

Commissioner Minutes of December 8, 2009

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in a public hearing to review and adopt the 2010 budgets. The public hearing was called to order at 8:45 a.m. by Chairman Whittington. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The meeting was then turned over to Commissioner Rhode for review of the budgets.

Commissioner Rhode reviewed each department within the General Fund, noting no changes were made from the prior workshop. The 231 Judicial Management Fund was reviewed. Commissioner Rhode then reviewed each of the Special Fund budgets. Commissioner Carl asked if these budgets were still contingent upon the unions accepting the insurance proposal. Commissioner Rhode stated that there was wording in the contracts that stated the Board can change the insurance to wholly or partially self insure costs. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Walters, to leave public hearing and go into regular session to adopt the budget. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Regular Session

Roll call found all Commissioners to be present.

Barb Stahl, Construction Codes, asked questions on the combination of the Zoning and Construction Codes department. Discussion. Commissioner Rhode commented that after the budget is adopted, the budget committee will be sitting down to sort out the specifics of the proposed combination of offices. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Posey, to adopt the 2010 budget as presented and reviewed.

Commissioner Reid commented that this has been a very long process and there will be even harder decisions and cuts to make next year, and that each department needs watch their 2010 spending. Roll call vote as follows: Walters – yes, Carl – yes, Rhode – yes, Reid – yes, Posey – yes, Smith – yes, Whittington – yes. 7 yes, 0 no. Ayes carried, motion passed. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Clerk to change the health insurance coverage for 2010 to the \$5,000/\$10,000 deductible. Discussion. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Agenda – *there were no corrections or additions.*

The **Regular minutes of November 24, 2009** were then considered. The Clerk advised the Board that there were requested additions made per two Commissioner requests. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Posey, to approve the minutes. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

The **cash balances** for the General Fund and the Judicial Management Fund were then read. *General Fund - \$21,561.73 231 Fund - \$(49,388.84).*

The **semi-monthly Finance report totaling \$44,996.04** was then considered for payment. *Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Carl, to approve the bills for payment as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.*

Public Comments –

Kelly Gower informed the Board that she had made and brought in Christmas treats for them to enjoy.

Correspondence from the Chairman:

Thank you letters had been received from Barb Hager and Dan & Evelyn Hall for the change in insurance contributions for the retirees.

Rick Ghent had an inspection done on his truck, with no problems or needed repairs reported. Commissioner Reid inquired if Mr. Ghent was driving the truck home again. Commissioner Whittington stated that he began driving the truck home when the lawsuit was dropped. Commissioner Reid stated that the Board did not take action to allow individuals to begin driving vehicles home and asked if any other departments were driving home. Commissioner Walters felt that with layoffs and cut personnel that it sends a poor message to allow employees to drive vehicles home for personnel use. Discussion. Commissioner Carl stated there is no need to re-act on this issue since the Board never voted to allow the employees to begin to drive the vehicles home.

The employee Christmas party would be held December 23, 2009 from 11:30-1:30.

On correspondence received from Attorney Stoker.

On a letter received from a resident from District #5 noting concerns.

On the need to re-appoint George Alward to the Construction Codes Board of Appeals expiring 12-31-2011. No objections from the Board.

On the need to re-appoint Scott Govitz to the EDC Board effective 1-1-2010, and that he (Commissioner Whittington) would be replacing Bill Rhode on the EDC Board effective January 1, 2010. Commissioner Smith asked how many Board members have sat on the EDC Board other than Commissioners Whittington and Rhode. Commissioner Whittington responded that the EDC Board has four year terms, and it has only been established for four years, but that Commissioner Reid also sits on the EDC Board.

Denise Hall, Equalization Director, came before the Board with two changes to the Apportionment Report. Billings mosquito .25 mills and Gladwin City Debt Millage 1.379 mills. Ms. Hall stated that the correct amounts were printed on the winter tax bills. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Reid, to correct the Apportionment Report as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Commissioner Smith –

- On a letter from Barb Lyons, Library Board Secretary, notifying the Board that Dave Schwab will no longer serve on the Library Board due to excessive absences. The Library Board will submit a name of an interested person to the Board for their consideration at the next meeting.
- On a letter from Rick Seebeck requesting use of the garage for storage of the grooming equipment for the winter.
- On attending the Data meeting on December 1st, noting that Commissioner Posey will give a full report.
- Commented that the tree lighting ceremony in Beaverton was held December 4th and that the park was decorated beautifully.

Commissioner Rhode then asked that the Board consider a Personnel matter, stating the Polly Gehrett is entitled to longevity payment under her Unit #6 contract. Commissioner Reid explained that Ms. Gehrett was a Library employee before a County employee and that minutes of a February 5, 2005 Board meeting reflect corrective actions in a Personnel meeting dated January 18, 2005 to consider Library employees County employees for wage, vacation, sick, personnel, and benefits including longevity. In the meeting of February 5, 2005 the board acknowledged the corrective actions, but did not take formal action. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Carl, to allow for longevity payment to Ms. Height, and that the changes set forth above are reflected in the Unit #6 contract. Ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioner Whittington voting no.

Commissioner Whittington then made motion to approve the bylaws for the 911 committee as presented. Motion supported by Commissioner Smith. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Chairman Whittington then called for a recess at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting called back to order at 9:40 a.m. by Chairman Whittington.

