



**Gladwin County Board of Commissioners  
Board Minutes, September 12, 2023**

**Mike Visnaw, District 1, (Sherman, Butman, Clement, & Secord Twps.)**  
**Ron Taylor, District 2, Vice-Chair (Sage, Gladwin Twp. & Gladwin City P1)**  
**Tammy O'Donnell, District 3, (Bentley, Billings, Bourret, Grim & Hay Twps.)**  
**Karen Moore, District 4, Chairperson (Buckeye, Beaverton City & Tobacco)**  
**Rick Grove, District 5, (Grout, Gladwin City P2, & Beaverton Twp.)**

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met for a regular Board Meeting, on September 12, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Karen Moore. The Pledge of Allegiance was said, roll was called, and all commissioners were present.

**The Board reviewed the Consent Agenda –**

The Board reviewed the consent agenda and made the following additions:

9. Finance Reports/Claims and Accounts General Fund
  - H. Request approval for Jail Administrator to hire replacement for Corrections Officer who recently resigned – Jail Administrator, Matt McGourty.
  - I. Request approval for Jail Administrator to hire replacement for Administrative Assistant who recently announced retirement – Jail Administrator, Matt McGourty.
  - J. Request approval for payment of two invoices to Traverse Reproduction & Supply for parts and labor for printer in Annex Building: 6/27/23 Invoice #92936 for \$920.96 and 6/27/23 Invoice #92935 for \$376.84 totaling \$1,297.80 from line 101-296-941.000.

**Finance Matters:**

8. Motion to approve Jail Administrator to fill vacancy for Corrections Officer due to resignation.
9. Motion to approve Jail Administrator to fill vacancy for Administrative Assistant due to retirement.
10. Motion to approve payment of two invoices to Traverse Reproduction & Supply for \$1,297.80 for printer parts and labor in Annex Building from 101-296-941.000.

Motion by Commissioner Taylor to amend the agenda with the corrections, seconded by Commissioner O'Donnell, all in favor motion carried.

**Public Comment – Agenda Items**

No public comment.

**City Report**

Nancy Bodnar from City of Gladwin gave an update on the repairs to Silverleaf Street and the complaints they were having with a resident at the campground.

**Cash balances** were read by Commissioner Taylor. General Fund balance \$910,725.52 before the payment of approximately \$106,000 in bills.

**Approval of the Board Minutes:**

1. **August 22, 2023, Regular Board Meeting**
2. **September 5, 2023, Special Board Minutes**

## **Committee Meeting Reports**

- 1. Planning Commission, June 7, 2023**
- 2. Courthouse Security, September 6, 2023**

## **Routine Payments Made Within Department's Budget, less than \$500**

### **Payments Required by Collective Bargaining Agreement**

- A. Request approval for payment of 35 hours unused vacation time to Sherry Messer, Treasurer's Office, in the amount of \$698.25 from 101-253-705.000.**
- B. Request approval of rollover of 64.5 hours of unused vacation time for Stacy Gasciel, 80<sup>th</sup> District Court Probation Officer, per Union contract.**
- C. Request approval for payout of 70 hours unused vacation time to Dee Lindeman, 80<sup>th</sup> District Court, in the amount of \$1,292.90 from 101-136-706.000.**

## **Finance**

- A. Request approval to hold by FY2023 financials open until November 30, 2023, for the purpose of accruals. Commissioner Taylor made a motion to hold FY2023 financials open for accruals, Seconded by Commissioner Grove; all in favor, motion carried.**
- B. Request approval to allow Accounts Payable to pay all FY2023 finances through the end of the fiscal year and provide to the Board a final listing of bills to paid with yearend journal entries for approval via email on September 29, 2023. Motion by Commissioner Grove, seconded by Commissioner Taylor; all in favor, motion carried.**
- C. Request approval for Corrections Officers Robert Lattin and Wade Sturgeon to attend the Correction Officer Academy at Kirtland College at a cost of \$1,500 per employee, plus overtime and travel costs, from 264-000-607.000. Motion by Commissioner Grove to approve attendance, seconded by Commissioner Taylor; all in favor, motion carried.**
- D. Request approval for Prosecutor's Office IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Grant for October 1, 2023, thru September 20, 2028. Motion by Commissioner Taylor to approve the Grant, seconded by Commissioner Grove; all in favor, motion carried.**
- E. Request approval for Kayti Newman, Prosecutor's Office, to attend Prosecutor's Office Manager Conference October 2-3, 2023, at Crowne Plaza, West Lansing at a cost of \$60 plus mileage from 101-229-860.000. Motion by Commissioner Visnaw to attend this Conference, seconded by Commissioner O'Donnell; all in favor, motion carried.**
- F. Request approval of Gladwin County Winter 2023 L-4029 tax rate request. Motion by Commissioner Taylor to approve the Winter 2023 L-4029, seconded by Commissioner Visnaw; all in favor, motion carried.**
- G. Request approval for purchase of utility tractor for Maintenance Department from ARPA funds in the amount of \$20,600. Motion by Commissioner O'Donnell for the purchase from TYM, seconded by Commissioner Visnaw; all in favor, motion carried.**
- H. Request approval for Jail Administrator to hire replacement for Corrections Officer who recently resigned. Motion by Commissioner Grove to hire a replacement Corrections Officer, seconded by Commissioner O'Donnell; all in favor, motion carried.**
- I. Request for Jail Administrator to hire replacement Administrative Assistant who recently announced retirement. That matter has been tabled.**
- J. Request approval of payment of two invoices for parts and labor on printer in Annex Building to Traverse Reproduction & Supply from June 27, 2023, totaling \$1,297.80 from 101-296-941.000. Discussion on why this vendor waited so long to follow up and why Department personnel also did not follow up on payment. Motion by Commissioner O'Donnell to pay the invoices, seconded by Commissioner Taylor. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Visnaw – no; Commissioner**

O'Donnell – yes; Commissioner Moore – no; Commissioner Grove – yes; Commissioner Taylor – yes; motion carried.

