

Commissioner Minutes of September 14, 2010

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session September 14, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Whittington. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present.

Agenda – *no changes or additions.*

The **Regular minutes of August 24, 2010** were then considered. *Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve the minutes as presented with corrections that had been made prior. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

The **cash balances** for the General Fund and the Judicial Management Fund were then read. *General Fund - \$93,802.81 231 Fund – \$(54,838.66).* Christy VanTiem, County Treasurer, then asked Board permission to repay the Unallocated Fund a partial payment so that she can give the final appropriation to the Judicial Management Fund to bring them out of the “red”. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to allow a partial repayment to the Unallocated fund as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.* Commissioner Reid stated it was discussed in the last Budget meeting to have a discussion with District Court on their revenue. Commissioner Rhode stated that meeting would be held today after the Board meeting.

The **semi-monthly Finance report totaling \$85,904.34** was then considered for payment. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the bills for payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Public Comments –

John Jakoviac invited the Board members to attend the Veteran’s Day memorial service in front of the Courthouse on November 11th at 11:00 a.m.

Frank Starkweather, EDC Director, then came before the Board with a **brief update on EDC events**. Mr. Starkweather thanked those Board members who attended the last EDC Board meeting. Mr. Starkweather reported the report had been wrapped up, and the \$1.00 had been refunded to Midland Area Community Foundation. The Economic Gardening program is continuing, and the report will be sent to the Board members by e-mail for their review. Broad ban progress was discussed. Commissioner Carl inquired to the change in route from the original plan to run through Butman Township. Commissioner Reid noted that the route will run up F-97 to include Butman Township. Commissioner Carl asked that Don Joyce, Butman Township Clerk, be contacted to include the Township throughout this process.

Commissioner Carl then requested consideration on a resolution he prepared in support for signage under PA 240. Discussion. Commissioner Carl noted that signage needs to be uniform throughout our County and North and that the County should fund the signs for roads closed to ORV use and then request reimbursement by Township. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Reid, to support “Resolution for State

to Provide Signage for Counties Impacted by Public Act 240. Commissioner Reid stated that the County would receive revenue for funding the signage with tickets being written and submitted through District Court. Discussion. Roll call vote as follows: Walter – yes, Carl – yes, Rhode – yes, Reid – yes, Killian – yes, Smith – yes, Whittington- yes. 7 yes, 0 no. Ayes carried, **resolution 2010-014 declared adopted.**

Correspondence from the Chairman –

- The DHS committee is still seeking a replacement. The Board has no suggestions for an appointment. The Chairman will propose a name to the Board for vote at the next meeting. Interested persons are asked to contact the Board's secretary if interested.
- On receiving the District Court Transmittal.
- On correspondence received from Region VII Area on Aging.
- On correspondence received by Northern Michigan Substance Abuse.
- On a letter received by Butman Township regarding ORV's. Commissioner Carl will address this in his report.

Chairman Whittington then asked for motion to go into **Executive Session to discuss ongoing litigation.** *Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Walters, to go into Executive Session.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Commissioner Walter, supported by Commissioner Carl, to return to Regular Session. Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Killian, to follow the recommendation of the County's Attorney as discussed in Executive Session. Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Ron Taylor, Animal Shelter Supervisor, came before the Board in recognition of a **new sign** that had been created and donated by **Rebecca Ross** from Midland. Mr. Taylor commented on the fundraisers and donations received that allowed Ms. Ross to create the sign as part of her Girl Scout Community Service project. Photos of the sign were viewed by the Board and members of the audience. Mr. Taylor then commented on the spay/neuter donations, noting a lot of community involvement and "neat" projects have raised over \$1,000 toward the fund. Discussion. The Board will prepare a letter of thanks to Ms. Ross.

Chairman Whittington then asked permission of the Board to sign an **amendment to the Great West Retirement Services contract** to enhance benefits to the employees at no cost to the County. *Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow the Chairman to sign the amendment as requested.* Ayes carried, **motion passed.**

Committee Reports:

Commissioner Smith reported:

- That she would like to thank those who sat in for her during committee meetings while she was with her husband in the hospital, and for everyone's thoughts and prayers.
- On attending the Tobacco Township meeting last night.

