, Clerk Position

Sheriff Department: \$17,000, reducing hours for Secretary to part-time

Treasurer: \$7,500, Part-Time Clerk

District Court: \$25,000 and \$14,000, Clerk Position

Information Technology: \$10,000/eliminate position

*Motion made by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Carl to make the proposed Budget Amendments. Roll call vote as follows: Walters-yes, Smith-yes (with reservations), Aultman-yes, Birgel-yes and Carl-yes. 5 yes, 0 no. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***

Commissioner Birgel, stated contributions to EDC, MSU and Gladwin Airport have been eliminated.

Commissioner Walters, stated this has been very difficult, stomach wrenching with lots of sleepless nights. This will have to be ongoing every month, see where we are at.

Commissioner Smith, stated this is one of the most difficult things I have had to do. I have grave reservations. She continued with appreciation for the input that has been given by the public and by the department heads. One of the positive things to come out of this, is the five of us have altered our schedules to change the Finance Meeting into Committee of the Whole Meetings to allow all the Commissioners to attend. This is a positive step for us to continue our fiduciary responsibility to citizens who put us here.

Commissioner Reports by District –

Commissioner Carl reported:

- Everything is going well in his Townships, noting there is concern over the ORV usage. Townships will need to contact the Road Commission to ask for closure of a road to ORV use.

Commissioner Smith reported:

- Attended Buckeye Township meeting on May 28. Mosquito control was a big discussion.
- Attended Committee of the Whole Meeting on Finance, June 5th.
- Also, sat in on discussion with Clare and Ogemaw Counties in afternoon. Found this very informative and am looking forward to our next meeting on July 31st.
- Hosted County Affairs Meeting on June 9, 2014. Discussed ORV issues with Road Commission and various townships. Decision was to continue with trial basis having all county roads open for ORV use with exception of M roads. If a township wants roads closed then the township would be responsible for all signage and enforcement. .
- Attended Tobacco Township, June 9, 2014. A request was made from the Township that Circuit Court Judge Evans issue his ruling on the Wixom Lake drawdown and dam. Judge Evans has had the information since October 2013 and the township is concerned at the length of delay. There is major concern over the negative economic impact and the township is asking for a ruling.

Circuit Court Judge Thomas Evans, stated in regard to the Wixom Lake issue, there is nothing before the Court to decide. A Motion for Summary Disposition was filed in October or November. The Court took the Motion under advisement and then the Motion was withdrawn. No further Motions have been filed.

Commissioner Birgel reported:

- On attending Beaverton Township Meeting, Mosquito Control was the big issue. They are planning to put a millage on in November to fund that program.
- That he attended the Grout Township Meeting, discussed what is going on
- Met with Road Commission
-

Commissioner Aultman reported:

- Attended the Connect Gladwin County Meeting on May 29th. Topic discussed was Broadband in Gladwin County.
- Attended MI Works Meeting in West Branch on May 30th.
- Committee of the Whole on June 5th.
- Attended Bentley and Billings Township Meetings on June 9th. They have hired a new Waste Water Manager, Dave Stein. Getting ready to pave parking lot of Township Park. Bentley is doing real well.
- On the letter received in regard to Wixom Lake. Need to do a Resolution to support the Wixom Lake Association. Motion by *Commissioner Aultman, Supported by Commissioner Walters to Support Wixom Lake Association Request with FDRC/FERC.* Roll call vote as follows: Smith-yes, Aultman-yes, Birgel-yes, Carl-yes, Walters-yes. 5 yes 0 no. Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Comments from the Chairman:

- On attending meetings every day this week.
- Talked with Clare County and Ogemaw County, they were very supportive/informative in regard to getting together to work things out. Trying to invite Arenac. Talked with Chairman from Midland, they may be interested.
- Roscommon County planning to put a millage on for Road Patrol this year.
- This has been the hardest time of my life. It's something none of us wants to do. I'm sorry it's just the way things have to happen.

Public Comments –

Madalyn Hubble, Beaverton Township Clerk, discussed the dog census, said she heard that 18 people had been hired. Madalyn stated she has not seen or heard of anybody in her township. Christy Van Tiem, Treasurer, stated that Animal Control has been in contact with her office and has given them two lists of names, anyone who received a notice of no dog license they are to charge \$40.00. Commissioner Birgel will update on status next meeting.

Christy Van Tiem, Treasurer also commented in regard to the Broadband in Gladwin County that Commissioner Aultman mentioned. EDC and Michigan Works asked that the Treasurer put a Broadband Survey in with the Tax bills, and they are also asking for \$50.00 from each of the Townships, to help cover the cost. Motion by *Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Aultman for approval to insert a Broadband Survey into the tax bills and for the Townships to each pay \$50.00 towards the cost.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.** Christy clarified by saying if the Townships do not wish to pay the \$50.00 the Survey will be included in their tax bills.

Robert Balzer, spoke in regard to the Broadband Survey. The cost of printing is approximately \$1,300.00, folding \$400.00. Mr. Balzer has talked with several providers, Jason Schuster and My Spot, and has reduced the cost to about \$650.00. EDC does not have the money to cover the printing, but we're going to get it done.

Mike Greer, District Court, requested clarification of the Resolution the Board just passed. Greer noted the agreement made with the County in January. Discussion. Commissioner Walters, stated they would review this discussion with Judge Ferrell, as well as sit down with Laura, Christy and Judge Evans.

Commissioner Smith, excused from Meeting.