- K. Discussion of FY2024 County Budget. A Special Budget Meeting will be held September 21, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. with Administrator, Clerk and Treasurer to meet with Department Heads in the meantime.

### **Miscellaneous**

- A. Request approval of 2024 MESSA rates to be released to employees in advance of open enrollment. Motion by Commissioner Taylor to release the MESSA rates to employees, seconded by Commissioner O'Donnell; all in favor, motion carried.

### **New Business**

- A. Michael Bassage resigned from the Planning Commission and it was recommended they seek a replacement from the same field of education to replace him.

### **Report of Civil Attorney**

- A. The moratorium on solar farm permits was discussed at length. Motion was made by Commissioner O'Donnell to not have a moratorium from the County at this time and issue solar permits under the County's current Zoning Ordinance. Roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Visnaw – no; Commissioner O'Donnell – yes; Commissioner Moore – yes; Commissioner Grove – no; Commissioner Taylor – yes; motion carried.
- B. An update was give on the current ordinance violation on Howard Road/M-61; the violator is currently lodged and the family is wanting to comply with the Court's Order. A complete County Ordinance book is being completed but is still missing several documents. In completing this task, it was noted previous Board meetings had several Open Meeting Act violations.

### **Chairperson Comments**

The Sheriff was interviewed by TV5 and clip was shown of him being the School Resources Officer at one time. Commissioner Moore commented on how she was ridiculously proud of our County and current Sheriff. Thunder on the Strip was a success again with 130 cars participating. Only a few small mishaps with lights broken, but Jason Schuster was quick to get parts and have them fixed. Steven Haupt from the Gladwin County Record was commended for his diligence and appearance at many County events.

### **Board Comments**

Commissioner Visnaw, District 1 –

- He attended Special Board meetings.
- Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> he attended the Data meeting, commenting on the poor shape of the County website.
- He attended the Planning meeting.
- Attended the Courthouse Security meeting.
- The meeting in Sugar Springs with the Sheriff on the millage.

Commissioner Ron Taylor, District 2 –

- August 23<sup>rd</sup> Health Board meeting discussing bats and rabies.
- Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> Budget meeting.
- Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> meeting with Units 6 and 7 and Jaynie on budget discussions.
- Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> was also the Sports Complex meeting; the sewer issue has been fixed and football is in full swing.

#### Commissioner O'Donnell, District 3 –

- Missed the Data meeting but agreed on the problems with the County website and no money to fix it.
- Phone call with MACC on environmental issues and EGLE will be at the conference in October.
- Discussion on Point of Sale sewer inspections with only 11 counties with ordinances but it's not in Governor's top 10 priorities.
- Attended Billings and Bentley meetings where the general consensus on the Law Enforcement Millage is basically I own a gun and we are already taxed to death. Billings is experiencing problems with "flipped flood houses" becoming Air BNBs and VRBOs.
- Wixom Lake Improvement Board public hearing on weed control passed with not too many complaints.

#### Commissioner Moore, District 4 –

- Explained how Tobacco Township side of the lakes are not part of the Wixom Lake Improvement Board.
- Attended the Health Board meeting and learned a lot about bats in your home. Never assume you've not been bit and release the bat but rather make sure to get it tested for rabies.
- MACC is a wonderful advocate for counties and they will be going to Emmett County Recycling Center.
- This Saturday from 11-5 is the car show at the fairgrounds sponsored by the paper.
- Trail of Two Cities is coming along nicely with the installation of 3 benches along the river.
- Jeep Creep is back October 27-29<sup>th</sup>.
- Eastern Michigan Council of Local Government is meeting in Mt. Pleasant this time and she attended the presentation by Chris Haupt on Spongy moths in Billings Township.

#### Commissioner Rick Grove, District 5 –

- Just wants to ask all these people not supporting the Law Enforcement Millage that say they "have guns" but does your mom/grandma/kids as well.
- Attended the Budget meeting.
- Attended the Planning meeting.
- Attended his Beaverton Township meeting where they expressed the unhappiness with not getting the Mosquito Control millage on the upcoming ballot.
- The three-foot shoulder of River Rd. to Knox Road is now paved to allow for Trail of Two Cities access.
- Second Dam work is just amazing.
- He wants to take a hard look at numbers for the Sports Complex and Seebeck Foundation for profits/losses since they are both County owned.

#### **Administrators Report**

He's been working a lot on getting the Law Enforcement millage passed; RFPs are coming in for the County Master Plan; an RFP for Animal Control is in the works; the sale of the County's used equipment will now be an auction instead of sealed bid since there are now at least 10 items; budget workings are in progress.

#### **Public Comment -**

- Carrie Will of the Chamber of Commerce has been working with Holly Stearns on the Chamber website to make it more of a tourist directory; she attended a meeting with Directors at other Chambers in the area discussing the Governor's plan to make Michigan 60% renewable energy; there are upcoming changes in effect for small businesses and unemployment; in January the Chamber was at 30 members and is now up to 86; Gladwin County is now the leader in Dollar General stores with a total of 8 at this time and another scheduled to go in at the Skeels School location.

-Chairperson Moore ended the meeting by saying she wanted clear direction budget cuts and how it will affect revenues for the County.

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.



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Julie A. Jackson, Chief Deputy Clerk



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Karen Moore, Chairperson