

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
July 16, 2018
Minutes**

Members Present: Banas, Nolan, Koenig (arrived at 6:46 p.m.), Louney, Sebolt, Tennis and Naeyaert

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Susan Cancro, Debbie Horrock, Michael Markey, Luke Vogelsberg, Linda Vail, Jaclynn Lloyd, Jared Cypher, Lindsey LaForte, and others.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Banas at 6:31 p.m. in Personnel Conference Room “D & E” of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Approval of the June 18, 2018 Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. NOLAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. TENNIS, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18, 2018 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Koenig

Additions to the Agenda

Substitute –

4. Health Department

- g. Resolution to Fund Support Staff for the Ingham County Youth Commission

Limited Public Comment

None.

MOVED BY COMM. NOLAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. TENNIS, TO APPROVE A CONSENT AGENDA CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING ACTION ITEM:

2. Community Agencies

- a. Resolution to Terminate a Community Agency Contract with Greater Lansing Housing Coalition and Authorize a New Contract with Capital Area Housing Partnership

3. Parks Department

- a. Resolution to Authorize a Contract with Moore Trosper Construction Company
- b. Resolution to Authorize a Contract With L. J. Trumble Builders, LLC

- c. Resolution to Authorize the Acceptance of the Project Agreement for a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant
- d. Resolution to Authorize a Contract with Bornor Restoration, Inc.

4. Health Department

- a. Resolution to Amend Resolution #16-233 Agreement with Cross Country Staffing, Inc.
- b. Resolution to Amend to Resolution #18 – 158
- c. Resolution to Authorize Amendment #3 to the 2017-2018 Comprehensive Agreement with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- d. Resolution to Enter Agreement with Reglantern™
- e. Resolution to Enter Agreement with Messagemakers
- g. Resolution to Fund Support Staff for the Ingham County Youth Commission
- h. Resolution to Convert Two Part-Time Nurse Positions
- i. Resolution to Amend Resolution #18-159 to Authorize an Agreement with University of Michigan-Flint for Implementation of the Engaged Father Program
- j. Resolution Honoring Lisa Doutherd

6. Board Referral – Letter from the Michigan Department of Treasury Regarding the Tri-County Convention Facilities Tax/4% State-Wide Liquor Tax

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Koenig

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

Linda Vail, Health Officer, introduced Jaclynn Lloyd, Native American Outreach Program Advocate, to the Committee. She further stated that Ms. Lloyd was interested in working with the Youth Commission.

Ms. Vail stated that Ms. Lloyd worked with the Native American Outreach Program at the Health Department. She further stated that Ms. Lloyd was also pursuing a Master of Social Work degree.

Ms. Lloyd stated that she looked forward to working with the youth in Ingham County. She further stated that she had experience working with youth through a program for Indigenous Youth that she volunteered her time to.

1. Medical Examiner – Annual Report (*Presentation*)

Dr. Michael Markey, Medical Examiner, presented the Office of the Medical Examiner 2017 Annual Report.

Commissioner Sebolt asked if they had a breakdown of the death numbers from year-to-year rather than percentages.

Luke Vogelsberg, Chief Investigator, stated that there was a breakdown of the number of deaths toward the back of the report.

Chairperson Banas asked about the deceased people who were unclaimed. She further stated that she wanted to know why they were not claimed and if there was a trend in the manner of death for those people.

Dr. Markey stated that there were a number of reasons why the bodies remained unclaimed, but the majority of the time the families were not able to afford a burial.

Commissioner Koenig arrived at 6:46 p.m.

Chairperson Banas stated that financial hardship seemed to be the biggest reason for families to not claim some of the deceased.

Mr. Vogelsberg stated that there was not a trend in the manner of death and it truly seemed to be an issue of the cost of funeral services.

Dr. Markey continued his presentation.

Dr. Markey stated that the majority of drug-related deaths were from illicit drugs. He further stated that when he started, 16 years ago, that was not the case, the majority of drug-related deaths were from prescription drug use.

Chairperson Banas asked if the numbers had flipped.

Dr. Markey stated that the numbers had flipped, and quite heavily so.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that funeral expenses were quite high, so it was understandable that some people were not able to take on that cost. She asked if there was any explanation or trend for the dramatic increase in illicit drug-related deaths.

Dr. Markey stated that there was not a concrete explanation. He further stated that for some cases, opioid prescriptions had been tightened down and not those people who had become addicted to prescription medications now needed another way to satisfy their addiction.

Mr. Markey stated that he was not in the field to see this problem as it was happening. He further stated that the Ingham County Health Department had a better idea of the problem and root causes than his office did.

Dr. Markey stated that the opioid crisis was a twofold problem. He further stated that one issue was that there were addicts who needed help negotiating addiction and access to the medication in order to not have withdrawal issues.