Commissioner Walters reported:

- On the hazardous waste clean-up held on August 28th, noting it was a super turnout with over 200 vehicles serviced.
- On the County Affairs meeting held on the 31st of August. The Committee met with Reverend Karen Blatt and Gina Conrad to discuss **sale of ORV maps and advertising by local businesses**. Discussion. Ms. Conrad and Reverend Blatt will work on a map and return to the committee with an update. The committee also discussed the **\$500.00 spending limit for department heads**. A form has been drafted for the Department Heads to fill out for request to purchase over \$500 then can be returned to the Finance committee for their consideration. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve the use of the form and place it into the personnel policy for amendment. Ayes carried, motion passed.* Commissioner Whittington voting no.
- That he was unable to attend the Sage Township meeting but contacted the Clerk and Treasurer to give them his report.
- On attending the "Thunder on the Strip" race, noting it was a great event and well attended.
- That the Veterans Committee would be meeting this afternoon, and on the passing of one Veteran. Roy Gearhart, Korean Conflict – Sherman Township.
- On the **Land Bank** and the need to **replace member Dave Schwab** who has been unable to attend several meeting. *Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Reid, to appoint Justin Schneider to the vacancy. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
- That the coffee maker for the Commissioners' backroom has been repaired.

Commissioner Killian reported:

- On attending the Beaverton Area Business Association Special Board meeting on August 25th, stating by-law changes for "due structure" was discussed.
- On the Gladwin County Endowment Fund meeting on August 27th, noting Dirk Presidio is their newest member.
- On attending the County Affairs meeting on the 31st.
- On the Data meeting held on September 7th.
- On attending the Grout Township meeting also on the 7th.
- On the EDC meeting on August 8th, commenting that Harmony Nowlin from Consumers Energy gave a nice presentation.
- On attending the Beaverton Area Business Association luncheon on the 8th.
- On the 3rd Annual Lion's Club Memorial Golf Outing on September 11th, noting they raised approximately \$2,200.00 for scholarships.

- On the Beaverton Township meeting held September 13th, followed by the Lions Club meeting where he earned his 10 year pin.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- On attending the Data meeting on September 7th. **Bids were received and opened by Commissioner Smith from four companies for printegration services for the County.** *Commissioner Smith stated the Board is not making motion to approve and bid today and that they would be reviewed by committee and brought back before the Board with a recommendation. Discussion. Commissioner Carl then stated today's purpose was to put the number of bids on the record to that they can review and recommend at the next Board meeting.*
- On attending the Clement Township meeting on the 8th.
- On the Butman Township meeting on the 9th, noting ORV issues were discussed. Mike Shea made comment regarding the ORV signage and issues he was having. Sheriff Shea discussed ORV complaints over Labor Day weekend and man power to handle them. Discussion. It was decided that the Sheriff would give input to the "purchase" map that is being put together. Discussion on signage needed for the Dike area and concern from the Drain Commissioner to have the area gated off with signs.

Commissioner Reid reported:

- On attending the Finance meeting on August 27th.
- On the EDC meeting on September 8th.
- On attending the Personnel meeting on the 9th.
- On the Airport meeting also on the 9th.
- On attending the Hay Township meeting on the 9th.
- On the Finance meeting held on the 10th.

Commissioner Reid then stated that the Airport will be re-bidding for the fuel farm, as it was not handled well the first time.

- On attending the Hay Township meeting, noting everything is going well there.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

- On attending the Central Michigan Health Board meeting on the 25th.
- On reviewing the Budget on the 27th, noting that it was looking good, but needed to get more information from Cadillac Insurance on the increase to costs.
- On meeting with the Energy Commission on the 31st, noting the electrical grant costs ran a little over.
- On the meeting with Attorney Stoker to begin union negotiations.
- On attending the EDC meeting in Beaverton on the 1st, commenting that they need to begin work on their budget.
- On the Personnel meeting on the 9th where the committee reviewed the applications for the **Equalization Director**. The committee is recommending that the Board contract with *Christopher Couke as the County's Director, and that Karl Ockerman, Level II Assessor, Equalization Department, be asked to be a Deputy Director and that his wages be raised to Level III wages.* Discussion.

*Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to hire Christopher Coucke as Equalization Director at \$50,000/year on a one year contractual basis starting within two weeks. Discussion. Commissioner Carl asked that the Board consider making their motion a three year contract. Carl withdrew his motion of consideration. Ayes carried, **motion passed.** Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Smith, to offer Karl Ockerman the position of Deputy Director effective today, or upon his acceptance, at the pay increase to Level 3 wages, noting this would provide better coverage to the office. Ayes carried, **motion passed.***

- On the Consortium Finance meeting last Friday and discussion over a “central bid” process for paper and trash bags. Commissioner Reid commented on the overages to the Energy Grant were attributed to the Davis Bacon prevailing wage clause that was not amended by the State on the Grant totals.

Finance Matters –

1. Leo Gary, Emergency Management Director, will be attending training at Grand Traverse. Lodging and Registration will be paid for by the District.
2. Christy VanTiem, County Treasurer, brought information to the Board on “recovery bonds”, noting this is only an FYI to the Board and monies borrowed can be used for unfunded projects at a low rate. The Board has until October 8, 2010 to make use of the borrowing option.
3. Laura Brandon-Maveal, Clerk, informed the committee that she would be spending over **\$500.00 on November Election supplies, and that any paper order is over the \$500.00 limit.** *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to allow for the spending as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
4. Undersheriff Hartwell has notified the committee that they had to spend over **\$500.00 on a window repair to a patrol unit** that was kicked out by an arrested person. Total cost of the repair is **\$794.52** and the bill has been forwarded to the billing to the Prosecutor for restitution charges. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow for the window repair as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
5. *Mike Brubaker, 911 Administrator, came before the committee with several requests.*
 - a. The **VOICE contract** is up for renewal. Total contract is **\$2,564.00** to be paid from 280-000-802.000 if approved. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to pay for the contracted services. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
 - b. New Dispatcher, Karee Barlow, has been scheduled for a **“40-hour Beginning Dispatch” school.** Total cost of **\$699.00** plus lodging to be paid from 282-000-804.001 upon approval. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the training as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
 - c. Dispatcher Laidlaw has been scheduled for a **“Domestic Violence” training** class in Troy, MI. Total cost of **\$259.00** plus lodging and meals to be paid from 282-000-804.001 once approved. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow for the schooling as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
 - d. **Six dispatchers** have been scheduled for training in Tustin, MI. Cost is **\$1280.00** for the Dispatchers with meal allowances from line # 282-000-804.001 if approved. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve the expense as described. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

6. Sue Walker, Sheriff's Secretary, has calculated the costs of **Special Overtime to reimburse the General Fund**. Total cost of \$8,978.90 to be transferred from 264-000-804.000 to 101-351-704.000 - \$8,340.83 and 101-351-720.000 - \$638.07. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to allow for the transfer as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
7. **Barb Miller, Medical Examiner**, is closing her practice November 24th and moving out of State. Dr. Miller has asked that the Board **appoint Dr. Richard Bratton** effective November 1, 2010 so that she may cross train Dr. Bratton on any duties before she leaves. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to appoint Dr. Bratton effective November 1, 2010 with the same terms and conditions under contract as Dr. Miller. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
8. Justin Schneider, Building Official, has asked that the **Commercial fees be increased by 50%** to come in line with State fees. Mr. Schneider stated that even with the 50% increase, the County would still be approximately 30% lower than what the State is charging. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the fee increase as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*
9. Mr. Schneider is also requesting that the **Zoning Clerk be allowed to work full time through October 31st**, as there are still a study stream of permits coming through. Total cost to accommodate this request is approximately \$981.25. Discussion. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters to allow the Clerk to work full time through October 31st as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Board Comments –

Commissioner Reid voiced his concern over the raise in health care costs, and the need for the Board to propose a "cap" on costs in the upcoming contract negotiations to work with the employees to absorb a portion of the yearly increase. Commissioner Rhode stated that the committee is looking at a new program to help with the costs.

The Board then recessed at 10:42 a.m.

Chairman Whittington called the meeting back to order at 10:45 a.m.

Public Comments –

Bob Frei invited all to take part in an aerial "downtown" picture of Gladwin City on September 25th at 9:00 a.m. The photo will be from the Courthouse down to the Gladwin County Record building and will be used for the sesquentennial book and on the cover of the newspaper. Commissioner Reid commented that is the same date of the Public Safety day at Flynn Lumber.

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

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Killian, to adjourn. Ayes carried, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. until September 28, 2010 unless otherwise directed.

