



Gladwin County Board of Commissioners Board Minutes, December 10, 2024

Mike Visnaw, District 1, (Sherman, Butman, Clement, Secord)
Ron Taylor, District 2, Vice-Chair (Sage, Gladwin Twp, Gladwin City North)
Tami Odonnell, District 3, (Bentley, Billings, Bourret, Grim & Hay)
Karen Moore, District 4, Chairperson (Tobacco, Buckeye, & Beaverton City)
Rick Grove, District 5, (Grout, Beaverton Twp. & Gladwin City South)

The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners met for a regular Board Meeting, on December 10, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Karen Moore. The Pledge of Allegiance was said, roll was called, all commissioners were present.

Public Comment – Agenda Items

No public comment.

City Report

Nancy Bodner from the City of Gladwin shared that the council is still discussing a charging station, Deer St. sewer line is being fixed, the Historical Museum will be closed during January & February, and she gave credit to the City Manager for doing a good job.

The Board Reviewed the Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed the consent agenda. Chair Moore asked to add the payment of canvassers and staff for the recount to the agenda under Finance. A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor to accept the agenda with amendments, seconded by Commissioner Visnaw, all in favor motion carried.

Cash balances were read by Commissioner Taylor. General Fund balance \$1,125,167.46 before the payment of bills.

Approval of the Board Minutes:

A. November 26, 2024, Board Meeting

Department Head Reports

- Rick Ghent addressed the Board to share his letter of resignation on or before June 2025. He is asking the Board to hire a person for maintenance, to be trained in advance of him leaving.
Commissioner Grove made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to hire a person to train in the maintenance department. All in favor, motion carried.

Rick also shared details of a sink hole in the concrete, these repair costs are roughly \$3000. Additionally, on January 20th (while the building is closed) the maintenance team will be performing plumbing repairs. Jake from Adams Electric is waiting on a part to finish building the new generator. The Courthouse elevator needs to be updated to code; the state is no longer “grandfathering” elevators. Approximate costs will be \$120,000-\$150,000; he would like the County to look for a grant for this project. Lastly, the cost to re-do the parking lots on all the county grounds (except the Health Department) is roughly \$269,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Grove, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to repair the sink hole in the parking lot for roughly \$3000 from the Grounds Care line. All in favor, motion carried.

Communications

Finance

1. Radio North Purchase
911 Director, Mike Brubaker, shared details of his request.
A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor to approve the purchase of new equipment from Radio North for 911 in the amount of \$72,344 from 282-000-933.000 The motion was seconded by Commissioner Visnaw, all in favor, motion carried.
2. Cellebrite Purchase for Prosecutors Office
Commissioners Visnaw and Moore shared details of the Prosecutors' request.
A motion was made by Commissioner Visnaw to approve the Cellebrite license purchase for the Prosecutors office from line 101-229-801.000, for cellphone data recovery. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Donnell, all in favor, motion carried.
3. Repair Request for Patrol Vehicle
A motion was made by Commissioner Grove to approve High Caliber to perform repairs on a damaged vehicle resulting from a deer/car collision. \$1000 deductible to come from line 101-265-932.000 paid to MMRMA. The motion seconded by Commissioner Taylor, all in favor, motion carried.
4. Sheriff's Office Revenue Discussion
Commissioner Visnaw shared details of the request.
A motion was made by Commissioner Visnaw to approve the creation of a 246 account as a jail preservation fund to put 1/3 of the out-county lodging revenues, and the other 2/3 into line 101-000-641.002. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Taylor. Additional conversation was had; all in favor, motion carried.
5. Staff Wage Payments for Election Recounts
A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Visnaw, to pay the Canvassers (approximately \$125) and one staff person (approximately \$85) from the Elections fund for the hours served performing election recount responsibilities. Cost to be reimbursed by the local governments. All in favor, motion carried.

Committee Reports

- **The Planning Commission**

Miscellaneous

Appointments to the Planning Commission

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor to appoint Mike Malosh to the Planning Commission for a term ending 12/31/2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Grove. All in favor, motion carried.
2. A motion was made by Commissioner Visnaw to reappoint Mike Mahaffy to the Planning Commission for a term ending 12/31/2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Taylor. All in favor, motion carried.