Dr. Markey stated that the second problem was there needed to be a restriction to access for these medications. He further stated that the solutions to those two problems did not necessarily work well together.

Commissioner Nolan thanked Dr. Markey and Mr. Vogelsberg for presenting the report.

2. Community Agencies

b. Advent House Request for Assistance

Susan Cancro, Advent House Ministries Executive Director, stated that there were many needs in the community for funding for funeral services. She further stated that Advent House Ministries had helped a number of people with those costs.

Ms. Cancro stated that Advent House Ministries was able to help many people with the day shelter program and it was amazing how far a little bit of help could go. She further stated that when people found their place, it made their lives worthwhile.

Ms. Cancro stated that they provided over 30,000 meals per year to about 2,500 adults and children. She further stated that many of these people had been making steps to come out of poverty.

Ms. Cancro stated that she had seen success stories where the children who they had helped in the past returned as adults wanting to help others. She further stated that the influence and impression of the programs benefits clients throughout their lives.

Ms. Cancro stated that they had a number of faith-based partners and other agencies that they worked with. She further stated that weekends were a time where help was really important, especially for children who were not in school.

Ms. Cancro stated that the people who were repeat clients were often moving toward stability and they often reached a point where they no longer needed services at all. She further stated that there was an increase in the number of people over the age of 60 needing help.

Ms. Cancro stated that there was a lot of cooperation between agencies. She further stated that they would like to be able to reach out to the housing projects nearby to let them know what services were available.

Chairperson Banas stated that this was important background on the homeless in our community. She asked what brought the agency before the Committee tonight.

Ms. Cancro stated that Advent House Ministries had some financial stresses because they had taken on more expenses to keep the building running. She further stated that the church membership was aging and shrinking; however, the Presbyterian Church was committed to allowing Advent House Ministries to continue to use the church for the foreseeable future.

Ms. Cancro stated that they were seeking more grants and to expand donor funding in order to cover these additional costs.

Chairperson Banas asked if the \$40,000 was a shortfall or if that was the amount needed to cover these new expenses.

Ms. Cancro stated that part of the \$40,000 they were in need of was to cover a shortfall due to the new expenses and part was money needed to move forward. She further stated that she did not expect the Board of Commissioners to handle all of the cost, but would appreciate any way they could help.

Commissioner Tennis asked if the church would be closing.

Ms. Cancro stated that they are still running as a church, but their congregation was aging and not able to handle all the up keep for the building. She further stated that Advent House Ministries occupied 80% of the building, so it was fairer that they take on more of the caretaking of the building.

Commissioner Tennis asked what the total program costs had been before the rent costs went up.

Ms. Cancro stated that their operating costs were about \$20,000 less without the costs of adding the utilities and upkeep. She further stated that Advent House Ministries started out as a mission project that became a non-profit.

Ms. Cancro stated that they needed to increase fundraising and it was an area which they needed to improve.

Commissioner Koenig asked if the funding was mostly from small donors.

Ms. Cancro stated that they received a number of smaller donations but their base was aging and it had been difficult to maintain. She also stated that they received some other grant funding as well.

Debbie Horrock, Advent House Ministries Board Chair, stated that there had been an increase in those needing services, especially children. She further stated that the cost of helping families was higher.

Ms. Horrock stated that there was a combination of factors that were increasing costs.

Commissioner Koenig stated that this was outside of the normal process.

Ms. Cancro stated that they would be applying for funding during the community-agency grant funding process, but they were looking for additional help now. She further stated that in the past the Board of Commissioners helped with a one-time instance of funding when they had lost a grant and needed additional funds to maintain services.

Ms. Cancro stated that she was interested in knowing if there was any money other than the community-agency grants.

Commissioner Sebolt asked how much emergency funding they had received in the past.

Stated that it was about \$10,000 given to them about 20 years ago.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that this was another one-time ask as they made changes to their model. He asked if they had reached out to anyone else for funding.

Ms. Cancro stated that they had reached out to the City of Lansing, but the City was not able to give any more funding at the time.

Commissioner Sebolt asked about the Board of Commissioners funding a few large dollar projects versus many low dollar projects.

Chairperson Banas stated that there was a focus on giving money to those agencies providing basic services.

Commissioner Louney asked about funding through the Capital Area United Way.

Ms. Cancro stated that there was some issue with the way their funding was allocated in the past that did not work for them to seek money from the Capital Area United Way, but the allocation processed had been changed, so they were looking into it again.

Commissioner Louney stated that Capital Area United Way also changed their funding cycle and it may be helpful to approach them. He further stated that Advent House Ministries did great work.

Ms. Cancro stated that Lansing was a great area to do this work because a small amount of help went a long way. She further stated that the children living below the poverty line in Lansing was about 49% and that was too high.