Laura Brandon-Maveal, Clerk

Terry Whittington, Chairman

Resolution # 2010-014

**Resolution for State to Provide Signage for Counties Impacted by
Public Act 240**

Whereas: The State Legislature has passed Public Act 240 allowing ORV's on roadways and

Whereas: It is the States responsibility to provide traffic signage and

Whereas: It is in the interest of public safety to post roads closed to ORV's and

Whereas: Signage is not available to County's impacted by P.A. 240 and

Whereas: County's should be responsible for posting the roads they have designated closed to ORV's and

Whereas: P.A. 240 is now in effect without these signs

Be it Resolved: That the State provide signs for roads closed to ORV's and

Be further resolved: That signage be made available to counties impacted by P.A. 240 at the states cost for manufacturing these signs and

Be it finally resolved: That a copy of this resolution is sent to the leadership of the State Senate and State House for immediate action.

CERTIFIED

I, Laura Brandon-Maveal, the duly elected and action Clerk of Gladwin County, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, _____ was adopted by the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting of said Board held on September 14, 2010, at which meeting a quorum was present, by roll call vote of said members as herebefore set forth.


Laura Brandon-Maveal

Gladwin County Clerk

Special Meeting
Gladwin County Board of Commissioners
October 1, 2010 9:00 a.m.

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Friday, October 1, 2010. Vice-Chairman Rhode called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Carl then asked for a point of order to clarify the resignation of Chairman Whittington and allowing Vice Chairman Rhode to chair this meeting. Commissioner Carl cited Roberts Rules of Order stating the Chairman shall resign by formal letter that is dated, signed and includes reason for resignation. The resignation should then be voted on by the Board for acceptance. Commissioner Whittington commented that Roberts Rules of Order is only a guide and that the Board has not adopted Roberts Rules as part of their Board policy. Discussion. Commissioner Carl stated that he feels this meeting needs to take place and that the matter needs resolved; therefore requests that Commissioner Whittington chair the meeting as his resignation has not been formally approved. Commissioner Whittington replied he has resigned, that he is not longer Chair, he has made that public at the last Board meeting and by chairing the meeting today would just make him part of another embarrassment that he doesn't want to be part of. Commissioner Whittington stated that he will have a letter submitted to the Secretary by Monday morning. Discussion. Commissioner Carl inquired whether this meeting can continue if Commissioner Whittington chooses not to chair it. Commissioner Carl requested that Commissioner Whittington chair this meeting and his resignation will be acted on at the next regular Board meeting. Discussion on the resignation of Commissioner Posey and the proper resignation procedure. Commissioner Whittington stated he is not stepping down from something he resigned from, commenting the Board has made enough mistakes in their actions already. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Reid, to have Commissioner Whittington chair the meeting until his resignation can be formally approved. 3 yes, 2 no. Ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioner Whittington again stated that he is not chairing the meeting, he has resigned and there will be a formal letter of resignation presented by Monday morning.

Vice-Chairman Rhode proceeded with the meeting.

Roll Call found five Commissioners present. Commissioner Smith had been excused to take her husband to a doctor's appointment. Commissioner Walters was absent.

Public Comments-

Bernadette Weaver, Gladwin City Assessor and Zoning Administrator, came before the Board to speak on the qualifications of the Equalization Director's position and address disturbing comments from the prior meeting about comments she had made. Ms. Weaver commented on the wage that was offered is not excessive and that it is her opinion that the Board does not understand the position of the Equalization Director. Discussion. Commissioner Reid stated that there needs to be someone available in the office 30-35 hours/week with a note on the office door if they are in the "field" handling assessments.

Commissioner Rhode stated he was very disappointed in the actions of this Board and the handling of Mr. Coucke at the last meeting, noting he quizzed him like a "mis-behaving school boy". Commissioner Rhode does not blame Mr. Coucke for resigning and not wanting any part of Gladwin County forcing the Board to go from a \$50,000 position to a \$75,000 position.

Commissioner Reid received a letter from Karl Ockerman bidding the position at \$55,000/year with benefits to perform only the mandated equalization duties. Commissioner Whittington suggesting that they check with the other qualified applicants to see if they are still interested. Discussion on reviewing the applicants and scheduling further interviews. Commissioner Rhode stated that before the Board handles any further interviews that the contract be amended to include "duties as required of Gladwin County. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Reid, to insert the wording into the proposed contract as stated. Ayes carried, motion passed. Whittington voting no.

