

## Commissioner Minutes of September 11, 2012

*The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session September 11, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Reid. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was given for those who were victims of the 9/11 attack. Roll call found all Commissioners present, except for Commissioner Smith who had been excused.*

*Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the consent agenda as prepared. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

*The cash balances for the General Fund were read by Commissioner Rhode. General Fund - \$142,578.03 after payroll and bills were completed.*

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

Karen Blonde, Housing Commission, came before the Board with a handout explaining the projects under the “rehabilitation grant”. Ms. Blonde stated that the County still had money left and the deadline is drawing near, noting that the Board can take action to extend the deadline to allow for the balance of the funding to be utilized. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to extend the project date to June 30, 2013. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Christy VanTiem, County Treasurer, came before the Board with a bond authorization resolution for the Road Commission. Mrs. VanTiem discussed the savings to the Road Commission on the current bond of their building totaling almost \$106,000. Discussion. Motion by Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to allow the Treasurer to “refund the bond” by resolution for the cost saving to the Road Commission as discussed. Roll call vote as follows: Walters – yes, Carl – yes, Rhode – yes, Reid – yes, Birgel – yes, Smith – excused, Whittington – yes. 6 yes, 1 excused. Ayes carried, motion passed.

**Old Business:**

The Board discussed the utility bills for the Recreation Area. Attorney Jacobson has prepared a proposal to handle the “pro-rated” costs for the January – May billings, which caused a spike in costs for the June billing. Discussion. It was decided that the County Affairs committee would meet with Mr. Seebeck on this matter. Commissioner Carl suggested that any Board members with concern or suggestions should notify the County Affairs committee prior to the meeting.

The billings with Waste Management have been corrected with a monthly rate of \$381.75. The County is due a refund of \$760.00 from Waste Management for overbillings.

**New Business:**

Commissioner Birgel offered the drafted Proclamation for recognizing the week of September 17-23, 2012 as “Constitution Week”. Motion by Commissioner Birgel,

supported by Commissioner Carl, to adopt the proclamation as drafted. Roll call vote as follows: Carl – yes, Rhode – yes, Reid – yes, Birgel – yes, Smith – excused, Whittington – yes, Walters – yes. 6 yes, 1 excused. Ayes carried, motion passed.

**Commissioner Walters reported:**

- Thunder on the Strip will be held this weekend.
- That his Township meetings are coming up.

**Commissioner Carl reported:**

- That his Township meetings begin tonight, noting there has been a lot of discussion and concern on drain issues.

**Commissioner Whittington reported:**

- On attending the Billings Township meeting last night, noting there were many noise complaints on the music festival. Commissioner Reid commented that Edenville and Tobacco Townships will be working on noise ordinances before the next event. There was also discussion on FERC compliance in building the campground.
- That he has three meetings tomorrow.

**Commissioner Birgel reported:**

- On attending the Grout and Beaverton Township meetings last night, noting a lot of discussion on the drain issues and a complete assessment listing would be nice for the Board members to have to help explain to property owners how they will be assessed.
- Jeff Roehrs, Beaverton Township Supervisor, is not running for his term after 28 years in office. Commissioner Birgel would like the Board to prepare a “service certificate” to present to him after his term is over.

Commissioner Walters noted his concern with the drain costs that are being assessed stating the Townships were not able to properly budget for the costs. Discussion. Commissioner Walters stated that he has concern of property owners not being able to afford the assessments.

**Commissioner Rhode reported:**

- On meeting with the Uniform Addressing committee, commenting that a presentation was made and steps shown on what the County needs to do to move forward. The Townships that were in attendance were impressed and packets are being sent to those Townships that were not able to attend.

**Finance Matters –**

1. Justin Schneider, Building Official, has asked for the following budget amendment to allow for publication costs in the Zoning Department.

