

APPROVED
10/15/2018

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
October 1, 2018
Minutes

Members Present: Banas, Nolan, Koenig, and Sebolt,

Members Absent: Morgan, Naeyaert, and Tennis

Others Present: Audriyana Jaber, Mimli Vij, Linda Vail, Lori Noyer, Melissa Buzzard, Jared Cypher, Lindsey LaForte, and others.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Banas at 6:30 p.m. in Personnel Conference Room "D & E" of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Approval of the September 17, 2018 Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. NOLAN, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2018 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING.

MOVED BY CHAIRPERSON BANAS TO AMEND THE MINUTES AS FOLLOWS:

Mr. Cypher stated that the Controller's Office had been working with the Budget Office and Fair Office to examine the Fair fund. He further stated that it was short by about \$700,000 **107,000** this year.

This was considered a friendly amendment.

MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT TO AMEND THE MINUTES AS FOLLOWS:

Commissioner Morgan stated that even if the County took everything in-house, it needed to be taken back **to the voters** and resold.

This was considered a friendly amendment.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Morgan, Naeyaert, and Tennis.

Additions to the Agenda

Removed –

2. Medical Care Facility – Update on Additions/Renovations

Limited Public Comment

None.

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

5. Health Department
 - a. Resolution to Accept Funding from MDHHS for HIV Care Coordination
 - b. Resolution to Pay Wieland Deposit for Custom Aluminum Boards
 - c. Resolution to Approve a Third Five Year Extension of Reciprocal Agreements
6. Fair Office – Resolution to Amend the 2018 Fair Fund Budget
7. Parks Department
 - a. Resolution to Authorize an Amendment to City of East Lansing and Meridian Township Trails and Parks Millage Agreements
 - b. Resolution to Authorize an Amendment to City of Lansing Trails and Parks Millage Agreements
 - c. Resolution Honoring the Service of John Veenstra
8. Controller's Office – Resolution Authorizing Adjustments to the 2018 Ingham County Budget

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Morgan, Naeyaert, and Tennis.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Morgan, Naeyaert, and Tennis.

1. Youth Commission – Interviews

Audriyana Jaber interviewed for a position on the Youth Commission.

Mili Vij interviewed for a position on the Youth Commission.

MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. NOLAN, TO APPOINT AUDRIYANA JABER AND MILI VIJ TO THE YOUTH COMMISSION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Morgan, Naeyaert, and Tennis.

3. Ingham Health Plan – Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to the 2018 Health Services Millage Contract with the Ingham Health Plan Corporation (IHPC)

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

Commissioner Koenig stated that she wanted to pull the resolution for discussion to apologize to the IHPC Director, Lori Noyer, for grilling her at the at the last meeting. She further stated that Commissioner Tennis had mentioned that when he walked into the meeting the questioning was like cross-examination.

Commissioner Koenig stated she appreciated and respected the work that the IHPC did and she had a lot of faith in them. She further stated that she did asked a lot of questions and her tone may have been pointed but she did not intend to come across as not respecting or supporting the organization.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Morgan, Naeyaert, and Tennis.

4. Sheriff's Office/Health Department – Jail Medical (*Discussion*)

Linda Vail, Health Officer, stated that she had been joined by Major Darin Southworth, Ingham County Sheriff's Office (ICSO), at the last Law & Courts Committee meeting for a discussion of Jail Medical.

Chairperson Banas stated that there had been a full discussion of this issue at the Law & Courts Committee and they had asked for more information including a Request for Proposal (RFP), and use for the Justice Millage programming funds toward Jail Medical. She further stated that the County was leery about making great changes, but this required some problem solving.

Ms. Vail stated that Jail Medical became an Ingham County Health Department (ICHD) responsibility about six years ago. She further stated that the ICHD had taken it over because it was experiencing difficulties under the ICSO.

Ms. Vail stated that she had been with ICHD for about four and a half years and, in that time, Jail Medical had always been difficult for ICHD. She further stated that this was adrift from the mission for the ICHD.

Ms. Vail stated that there were physicians who specialized in Jail Medical and had special certifications, but the Medical Directors at the ICHD did not have that specialization. She further stated that there were issues with the ICHD Call Center taking calls from the jail when the Jail Medical staff was not available, instead of calls from the ICHD Medical Center which they were supposed to be doing.

Ms. Vail stated that there were a lot of indirect costs to providing administrative support which was accounted for in grants, but had not been accounted for with Jail Medical. She further stated that those costs were handled by ICHD.

Ms. Vail stated that Chris DeHaven was a part-time manager over Jail Medical and the ICHD Medical Center. She further stated that Jail Medical drew her time away from other things that are more aligned with the mission of the ICHD.

Ms. Vail stated that Jail Medical posed a lot of challenges for ICHD. She further stated that the ICHD was not able to run 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Ms. Vail stated that the lack of service at times resulted in the inmates being taken to the hospital. She further stated that they were not able to back fill for people who were out sick or on vacation, but other organizations may be able to backfill.