Commissioner Naeyaert asked if there was a breakdown in cost to be the only shelter to provide weekend meals since the Volunteers of America stopped providing weekend meals.

Ms. Cancro stated that they had seen an increase, especially in the cold weather. She further stated that the largest cost was the staffing which cost about \$40,000 per year.

Ms. Cancro stated that with the death of Mark Bozzo, the late Lansing City Outreach Director, there was an additional need since that population was needing additional help.

Chairperson Banas stated that she was interested in knowing how to best work with homelessness in the County. She further stated that there needed to be a systemic approach to getting people in homes.

Chairperson Banas stated that she would like to hear ideas from Committee members.

Commissioner Nolan asked if there was extra funding from any source and how much was available.

Jared Cypher, Deputy Controller, stated that there was \$73,000 in the contingency fund for this budget year.

Commissioner Koenig asked what would happen if the agency did not get funding from the County, because the Greater Lansing Housing Coalition recently came before the Committee to announce they were closing. She further stated that it was unfortunate to find out that an organization that had operated for so long was closing.

Ms. Cancro stated that the agency was not going to close down and they have never had extra money. She further stated that they would have to make cuts in staff and food but they would not be closing down.

Ms. Horrock stated that they would have to start saying no to more people. She further stated that Ms. Cancro never wanted to say no to anyone but it might have to happen.

Commissioner Koenig stated that they would use this funding for staff and food.

Commissioner Nolan stated that she would like to propose a onetime \$15,000 grant from the contingency fund. She further stated that she appreciated the work that they had done and would like to see that work continue.

MOVED BY COMM. NOLAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SEBOLT, TO PROVIDE \$15,000 TO THE ADVENT HOUSE MINISTRIES FROM THE CONTINGENCY FUND.

Commissioner Tennis asked, on average, what was the need for the contingency fund at this point in the year.

Mr. Cypher stated that there was a year they did use the entire contingency fund. He further stated that less and less money was budgeted for contingency.

Commissioner Tennis asked if there could be a way for the funds to be moved around in order to cover any additional costs if the contingency fund was depleted.

Mr. Cypher stated that they would be able to do that.

Commissioner Koenig stated that she was a bit concerned about process and it was not a good precedent to set by allowing people to ask before the true process takes place.

Mr. Cypher stated that this was for the current fiscal year.

Discussion.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that this was a specific case where it was more acceptable to move outside the normal process because people were in need and this agency was picking up the slack for other agencies that were closing or no longer filling the needs. She further stated that she supported the motion.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

Mr. Cypher asked for clarification, if a resolution should be sent to the Finance Committee on Wednesday.

Chairperson Banas stated that should happen. She thanked Advent House Ministries for the work that they were doing in the County.

Ms. Cancro stated that this Committee was wonderful because they truly listened to the needs of the community.

4. Health Department

f. Resolution to Authorize a Short Term Lease with VOA-MI Dental Clinic

MOVED BY COMM. NOLAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. KOENIG, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Ms. Vail stated that they had opened the Volunteers of America (VOA) medical clinic about 18 months ago and this allowed them to continue services and combine with the dental clinic.

Commissioner Tennis stated that operating the dental clinic was a bit different than the medical clinic. He further stated that he was concerned that the number of dental visits did not warrant this action.

Ms. Vail stated that she had similar concerns but that was why this would be a temporary fix. She further stated that Delta Dental had made major contributions to this clinic and they approached the County to continue this clinic.

Ms. Vail stated that there were many things to consider about this change, but this would be a temporary solution.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that at the start of the health clinic, there were some concerns about the County running the clinic.

Ms. Vail stated that when they had first talked about opening the medical clinic, the VOA had wanted the County to become an intergovernmental fund transfer but they did not enter into that agreement. She further stated that Commissioner Tennis was correct and patient visits may prove that this was not the prudent thing to do.

Ms. Vail stated that Forest Health Center was only a couple miles up the road and may be a better way to serve the community.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that she did not originally support opening the medical clinic because it baffled her that they were not going into this in the best way.

Ms. Vail stated that they had a lot of issues because they had suggested that there may be a better way two years ago, but the VOA had not listened.

Commissioner Nolan stated that the whole VOA had come before the Committee to present the idea of the clinic and the Committee had been perplexed why they would set it up when the County already provided similar services nearby.

Commissioner Nolan stated that she was sorry that this had not worked out for the VOA and she would support it for three months, but would be hesitant to support this again.

Ms. Vail stated that there were some good points to providing services to the homeless population in one place, but perhaps there would be other solutions such as transportation to Forest Health Center and mobile bus.

Commissioner Louney asked if this population could be serviced in other County facilities.

Commissioner Tennis stated that there was some merit to offering medical service at the shelter, but the dental clinic concerned him. He further asked about staffing levels for the dentists.