Judge Evans, Circuit Court, stated I love my job, it's a privilege to serve the people of the State of Michigan, Clare and Gladwin Counties. Judge noted the plan made in January to make reductions and enhance revenue. This makes it difficult to discuss any other agreements. FOC is mainly funded by State and Federal Grants. There are targets to be met and FOC always meets their target. Judge Evans stated there is no way we can come up with \$40,000.00 by the end of this year. FOC is a vital office; they go after deadbeat parents and make them pay for their children. Judge Evans also stated that Judge's salaries are 100% funded by the State. As to the elimination of a secretary, Judge commented that he doesn't know of any Circuit Judge who does not have a secretary. The Board does have a duty to fund the Court, at a serviceable level, and that is not happening.

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

*Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Aultman, to adjourn. Ayes carried, **motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m. until the next regular Board meeting on June 24, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise ordered.*

Laura Brandon-Maveal
County Clerk

Terry Walters
Chairman

GLADWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Resolution 2014-014

WHEREAS, Public Act 2 of 1968 as amended by Public Act 41 of 1995 required the adoption of a Truth in Budgeting Act; and

WHEREAS, the Truth in Budgeting Act requires the approval of all mills of Ad Valorem property Taxes to be levied and the purpose for same; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the following millage rate for the summer collection with a total of 4.4052 mills

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above millage levy will be spread to support the General Appropriations Act.

Resolution proposed by Commissioner Don Birgel

Supported by Commissioner Sharon Smith, and adopted as follows:

Ayes 5

Nays 0

Absent/Abstain —

.....
I, Laura Brandon-Meyer, Gladwin County Clerk, certify that the above Resolution

was adopted at a meeting of the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners on

6-10- 2014

GLADWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Resolution 2014-016

WHEREAS, Public Act 2 of 1968 as amended by Public Act 41 of 1995 required the adoption of a Truth in Budgeting Act; and

WHEREAS, the Truth in Budgeting Act requires the approval of all mills of Ad Valorem property Taxes to be levied and the purpose for same; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the following millage rate for the summer collection with a total of 4.4052 mills

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above millage levy will be spread to support the General Appropriations Act.

Resolution proposed by Commissioner Don Birgel

Supported by Commissioner Sharon Smith and adopted as follows:

Ayes 5 Nays 0 Absent/Abstain —

.....
I, Laura Brandon-Maved Gladwin County Clerk, certify that the above Resolution

was adopted at a meeting of the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners on

6-10 - 2014

Resolution of Budget Amendments

Resolution 2014-017

Motion made by Commissioner Dennis Carl and seconded by Commissioner Smith to amend the 2014 budget by decrease in the following departments:

Reduction by:

Circuit Court \$16,500.00

Recommended by reduction in Clerk position

Clerk's Office \$

Recommended by reduction of part time Clerk, and reduction of full time Clerk to 29 hours a week

District Court \$

Recommended by reduction of full time clerk

Emergency Management \$5,000.00

Elimination of Deputy Emergency Manager

Friend of the Court \$40,500

Recommended by reduction in Clerk position

Probate Court \$23,000.00

Recommended by reduction in Clerk position

Prosecuting Attorney's Office \$15,000.00

Recommended by reduction in Clerk position

Sheriff Department \$17,000.00

Recommended by reduction of hours for full-time Secretary Employee

Treasurer \$7,500.00

Recommended by reduction of part time Clerk position

IT Director \$10,000.00

By elimination of contracted personnel

Animal Control will not be reduced as long as sufficient volunteer money continues to be donated.

The Board of Commissioners and the Finance Committee have reviewed the revenue and expenses determined from such reviews are necessary. These adjustments to the budget are necessary in order to avoid a further deficient to the County of Gladwin.

**Resolution proposed by Commissioner Don Birgel
Supported by Commissioner Dennis Carl**

Ayes 5 Nays 0 Absent/Abstain

I, kyra Brandon - Maveal, Gladwin County Clerk, certify that the above Resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners on 6-10 -, 2014

Amy Pfenninger

From: Dee Zee <deezee99@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2014 2:37 PM
To: Commissioner@GladwinCo.com
Subject: Wixom Lake Association's June_01_2014 Letter to FERC

Hello Amy,

Please Forward this email to all Gladwin County Commissioners.

Resolution 2014-018

To: Gladwin County Commissioners
From: Wixom Lake Association - Dam Project Study Group - (Donald Zakett)

Dear Commissioners:

Wixom Lake Association (WLA) provided comments to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on June 1, 2014 regarding the potential economic impact of prolonged drawdowns of Wixom Lake would have on Property values of lakefront and "lake-associated" residential parcels in Tobacco, Billings, Hay, and Hope (Midland Co.) townships. Hardcopies of those comments were placed your office mailboxes last week. Copies were also provided to Atty. Jacobson, and Mr. Mason (Equalization) for informational purposes.

WLA offered two suggestions to FERC which if required of Boyce (by FERC) should prevent a situation which led to massive property value destruction:

- 1: Require a financial guarantee or proof of dedicated funding sufficient to complete construction project.
- 2: Require Wixom Lake be maintained at normal summer levels during recreational season (May 1 through Sept. 30th) and use of full-height cofferdams during all PMF mitigation construction and/or dam renovation projects.

We encourage the Gladwin County Commissioners to review WLA's June 1st letter to FERC and ask for your support on these requests with FERC.

Sincerely,

Donald Zakett -- on behalf of the Wixom Lake Association

**Resolution proposed by Commissioner Don Birgel
Supported by Commissioner Dennis Carl**

Ayes 5 Nays 0 Absent/Abstain —

I, Haura Brandon-Neveal, Gladwin County Clerk, certify that the above Resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners on June 10, 2014

