



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

April 16, 2008

Chair Bergman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Administration Building, 220 North Main Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comms. Bergman, Grewal, Gunn, Irwin, Ouimet, Peterson, Ping, Lovejoy Roe, Schwartz, Sizemore, and Smith.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: County Administrator, Robert Guenzel, Deputy County Administrators Verna McDaniel and David Behen; Corporation Counsel Curt Hedger; Lawrence Kestenbaum, County Clerk/Register of Deeds, Catherine McClary, County Treasurer; Janis Bobrin, Drain Commissioner; Denise Dalrymple, Children's Services; Raman Patel, Dick Steffens, Marjorie Bixby, Charles Mosher, Lori Cash, Tim Kettinger, William Guenther, David Rowe, Matt Heering, Jeff Hammerberg, Laura Zakalowski; Trenda Rusher, ETCS; Ellen Clement, Public Health; Gordon Burger, Dale Vanderford, James McFarlane, Support Services; Peter Ballios, Finance; Diane Heidt, Monica Boote, Barbara Finch, Human Resources; Pat Horne McGee, Head Start; Mark Lindke, Veterans Services; Alan Israel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Ken Schrader, ITS; Kerry Sheldon, Administration; Jason Brooks, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation

Roger Rayle, 3141 N. Wagner Rd., Scio Township, Vice Chair, Scio Residents for Safe Water, discussed upcoming events. He also discussed high levels of dioxin that is found in the soil.

Tom Partridge stated that tonight's Presidential debate is historic. Partridge stated that essential services need to be provided to all County residents. He also stated that more public transportation needs to be provided.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation

None

New Business:

Land Use & Environment Community of Interest:

Employment Training and Community Services:

Jobs, Education, and Training (JET): General Fund/General Purpose Expansion

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the electronic submission of the application on the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) fiscal year (FY) 2008 Jobs, Education, and Training (JET) General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) expansion funding in the amount of \$121,489 for the period of October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008 for the Employment Training and Community Services (ETCS) department; authorizing the County Administrator to sign the notice of grant awards; amending the budget; and authorizing the administrator to sign the delegate contracts be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Peterson). Motion carried.

No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) Wagner-Peyser Employment Services

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the signature of the County Administrator on the application on the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) in the amount of \$78,096 for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008; authorizing the Administrator to sign the notice of grant awards; amending the budget; and authorizing the administrator to sign the delegate contracts be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Peterson). Motion carried.

2008 Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program Plan

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the signature of the County Administrator on the application on the Michigan Department of Human Services in the amount of \$293,364 for the period of April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009; authorizing the Administrator to sign the notice of grant awards; amending the budget; and authorizing the administrator to sign the delegate contracts be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Peterson). Motion carried.

2008 Weatherization Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Plan

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the signature of the County Administrator on the application on the Michigan Department of Human Services in the amount of \$75,250 for the period of April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009; authorizing the Administrator to sign the notice of grant awards; amending the budget; and authorizing the administrator to sign the delegate contracts be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Peterson). Motion carried.

Housing & Homelessness Community of Interest:

Community Development:

2008-2013 Washtenaw Urban County Consolidated Strategy and Plan

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the signature of the County Administrator on the application to the United States Department of Housing & Urban Development in the amount of \$1,931,870 for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013 for the 5-Year Plan and 6/30/09 for the Annual Plan; Authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award, Amending the budget, and Authorizing the Administrator to sign delegate contracts be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Peterson). Motion carried.

Civic Infrastructure Community of Interest:

Treasurer:

Administrative Coordinator Position:

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the creation of one Administrative Coordinator position, Grade 25, Group 32 with a salary range of \$31,754 to \$43,457 be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Peterson). Motion carried.

Equalization:

Equalization Report

Raman Patel gave the Equalization Report (on file in County Clerk's office). He introduced Equalization staff.

Comm. Ouimet asked about any significant shifts of land between jurisdictions. Patel stated that there will always be small shifts and added that this year is unusual. Comm. Ouimet stated that last year he was concerned about artificial rates catching up. He added that he is not as optimistic as the report, and added that he has concerns about property values in general. Comm. Ouimet stated that it will be a while before this turns around.

Comm. Smith stated that stagflation is being seen in the County. He asked how long until the lines of taxable value and SEV become one line. Patel stated that 46% of parcels already fall into this category and added that he cannot predict a timeline.

Comm. Schwartz asked about the changes the Tax Commission made to the methods of equalization. Patel stated that a change in the timeline took effect but added that from now on the change in two year reporting to one year reporting is permanent. Comm. Schwartz asked about foreclosure properties. Patel stated that every deed is looked at, and added that an indication of the market can be provided. Comm. Schwartz stated that some surrounding counties are in much worse shape than Washtenaw County.

Comm. Grewal thanked Patel and asked about the .9% increase in taxable value. Patel discussed DDA/TIFA/LDFA Districts and added that these are not a part of the Ad-Valorem capture. He added that the net gain after these factors is .337%.

Comm. Schwartz seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution approving the Washtenaw County 2008 Equalization Report be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Sizemore). Motion carried.

Administration:

2009 Budget Reduction

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the creation of one Administrative Coordinator position, Grade 25, Group 32 with a salary range of \$31,754 to \$43,457 be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Comm. Peterson). Motion carried.

Comm. Ping introduced an amendment to be considered at the May 7, 2008 Board of Commissioners meeting (on file in County Clerk's office).

Report of the Administrator

None

Report of the Chair of the Board

Comm. Irwin reported that there would be a ten minute break before the start of the Board of Commissioners meeting.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

None

Citizen Participation

None

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None

Pending

None

Adjournment

Comm. Irwin seconded by Comm. Peterson moved that the meeting be adjourned until May 7th, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Barbara Levin Bergman, Chair

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register
By: Jason Brooks, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: 5/7/08