Ms. Vail stated that there were some staffing issues with the dentists.

Commissioner Tennis stated that he would support this for the next three months but was reticent to continue beyond that.

Ms. Vail stated that there was language to that effect in the resolution.

Discussion.

Commissioner Koenig asked why they were doing this.

Ms. Vail stated that they would like to continue services since there was already a lot of interruption in that community but they would not do this at financial risk to the County. She further stated that this was not what they had planned.

THE MOTION CARRIED. Yeas: Sebolt, Tennis, Koenig, Nolan, and Banas **Nays:** Louney and Naeyaert **Absent:** None

Discussion.

4. Health Department
 - k. Sewer/Septic Systems (*Discussion*)

Chairperson Banas stated that at the last discussion they had asked about expanding this program and perhaps assisting people with making needed upgrades.

Ms. Vail stated that they still did not have an answer about how to assist people in making upgrades for fixing their septic field.

Ms. Vail presented information on Septic Inspection Programs.

Commissioner Nolan asked if this program would be taking business from private business.

Ms. Vail stated that she did not anticipate that to be a problem, but they would be able to work with all the stakeholders to make sure this was not an issue.

Commissioner Nolan asked if this fee would include testing of the well.

Ms. Vail stated that this did not include the testing of wells, because the state-wide sanitary code only included septic systems. She further stated that they could come up with a fee for both to be tested.

Commissioner Tennis asked about the difference between point-of-sale amount, which was 25, and they were anticipating 1,400 annual inspections with the new program.

Ms. Vail stated that there would be additional staff and a phase-in period, so there would not be a huge jump at one time.

Commissioner Naeyaert asked about the transition for those homes that have sold recently. She further stated that there was a proposed state-wide sanitary code that would come with funding, so perhaps the County should wait to see that.

Ms. Vail stated that one concern for the state-wide code changes was local preemptions. She further stated that with the clean-air law they had been ahead of the game.

Commissioner Nolan thanked Ms. Vail for this information and asked to receive it electronically. She further stated that she was concerned with the costs.

Ms. Vail stated that she did not think they would need any general fund funding. She further stated that she would look into it more if this was something that wanted to be done, but the phase-in should help avoid extra expense without extra revenue.

Chairperson Banas stated that given the depth of this information, this would warrant another discussion another night.

Ms. Vail stated that the project revenues would cover the increased costs.

Commissioner Tennis stated that he appreciated this proposal and it was a much better way to ensure all septic inspections were equitably inspected.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that most of these were in the rural, out-county areas and often homeowners were not able to sell a home because of septic and well issues, so they would decide not to sell or walk away from the home due to the cost.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that the Realtors would support this as they wanted the point-of-sale program to end.

Commissioner Nolan stated that this was exactly what she wanted. She further stated that she looked forward to discussing this further.

Commissioner Naeyaert asked how far the County should move if the State would be making changes to the code, especially if those changes came with funding.

Commissioner Koenig stated that she was unsure if the State would move quickly on this issue and if there would be funding. She further stated that the County should move on their own schedule.

Commissioner Koenig stated that she thought this was an excellent proposal. She further stated that she appreciated the stressed systems component and that it may allow people a chance to plan for repairs.

Commissioner Louney stated that tying in the well inspections would really help to protect clean water.

Ms. Vail stated that right now, the point-of-sale program required wells to also be exempted but it was optional in this proposal, but they could include that as a requirement.

Discussion.

Chairperson Banas stated that the Committee would like to see this again at the August meeting.

Discussion.

5. Special Transportation Millage – Resolution Authorizing the Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with the Capital Area Transportation Authority Dated January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2020

Chairperson Banas stated that Commissioner Grebner sat on the CATA Board and requested that they not move forward on this at this time.

MOVED BY COMM. NOLAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. NAEYAERT, TO TABLE THE RESOLUTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Announcements

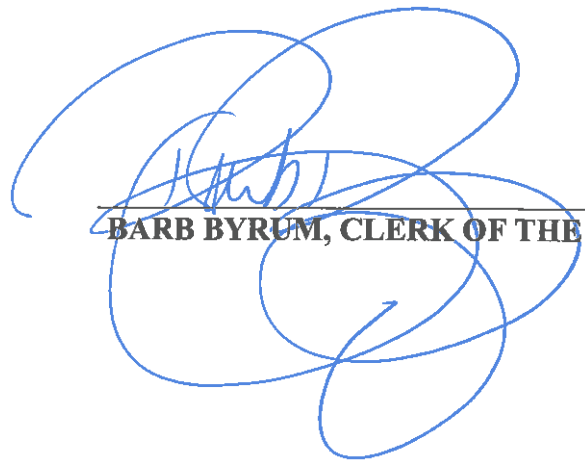
None.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.



BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD

