

COUNTY SERVICES COMMITTEE  
February 6, 2018  
Minutes

Members Present: Nolan, Sebolt, Grebner, Celentino, Hope, and Maiville

Members Absent: Naeyaert

Others Present: Deb Fett, Doug Stover, Brian Fisher, John Dinon, Bill Conklin, Robert Pena, Jill Rhode, Stacy Byers, Allison Glasson, Mary Bowen, Travis Parsons, Becky Bennett, Tim Dolehanty, Liz Noel, and others

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Nolan at 6:00 p.m. in Personnel Conference Room "D & E" of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Approval of the January 16, 2018 Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. GREBNER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. MAIVILLE, TO APPROVE THE OPEN AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 16, 2018 MINUTES OF THE COUNTY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Naeyaert

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Removed from the Agenda

9. Human Resources Department
  - b. Resolution to Approve Generic Service Credit Purchase
11. Controller's Office – Resolution to Approve a Social Media Policy
12. Board of Commissioners' Office
  - a. Resolution to Limit Internet Provider Access to Ingham County Rights of Way

Commissioner Sebolt stated based on advice from legal counsel, he suggested the Committee remove the resolution from consideration. He further stated for the reasons enumerated in the resolution, he would ask staff to prepare a resolution that would ask the County's federal and state-level legislators to act on net neutrality and regulate it as the public utility it was.

Limited Public Comment

Robert Pena, Lansing resident, updated the Committee regarding animal control in the area. He stated that students and families had volunteered at the animal shelter, and there had been a recent adoption of a dog from the animal shelter in his neighborhood.

Mr. Pena stated there were individuals that had mental health issues in his neighborhood that used mental health services. He urged the Committee to keep the line item for Community Mental Health so they would be able to receive those services.

MOVED BY COMM. MAIVILLE, SUPPORTED BY COMM. GREBNER, TO APPROVE A CONSENT AGENDA CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING ACTION ITEMS:

3. Innovation and Technology Department – Resolution to Approve Support Agreement from Oracle
4. Equalization Department – Resolution to Authorize an Agreement for Development and Implementation of an Online Mapping Application
5. Facilities Department
  - b. Resolution to Authorize a Contract Renewal Option with Granger Container Inc.
  - c. Resolution to Authorize Structural Renovations at the Human Services Building
  - d. Notice of Emergency Purchase Order to John E. Green
  - e. Notice of Emergency Purchase Order to Schindler Elevator
6. Road Department – Resolution to Approve the Special and Routine Permits for the Ingham County Road Department
7. Health Department – Resolution to Authorize Conversion of Nurse Assessor Position
8. Animal Control
  - a. Authorization to Adjust Starting Pay Rate
9. Human Resources Department
  - a. Resolution to Approve an Agreement for the Employee Assistance Program
  - c. Authorization to Adjust Starting Pay Rate
10. 9-1-1 Dispatch Center
  - a. Resolution to Approve a Contract Renewal for Pre-Employment Testing
12. Board of Commissioners' Office
  - b. Resolution to Adopt a Policy to Coordinate a Regional Model for Offering Services

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Naeyaert

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Naeyaert

1. Women's Commission – Interviews

Allison Glasson interviewed for a position on the Women's Commission.

Mary Bowen interviewed for a position on the Women's Commission.

2. Farmland and Open Preservation Board – Resolution to Authorize Contracts for the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program

MOVED BY COMM. GREBNER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. MAIVILLE, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Grebner stated he noted in this instance, the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board had taken proposals that had been at the lowest price, because bargaining was best for the County. He further stated he hoped the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board applied that similar strategy in other aspects of their work, because in this case no one had asked what the fair price to pay would be, the County just got the best price for services.

Stacy Byers, Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board Coordinator, stated that she agreed with Commissioner Grebner that it made sense to go through the Purchasing Department when it came to contracts for services because they wanted to get the best bang for the County's buck. She further stated she thought Commissioner Grebner was referring to the process when the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board went through the Purchasing Department for purchasing conservation easements and making offers to land owners, where they scored and ranked applications and sent top-ranked applications to the Purchasing Department who sent bid packets, land owners responded, and the board decided which pieces of land to take based on their recommendation.