Commissioner Walters reported:

- On attending the Community Mental Health regular and finance meeting on the 24th, noting that the Governor sent a directive to cut 20% of their 73 million budget.
- That he would be attending a Veterans meeting this afternoon and that his Township meetings are coming up.

Commissioner Posey reported:

- On attending the Grout Township meeting, noting that they had opted into County Zoning.
- That Beaverton Township had not received a Zoning contract for consideration, and they have not yet opted in. Commissioner Posey asked that she be given a

copy of the contract so that she may take it to Beaverton Township for their consideration.

Data Matters:

- The IT Director dealt with a virus in the 911 center.
- The contract for the 800 number under the Centrex system needs to be signed. Motion by Commissioner Posey, supported by Commissioner Smith, to allow the Clerk to sign the contract upon presentation. Discussion. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- The Data committee is also recommending that a special fund be created for the set aside of funds for the upgrade of the phone system. The Clerk and Treasurer will be invited to attend the next Data meeting for further discussion.
- That the IT Director is working on the establishment of a “working calendar” for the Court system and other County departments. Commissioner Rhode noted that the Finance Matters will address the transfer of funds, and payment options for this request.
- The Construction Codes department had requested that new software be purchased for the implementation beginning January 1, 2010. This will also be handled in the Finance Matters.

Commissioner Carl reported:

- On attending the Data meeting on the 1st.
- On the Planning meeting on the 2nd.
- That his Township meetings begin tonight.

Commissioner Reid reported:

- On attending a Budget meeting on the 25th and again on the 4th.
- On the Festival of Lights parade on the 5th, noting the great turnout and that residents enjoyed the local shops that stayed open.

Commissioner Rhode reported:

- On the Central Michigan Health meeting on the 24th in Mt. Pleasant.
- On the Finance meeting on the 4th.
- On attending the Gladwin City Council meeting on the 7th.

Finance Matters:

1. Justin Eastman, Jail Administrator, has requested that the 2010 membership to Kirtland for 16 officers be paid in the amount of \$1,760.00. If approved the amount can be paid from 264-000-607.000. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the membership payment as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
2. The Judicial Management Fund has been advanced \$52,940.17 from 101-000-198.000. In cooperation with Darryl Schlese and the Court, the amount advanced can be repaid to General Fund by decreasing the appropriation to the 292 Child Care fund from General Fund by \$52,940.17. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to approve the transfers as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

3. Sue Walker, Sheriff Secretary, has requested that the below listed transfer be completed to repay the General Fund from the 264 fund for special overtime costs.

From	264-000-804.000	\$2,037.77	
To	101-351-704.000	\$1,892.96	
	101-351-720.0		\$144.81

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Smith, to transfer the funds as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.

4. In order to adjust over expense lines before the end of 2009, it will be necessary to increase the appropriation from Unallocated to General Fund by \$200,000.00. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to allow the Clerk and Treasurer to make the transfer and budget amendments as needed. Ayes carried, motion passed. Commissioner Whittington voting no.

5. Bob Frei, IT Director, has requested permission to purchase a new server and software. Total cost of \$2,900.00 will be paid from 101-258-815.003 with the below budget amendments.

101-258-815.03	\$2,000.00	
101-253-831.0		\$650.00
101-215-860.0		\$500.00
101-229-933.0		\$850.00

Commissioner Reid commented on the system being better for future growth and more productive. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Posey, to allow for the purchase of the software and the line item transfers as outlined above. Ayes carried, motion passed.

6. The Construction Codes department has requested computer based software for issuing permits for the 2010 year. Total cost of \$5,500.00 to be paid from their 2009 budget. Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Posey, to allow the purchase as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.

7. Christy VanTiem, County Treasurer, has requested the below listed transfer to her telephone line.

101-253-933.000		\$400.00
101-253-850.000	\$400.00	

Motion by Commissioner Rhode, supported by Commissioner Reid, to transfer the funds as requested by the Treasurer. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Chairman Whittington asked for a motion to allow notices to be sent to those individuals whose positions will be reduced and/or eliminated beginning January 1st. Discussion on which positions are affected. Chairman Whittington called for a 10 minutes recess at 10:05 a.m. so that a list of positions could be drafted for review before voting.

Meeting called back to order at 10:15 a.m. by Chairman Whittington. A list of approved position reductions was provided to the Board for their review. Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Rhode, to allow notices to be sent to employees and their Supervisors for the reduction staff for the 2010 budget. Ayes carried, motion passed.

Public Comments:

Sandra Walling, Zoning Administrator, had several questions for the Board in regards to the combination of the Construction Codes department and the Zoning department. Discussion. The Board informed Mrs. Walling that she would have opportunity to sit down with Justin Schneider, Building Official, and the Personnel committee to work out the details of the "merger". Commissioner Rhode noted that the meeting would be held on December 21, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Darlene Conner, Grout Township Treasurer, asked about the reference made to the concern in District #5. Commissioner Whittington stated he only forwarded correspondence that he received to all the Commissioners for their review, and that answers to her questions may be better answered by her Commissioner.

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

Motion by Commissioner Carl, supported by Commissioner Walters, to adjourn. Ayes carried, meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m. until December 22, 2009, unless otherwise ordered.

Laura Brandon, Clerk

Terry Whittington, Chairman