Discussion on the next two qualified applicants. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Killian to contact and interview Karl Ockerman and Daniel Boelle.

The Board then took a recess to contact the two individuals at 9:50 a.m.

Meeting called back to order by Vice-Chairman Rhode at 10:05 a.m.

Vice-Chairman Rhode stated that he spoke to Mr. Boelle and he was still interested and could start on October 11th, with time to finish apportionment reports. Mr. Boelle will accept the job after reviewing the contract at \$78,000/year with no benefits. Commissioner Killian asked if Denise Hall would be interested in staying until apportionment if completed. Commissioner Whittington stated that Ms. Hall will not extend her contract. Discussion on qualifications of Mr. Ockerman and Mr. Boelle.

The Board then took another recess to contact Mr. Ockerman to present him with the contract revisions for consideration. Recess 10:15 a.m.

Meeting called back to order at 10:20 a.m.

Vice-Chairman Rhode stated that Mr. Ockerman is willing to accept the contract as presented as long as requirements are discussed with him prior to implementing. Commissioner Carl asked what the qualification differences were. Vice-Chairman Rhode stated that Mr. Boelle has worked in this capacity before, and that Mr. Ockerman hasn't done the job before. Commissioner Carl asked each of the committee members that handled the interviews who they would recommend between Ockerman and Boelle. Vice-Chairman Rhode stated he would support the hiring of Mr. Boelle. Commissioner Whittington stated that either party is qualified and that he would support either candidate that the committee recommended. Commissioner Reid stated that he would be in favor

of Mr. Boelle because of his experience. Commissioner Reid commented that both applicants are willing to work with the Townships and be available by phone or email if needed. Commissioner Carl made motion based on the recommendation of two of the three committee members that the Board hire Mr. Boelle. Motion supported by Commissioner Reid. Ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioner Whittington voting no.

Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Reid, to adjourn. Ayes carried, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m. until October 12, 2010 unless otherwise directed.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Brandon-Maveal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura Brandon-Maveal
Gladwin County Clerk

Special Meeting
Gladwin County Board of Commissioners
October 8, 2010 4:00 p.m.

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Friday, October 8, 2010. Vice-Chairman Rhode called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll Call found all Commissioners present, except Commissioners Whittington and Killian who had been excused.

Vice-Chairman Rhode explained the primary reason for calling the meeting was to make a name change to the Equalization Director's contract from Mr. Bolle to his business "Assessment and Valuation Services." Mr. Bolle stated with this change he will be willing to begin on Monday the 11th. Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Smith, to approve the name change to the contract as requested. Discussion. Commissioner Carl stated that part of this agreement should included that Mr. Bolle's phone number be available to the Department and Townships for their use. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Vice-Chairman Rhode then highlighted the 2011 budget and provided overview of the ongoing process.

Laura Brandon-Maveal had submitted a voucher for \$1,683.64 for completion of three grants. This payment was authorized by the minutes of April 13, 2010. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Reid, to approve the payment as requested. Commissioner Reid stated that grant applications are open to any department that wants to administer and complete them. Ayes carried, motion passed.

The Board then reviewed the written resignation of Terry Whittington from Chairman of the Board. Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Carl, to accept the resignation as prepared. Commissioner Smith stated that she will vote to accept the resignation, but finds it too bad that Commissioner Whittington felt that he needed to include the last paragraph of his letter and that he "could have been a better person on making that remark". Ayes carried, motion passed.

Vice-Chairman Rhode then commented on the need to combine the 231 Judicial Management fund, the Emergency Management Special fund and the General Fund together for the 2011 budget year per the Auditors. The Board will address this at their regular meeting on October 12th.

Commissioner Reid stated that the County Affairs committee needs to continue with their compliancy policy for time clocks. This would also provide employee accountability that will bring the County into auditor compliance.

Commissioner Carl notified the Board that action needs to be taken on the CJRP program for County Jails. Commissioner Carl stated that a representative from the Sheriff Department needs to be noticed for the October 12th meeting to report to the Board on the status of this matter.

Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Smith, to adjourn. Ayes carried, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. until October 12, 2010 unless otherwise directed.

Respectfully Submitted:



Laura Brandon-Maveal
Gladwin County Clerk