Appointments to the Planning Commission

3. A motion was made by Commissioner Visnaw to appoint Robert Killian to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Grove. All in favor, motion carried.
4. A motion was made by Commissioner Visnaw to reappoint Rick Grove to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Taylor. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business

1. MRMA Contract Renewal
Commissioner Visnaw shared details of the request.
A motion was made by Commissioner O'Donnell to approve the MMRMA renewal Contract without the Dam Liability coverage, with the option to add it at a later date. Cost of \$191,214. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Visnaw. Additional conversation was had, all in favor, motion carried.
2. Planning Committee Report (now removed from the consent agenda)
Commissioner Visnaw shared details of conversations had regarding the Master Plan and the Recommendation of Wade Trim to have a steering committee.

A motion was made by Commissioner Visnaw to take steps to form a steering committee of five to eleven people to provide recommendations on the development of the Master Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Donnell. Additional conversation was had, all in favor, motion carried.

3. Medical Examiner Conversation

Commissioner Visnaw shared details of yesterday's meeting. There was a unanimous consensus that the County should look into other options.

A motion was made by Commissioner Visnaw, and seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to terminate the contract with the Michigan Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine, under Section 4, for cause (30 days' notice), based on a determination that services rendered under this contract are not competent or following the standard of care under this contract. Additional conversation was had, all in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor, and seconded by Commissioner Visnaw, to allow the Administrative Assistant to contract with an interim medical examiner for services while the county seeks a permanent solution. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business

Chairperson Comments

- Chairperson Moore shared
 - Swearing in Ceremony and the County Christmas party will be this Friday, Dec 13th.
 - Scott Salowich is the new Editor for the Gladwin County Record

Board Comments

Commissioner Visnaw, District 1 –

- Has been working on the MMRMA renewal
- Monday the 2nd was the New Commissioners School
- The 4th was a finance committee meeting
- The 4th was also the planning commission meeting
- The 6th was a data committee meeting, we have a lot of outdated equipment
- Dispatch Negotiations was also on the 6th

Commissioner Ron Taylor, District 2 –

- Dec. 5th was the 911 meeting
- 6th was negotiations
- Saturday night was the Christmas parade
- It has been a privilege to serve the citizens I represent, to be a part of this Board. This community is worth it! Thank you.

Commissioner O'Donnell, District 3-

- Not much to report, attended Billings meeting last night

Moore, District 4 –

- Karhu hired the previous editor for the aper. If you see Steven, say hello.
- January 18th is potentially the first Snowmobile Races at the fairgrounds (pending snowfall).
- MMDC's Gladwin breakfast was last week, conversation was had on grants for housing façade projects.
- Four Lakes (FLTF) Litigation hearings will be held, one tomorrow and one on Thursday
- Saturday was the Christmas Parade
- She is happy to hear that the new commissioners attended the New Commissioner School.
- Thanks was given to Clerk Hulme, Commissioners Grove and Taylor, and Attorney Hoerauf for their service to the County.

- Next formal meeting will be January 14th.

Commissioner Rick Grove, District 5 –

- Beaverton Township meeting was last night.
- He had a whole list of things to say today, but in short, it has been nice to serve with this Board. Thank you to the people that supported him.

Administrators Report

Melanie Thume shared:

- Open enrollment closes on the 1 53:00
- Submit project ideas...

Kimberly Hines shared:

- Grants for a Parks & Rec Plan update are being sought
- Cyber Grants are also being sought.

Civil Attorney

- Working mostly on negotiations

Public Comment

- Tom Winarski of the City of Gladwin shared ideas on the Master Plan process.
- Sid Hansen shared a handout with the Board regarding items he discussed with Bill G. Schuette, regarding the FLTF.
- Clerk Hulme shared her thanks for the honor of serving as the County Clerk. She is currently working to have contacts and access set up for the incoming Clerk, as well as a binder with vendor contact information, law changes, and other relevant information.
- Carri Will, Gladwin County Chamber of Commerce, shared that she would be honored to serve on the steering committee for the Master Plan, and that the Legislative Breakfasts start January 10th.

No other public comment.

Closed Session –

Commissioner Grove made a motion to go into closed session for Union Negotiation conversation pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(c). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Visnaw. Roll Call vote, 5-y, 0-n. Open meeting closed at 11:08 a.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Visnaw to go back into open session at 11:31. Roll call vote, 5-y 0-n, motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Visnaw to approve the tentative agreement with the Dispatch Unit as discussed in closed session. All in favor, motion carried.

Receive and File

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Karrie Hulme, County Clerk

Karen Moore, Chairperson