101-400-727.01	\$200.00
101-410-727.001	\$200.00

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to amend the budget as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

2. Stacey Gasiciel, District Court Probation Officer, has requested payment of 31.5 hours of unused vacation time. Total payment of \$777.46 to be paid from 101-136-706.002 as allowed by union contract upon approval. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the payment as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.
3. Mike Brubaker, 911 Director, has requested to send one dispatcher to "Professional and Advanced Dispatch School" October 2-5<sup>th</sup> in Lansing. Total cost of the training is \$670.00 with additional costs for lodging and meals. Total costs to come from 282-000-804.001. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve the training request. Ayes carried, motion passed.
4. Mr. Brubaker also asked the committee to consider and immediate replacement of the backup at the Breault Tower. The quote for a replacement is \$4696.74 from Valley Electric and can be paid from 280 funds upon approval. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to purchase the equipment as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
5. Sue Walker, COAM Union Representative, came before the committee with a proposal for PTO payout for her unit. Discussion on a wording change to "allow for a one time payment only for the remainder of the current union contract". Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow the Chairman to sign the Letter of Understanding with the revisions as stated. Ayes carried, motion passed.
6. Bev Przystas, MSU, came to the committee with a request to use the County's credit card for the purchase of educational supplies in the amount of \$371.85 to be paid with 287 funding. A motion will be needed to allow the Clerk to use the credit card for that purpose. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to allow the Clerk to place the order as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
7. The committee has reviewed the complaints regarding the cleaning of the County Drains. The committee would like permission by the Board to contact Attorney Stoker to review the Drain Code and assessment districts to make sure there are no irregularities. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow the Chairman to make the necessary contacts as discussed. Ayes carried, motion passed.
8. Maximus has established a sign-in system for the Chairman to authorize the grant applications for Friend of the Court and Prosecutor. A motion is needed to allow the Chairman to sign both of the applications for funding as requested by the Departments. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to allow the Chairman to sign the contracts as needed by the departments. Ayes carried, motion passed.
9. The Prosecutor will need to make travel arrangements for an upcoming case for a witness from out of state and one from out of the country. Because this is a jury trial matter, the arrangements will need to be made at the "last minute" if the defendant does not settle the matter. A motion is needed to allow the Clerk to make travel arrangements for the witnesses and possibly use the credit card if needed. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to allow the Clerk to make the necessary travel arrangements as deemed by the Prosecutor. Ayes carried, motion passed.
10. DHS has requested additional funding again this year. The committee will be meeting with DHS to review their costs to prove the need for the additional funding.

**Comments from the Chairman:**

- That he believes it is important to stay on top of the Drain issues so that the County is protected and items are being handled correctly.

- Upon reviewing the proposal for natural gas costs, it would be the recommendation that the committee take action to move forward with Volunteer Energy to “cap” the costs for natural gas use. Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow the Chairman to lock in a fixed rate for natural gas services as discussed. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- That the Board has recently received a few letters regarding service in County departments. Chairman Reid would like the departments to remember that it is important to give the constituents of our county “good service” and all incidents or written complaints should be handled and responded to in writing.

Commissioner Birgel commented on the EDC report showing a 5 year “negative” forecast on the County of Gladwin. Commissioner Birgel stated that he is in contact with EDC to discuss the source data info that was used to prepare the report.

**Public Comments –**

Mark Sohldon, Road Commission, gave the Board a review of summer projects and an update of current projects, noting 2013 projects are being considered based on Township requests.

Christy VanTiem, commented that her office would be open this Friday due to the last day of Secord Township summer tax collection.

Rick Ghent, Maintenance Supervisor, stated that the County will need to use the Hydro Design report for one last year and that Gladwin City will not be renewing the contract with them next year. The new plumbing and mechanical director will be able to conduct the inspections in 2013.

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

*Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Walters, to adjourn. Ayes carried, **motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m., until September 11, 2012 at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise ordered.*

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Laura Brandon-Maveal  
County Clerk

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Josh Reid  
Chairman