Chairperson Nolan asked if that was still not the process Commissioner Grebner wanted.

Commissioner Grebner stated he wanted there to be losers in the process, because he thought the County was paying 25-50% more than the County could if they were being ruthless. He further stated the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Millage was 0.1 mills, which was about \$700,000 per year and probably amounted to 3-4% of all farm income in the County in the year.

Commissioner Grebner stated most farmers did not sell their land in a given year and only 2-3% probably did, but the money paid out was 3-4% of total farm net income, which was not a trivial amount of money. He further stated that the County was spending it as if the County needed to take care of people's feelings.

Commissioner Grebner stated at each step, it sounded like the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board took bids and negotiated, but they were not, they were determining a fair price and then they ranked things and determined a price that was suitable. He further stated the

Purchasing Department had its hands tied because they were not told to be ruthless and get the best price they could and for the amount of money the County put into it, they ought to buy more development rights than they were currently getting.

Discussion.

Commissioner Grebner stated the process was not a real estate transaction in any normal sense. He further stated that the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board compared land deals to other counties' similar land deals, not what it would be in private markets.

Commissioner Maiville stated Commissioner Grebner's comments were not directed toward the resolution in question, but he would still like to respond to his comments. He further stated that what the Board of Commissioners saw were the offers that did not get rejected, as there were a lot of offers that got declined. He further stated that Commissioner Grebner's comments about the value of farm gross income in the County were vastly far off.

Mr. Byers stated she did appreciate the comments and the beauty of the program was that they could take feedback from all sides. She further stated she understood the County wanted to get best bang for its buck, but values across the County varied dramatically.

Ms. Byers stated the property directly next to Jackson National Life was the most expensive property the County had been involved in, but a property in Leslie or Onondaga would not be that expensive. She further stated the selection criteria the County should be choosing which farms were preserved and which were not, and those along the development boundary would be more valuable to the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board but could cost more.

Ms. Byers stated the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board wanted to stay closer to Lansing where they saw growth occurring. She further stated that during the economic downturn in 2008 and 2009, they had seen significant drops in easement value.

Discussion.

Ms. Byers stated land owners knew exactly how much their farms were worth.

Commissioner Grebner stated he thought it was worth discussing the topic, because it was close to \$1 million per year. He further stated he was not talking about what farms were worth, but what development rights were worth, and he did not think the same amount should be paid for each property as every property was different.

Discussion.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Naeyaert

5. Facilities Department

- a. Resolution to Authorize a Contract for Janitorial Services at Volunteers of America (VOA)

MOVED BY COMM. CELENTINO, SUPPORTED BY COMM. MAIVILLE, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Hope asked why the contract was not put out for bid.

Brian Fisher, Mason Facilities Manager, introduced himself to the Committee.

Discussion.

Mr. Fisher stated he believed the reasoning behind the contract not going out for bid was that the County currently had a contract with RNA Facilities Management which expired in 2019, but the County was willing to keep Clean Investments, Inc. to clean that facility until the contract for the entire County was up for bid and then a new contract could be sought.

Commissioner Hope stated the contract with RNA Facilities Management expired over a year away, and she was not sure how cleaning companies usually set up contracts, but she thought it would have been good to compare bids.

Commissioner Celentino asked if the services were currently provided, without a contract.

Discussion.

Tim Dolehanty, Controller, stated he had spoken with Rick Terrill, Facilities Director, and this came about because the County had recently acquired the building and the cleaning service essentially came with the building. He further stated Mr. Terrill had understood there was no contract, but they were performing the services and that was why the resolution was before the committee.

Commissioner Celentino asked when the County assumed the building, if there was an agreement that they could inherit the cleaning company.

Mr. Dolehanty stated the cleaning services were not included in the agreement, but they had realized the building needed to be cleaned and someone was already coming to do it.

Commissioner Maiville asked if there had been a contract with Sparrow when they had owned the building.

Mr. Dolehanty stated he did not believe there had been a contract previously, which had been an issue for him.

Discussion.

Chairperson Nolan asked for more information about the contract to be emailed to the Board of Commissioners tomorrow morning so it could be considered at the Finance Committee meeting.

Discussion.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Naeyaert

8. Animal Control
  - b. Resolution to Restore an Animal Shelter Clerk Position

MOVED BY COMM. MAIVILLE, SUPPORTED BY COMM. GREBNER, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Chairperson Nolan stated she had read Mr. Dinon's comments and how he had asked the Law & Courts if this position was not approved, the Animal Control Shelter would need to close one of the seven days of the week. She further stated she assumed her position would not be popular with Mr. Dinon or some of her fellow Commissioners.

Chairperson Nolan stated she was very much in favor of building a new animal shelter, from the day she walked into the job in 2005. She further stated having passed the millage that would take care of that, then she was satisfied to let that millage go and she was not that interested in continuing to expand staff with that millage.

Chairperson Nolan stated she wanted to begin the discussion because they were coming up on millage season and this factored in for her. She further stated she appreciated the fact that Mr. Dinon was willing to reduce back to six days as an option.

Chairperson Nolan stated she would be voting against this position, because she felt they needed to go that path as opposed to expanding, plus the circumstances of other departments also wanting new staff and they could not have them.

Commissioner Sebolt stated he was glad the resolution to scale the Animal Control Shelter back to operating six days a week had died and the Law & Courts Committee had not picked it up. He further stated he supported renewing this millage long after the Animal Control Shelter was built.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that he thought Animal Control was undoubtedly an aspect of law enforcement. He further stated that the Animal Control Officers found cases of animal abuse and often human abuse that went along with it, and the homes they went into that were hoarding animals were human health concerns that caused a lot of illness and disease that the County had to then take care of.

Commissioner Sebolt stated Animal Control was very much on the front lines and the County should consider funding for them at the same level as the Sheriff's Office or the Prosecutor's Office because it was a vital service that the County provided. He further stated he appreciated the work Animal Control did as there were several instances in his district that Animal Control had responded to.

Commissioner Sebolt stated his constituents wanted more from Animal Control, including 24/7 Animal Control on-call, and he would continue to fight for that funding and that expansion.

Discussion.

Chairperson Nolan stated she did appreciate the work Animal Control did and she knew they did great work, but the millage season was upon them and she was expressing that.

THE MOTION CARRIED.                   **Yeas:** Sebolt, Hope, Celentino, Grebner, Maiville  
                  **Nays:** Nolan                   **Absent:** Commissioner Naeyaert

10.    9-1-1 Dispatch Center
  - b.     9-1-1 Dispatch Center Update (*Information*)

Chairperson Nolan stated she had found the report convoluted, to follow the reasons staffing at the 9-1-1 Center did not work. She further stated that the County had been fighting this issue for a long time and it was frustrating to still be in that position.

Commissioner Maiville stated the Law & Courts Committee had an update from the 9-1-1 Center and they had also had a lengthy discussion about the disbanding of the Joint Labor-Management Team (JLT) and creating the Controller's Organizational Assessment Team (COAT). He further stated that COAT had a plan laid out and dates in place that had been missing, and he hoped the 9-1-1 Center had turned a corner in this regard.

Announcements

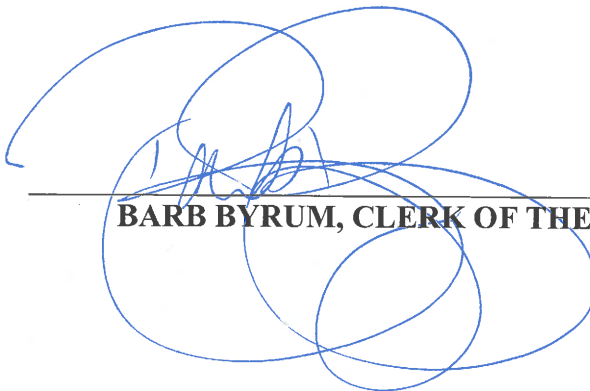
None.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.



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**BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD**

