

## Commissioner Minutes of December 10, 2013

*The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, December 10, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Reid. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all Commissioners present, except Commissioner Carl who had been excused.*

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

The cash balances were then read by Commissioner Whittington. *General Fund - \$59,566.61, noting that the Unallocated Fund still has an advance of \$300,000 that will need to have Board action by the end of the year for re-payment.*

### **Public Comments –**

Reverend Karen Blatt spoke on the 2014 budget reduction to the MSU department. Reverend Blatt stated that MSU is involved with many programs that are beneficial to the community and that it would be a shame to jeopardize the programs. Discussion.

Shari Spoelman, MSU Director, came before the Board and thanked them for their support in the past, but voiced her concern on the impact the Board's reduction to their department would have on the community and the 4H programs. Ms. Spoelman commented that she is willing to work with the Board on alternative funding options. Discussion.

### **Commissioner Reports by District -**

#### **Commissioner Walters reported:**

- That his Township meetings are coming up.
- On the upcoming Gladwin City meeting.
- That there will be a Veterans meeting today, noting the committee will be looking at an appointment to fill the vacancy.

*Veterans Lost – Steven Roberts, Leroy Grant, Donald Beierschmitt, Carl Hanson and Barbara Gasche.*

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

- On attending the Workers Comp association meeting through MAC.
- That he attended the Beaverton Township meeting where they spoke about the FEMA process. Attorney Jacobson has spoken to Boyce Hydro and they are willing to turn the "toco maps" over to FEMA for their use. An agreement will need to be drafted and signed by the Chairman to allow FEMA to use the maps only for Gladwin County official business.
- On attending the Grout Township meeting.
- That he attended the CMDHD meeting.

#### **Commissioner Whittington reported:**

- That he has attended several budget and union negotiation meetings over the past couple weeks.

***Finance Matters:***

1. The Countywide Cost Allocation Plan has been submitted and approved by the State. A copy of the certification is attached for the Board's review.
2. Stacey DeMoines, Treasurer's Office, has 35 hours of vacation time that she was not allowed to use do to scheduling conflicts. Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Birgel to authorize payment of \$564.90 from 101-253-705 per her union contact. Ayes carried, motion passed.
3. The billing for the "point addressing" through Amalgam has been submitted in the amount of \$32,180.75. A motion is needed to allow the bill to be paid from 239-000-810.000 with billings to be sent to EMS, 911 and Townships to offset their portion of the costs. Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve payment to Amalgam in the amount of \$32,180.75 as outlined. Ayes carried, motion passed.
4. Gina Conrad, Gypsy Moth, has made a recommendation to the Board on the proposed rates for the point addressing data. Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Walters, to change the fee schedule to include the point addressing data. Ayes carried, motion passed.
5. The committee has reviewed the upcoming law regarding health care coverage to part time employees. The committee has made the recommendation, for Board action, that all part time County employees work no more than 29 hours/week; with the exception of part time correction officers. The departments that will be affected will be noticed by the Board for 2014. Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Walters, to follow the recommendation of the committee. Ayes carried, motion passed.
6. The committee is recommending that the MSU department be eliminated as part of the 2014 budget deficit reductions. Since there is a 120 day termination policy on the memorandum of agreement, it is time sensitive that the Board act on this as soon as possible. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Reid, to send a letter of termination to MSU to begin the 120 day count with the understanding that the Board will work with them on funding the program by donation. Ayes carried, motion passed.
7. Construction Codes has made the request to order supplies for 2014 scheduling. The request should not exceed \$50.00. Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to allow for the purchase as requested. Ayes carried, motion passed.
8. The Treasurer will need to borrow funds from the Unallocated fund to pay any bills or payroll through the end of the year. Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to allow for the transfer as needed. Ayes carried, motion passed.
9. The Board then reviewed the policy and resolution for the Fair Housing Laws. Discussion. Motion by Commissioner Reid, supported by Commissioner Birgel, to adopt the Fair Housing Resolution as prepared. Roll call vote as follows: Carl – absent, Walter – yes, Reid – yes, Whittington – yes, Birgel – yes. 4 yes, 1 absent. Ayes carried, resolution 2013-022 declared adopted. The policy naming Commissioner Walters as the Fair Housing contact person was reviewed. Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Reid, to adopt the policy as prepared. Ayes carried, motion passed.

**Chairman Reid reported:**

- The ZBA meeting for December 17<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled.
- The Planning Commission has given a proposed list of 2014 meeting dates for the Board to consider. Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Walters, to adopt the meeting dates as provided. Ayes carried, motion passed.
- Construction Codes has asked for an update to the fee schedule to include sand and gravel mining. Discussion and review of the new fee schedule. Motion by Commissioner Birgel, supported by Commissioner Walters, to approve the fee schedule as presented. Ayes carried, motion passed.

- That the Financial Coordinator, Mr. Hammerbacher, has resigned.
- On attending the Festival of Lights parade, noting it was very nice and well attended.

**Public Comments** – Kelly Miller asked the Board where they were at with the vote on the ongoing zoning matter. Chairman Reid stated they would be discussing the matter after the first of the year. Mr. Miller also asked about the “rail trail grant.” Discussion.

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

*Motion by Commissioner Walters, supported by Commissioner Reid, to adjourn. Ayes carried, **motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m., until December 26, 2013 at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise ordered.*

---

Laura Brandon-Maveal  
County Clerk

---

Josh Reid  
Chairman

## **BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Chairman Reid spoke on the 2014 budget process and the potential deficit for the 2013 budget. Currently the 2013 budget is in a deficit by \$508,000 and all departments should be mindful of all spending through the end of the year. The Clerk and Treasurer have drafted budget amendments to correct over collected revenues and overspent expenses through today. Chairman Reid noted that approximately 22 Veterans have applied for the property tax exemptions for 2014 and the County would be starting the 2014 budget year \$506,000 short without a payment of \$300,000 back to Unallocated and that the Board is still working on all the Union contracts.

Chairman Reid read the list of potential reductions for the 2014 budget:

- Marine Patrol
- Elimination of the Lieutenant
- Elimination of one Sergeant
- Reduction of hours to 35/week to the Jail Administrator and Sheriff’s Secretary
- All part time employees to work less then 29 hours/week with the exception of the corrections officers.
- The elimination of the MSU department
- The Court Security Officers will have only \$40,000 in wages to operate for the year
- The lowest seniority person in District Court, Probate Court and FOC will be reduced to 25 hours/week without benefits
- Eliminate the Research Attorney in Circuit Court

- 50% reduction in appropriations to the Airport and EDC
- Elimination of a position in the Clerk's Office
- Reduction of part time employee's hours in the Treasurer's office
- Janitorial services will be contractual, eliminating the janitor
- Reduction of the Assistant Animal Control officer to 25 hours/week without benefits

Chairman Reid commented that there have been increases to DHS and Child Care expenses, the property values have still not increased and the State needs to guarantee revenue to the County. This budget includes no fund equity and health care has still not been finalized with some groups.

#### Public Comments

Sheriff Shea spoke on the proposed cuts to his departments and his concern with required jail mandates. Discussion on his department. Chairman Reid commented that it is a shame that the public safety millage did not pass, noting most of these cuts would not be necessary. The Sheriff stated that his department has already made several concessions and having been out in the public the consensus does not show that they want a reduction in deputies.

Judge Evan spoke on the reduction of the Research Attorney and the State mandate that requires the Board to fund that position. Discussion. Judge Evans stated that he would be happy to sit down with the committee after the meeting to talk about funding sources.

#### DISCUSSION.

Mike Hudson commented on the reduction of his janitorial position and asked how the Board could calculate any additional savings by going to a contractual service when they have already laid off two individuals, asking where the savings were at?

Motion by Commissioner Whittington, supported by Commissioner Reid, to adjourn the budget workshop at 10:16 since there were no further comments from the public or the Board. Ayes carried, motion passed.

# Fair Housing Resolution

WHEREAS, under the Federal Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, it is illegal to deny housing to any person because of race, color, religion, gender, physical or mental disabilities or national origin; and,

WHEREAS, under the Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, PA 453 of 1976, as amended, it is illegal to deny the opportunity to obtain housing to any person because of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status;

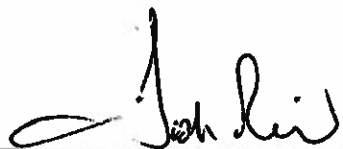
LET IT BE KNOWN TO ALL PERSONS that it is the policy of **Gladwin County** to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status. Therefore the **Gladwin County** does hereby pass the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Executive Order 11063, **Gladwin County** shall not discriminate in the sale, rental, leasing, or financing of housing because of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status;

**Gladwin County** will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status to seek equity under federal and state laws by providing information to said persons on how to file a complaint with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

**Gladwin County** will at a minimum post this policy or the Fair Housing poster or other posters, flyers or other information which will bring to the attention of owners of real estate, developers and builders their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Law and Michigan Elliott Larsen Act.

This Resolution shall take effect as of the date listed below.



Josh Reid, Chairman  
Board of Commissioners  
**Gladwin County**

12-10-2013  
DATE

# Fair Housing Policy

**Gladwin County** is committed to fair housing and will work aggressively to ensure that **Gladwin County** housing developments comply fully with all state, federal, and local fair housing laws. **Gladwin County** has appointed **Terry Walters** as their Fair Housing contact person. **Terry Walters** has an understanding of the Fair Housing Laws and will attend applicable training to remain informed.

**Gladwin County** has established a Fair Housing Log. The Fair Housing Log will be maintained by MarLynn Muma and will disclose information regarding any and all fair housing concerns and their outcomes. Fair housing issues identified in the community, such as in the newspaper, will be recorded in the log. Persons wishing to file a housing related complaint or concern will be referred to the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, HUD, and their local Fair Housing Center. Persons wishing to file a complaint or concern that is employment related will be referred to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. **Terry Walters** will notify MSHDA if a complaint or concern is filed.

The offices of **Gladwin County** are accessible and barrier free. **Gladwin County** will make every attempt to reasonably accommodate all of its customers.

**Gladwin County** will include the Fair Housing Logo on all of its documents and advertisements. **Gladwin County** will post a Fair Housing poster in a place visible to the public. **Gladwin County** will secure and distribute Fair Housing material provided by MSHDA and various other Fair Housing agencies and organizations. "Fair Housing, It's Your Right" brochures will be distributed to all applicants

**Gladwin County** will consider all applicants and contractors based on qualifications. No applicant or contractor will be denied housing or a contract based on their race, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, familial status and handicap. Persons raising concerns regarding discrimination will not be retaliated against.

**Gladwin County** will request that both minority and women apply for assistance through the single-family and emergency assistance programs.

**Gladwin County** is committed to affirmative marketing and will identify their fair housing needs and barriers. **Gladwin County** will address these needs and barriers by establishing a plan to resolve and meet fair housing needs.

**Gladwin County** is committed to providing safe, affordable, decent and sanitary housing located in area where people choose to live.