Ms. Vail stated that there were five nurse positions in Jail Medical and they had two vacancies since August, without a mechanism to backfill. She further stated that the Jail Medical nurses were not in the same union as the ICHD Medical Center nurse and qualifications between the two were different also.

Ms. Vail stated that she was not able to pull from other nurses in the ICHD to fill the needs of Jail Medical. She further stated that since the County was starting to plan the new Justice Complex facility, someone should be at the table to explain what was needed for the medical part of the facility.

Ms. Vail stated that this was a good time to examine this issue prior to the discussions about the physical needs for the Jail Medical facility. She further stated that she understood concerns about privatization and employees but quality care of inmates needed to be the top concern.

Ms. Vail stated that they if they issued a RFP now they could have time to compare the RFP with what was currently happening. She further stated that if ICHD was asked to continue providing Jail Medical, then they needed more resources.

Ms. Vail stated that Jail Medical needed a full-time manager and along with some other changes. She further stated that it was wise to have this done before the architect started working on the building design.

Ms. Vail stated that she was told that departments did not need permission to issue RFPs, but thought it would be wise to discuss this issue with the Board of Commissioners. She further stated that they would work to place Jail Medical employees in the ICHD as much as possible.

Ms. Vail stated that they had a number of medical assistants who were members of the United Auto Workers (UAW) and the ICHD always had openings for medical assistants. She further stated that it would be a bit more difficult to place the nurses.

Ms. Vail stated that the Jail Medical nurses were members of different bargaining units than the ICHD Medical Center nurses. She further stated that it was frequently included in the RFPs for Jail Medical to request that the company make priority of employees in their hiring process.

Ms. Vail stated that they would help to cover concerns for what would happen to employees. She further stated that there were companies out there that had expertise at correctional medicine and Ingham was the only County in the state to run Jail Medical.

Ms. Vail stated that she often liked to be the only County to do things, so that was not bad to say, but most counties used a private company. She further stated that this was an opportunity to look at what the challenges and options were present.

Chairperson Banas asked if Ms. Vail what the cost would be to the County if the ICHD continued to provide Jail Medical services.

Ms. Vail stated that the ICHD would bring back what changes were needed. She further stated that there would need to be a change in supervision.

Ms. Vail stated that they contracted with Michigan State University's (MSU) College of Nursing for the nurse practitioner. She further stated that covered 40 hours a week but MSU was hesitant a bit about renewing this agreement so additional changes may be needed there.

Ms. Vail stated that a Jail Medical Manager was needed and that change would have to happen.

Chairperson Banas asked how many hours a week Jail Medical provided service.

Ms. Vail stated that she was not sure the exact number of hours. She further stated that they did not cover weekends and some portion of each night was not covered.

Ms. Vail stated that Jail Medical did not have the ability to do diagnostic x-ray services because ICHD did not have that ability, but some of the outside vendors would be able to provide those services.

Commissioner Nolan asked about what it cost the ICHD to provide this coverage as far as indirect costs.

Ms. Vail stated that the budget was \$1.68 million for Jail Medical. She further stated that the indirect cost built in for grants that the services provided for the State were about 10-15%.

Ms. Vail stated that it was a cost to ICHD to provide Jail Medical and they redirected resources often as a result. She further stated that time spent on Jail Medical meant that the manager was missing out on quality measures, revenue opportunities and more.

Ms. Vail stated that it was difficult to assign a value to what Jail Medical was costing in terms of administrative costs. She further stated that a manager for Jail Medical would probably be an MCF 10 which would cost over \$100,000 annually.

Commissioner Nolan stated she appreciated the comment about mission drift. She further stated that she had heard of situations where people did not have medical coverage could end up in jail for medical care.

Ms. Vail stated that now 5% of the Health Manager's time, and 5% of the Physician's time was reported to Jail Medical no matter how much work they did. She further stated that the Health Manager had only been reporting time actually at the jail and not accounting for all of the time spent in her regular office dealing with Jail Medical Work.

Ms. Vail stated that this could not continue. She further stated that due to grants, they needed a careful accounting of where staff's time was utilized.

Commissioner Nolan asked if the Sheriff was supportive.

Ms. Vail stated that the Sheriff was supportive. She further stated that the former Sheriff had brought up making this change a while ago.

Ms. Vail stated that she had heard concerns from Judge Boyd and Judge Allen about issues with Jail Medical. She further stated that they tried their best to do the work and take care of inmates but this was the challenge.

Ms. Vail stated that they could fix the challenge and more resources could help make that fix; however, this would still be adrift of ICHD's mission. She further stated that an additional manager would really help.

Commissioner Nolan stated that she remembered the history of ICHD taking over Jail Medical and it had to do with the jail being fully certified and in compliance.

Ms. Vail stated that the Jail Administration used to cover handle all of the Jail Medical through their office.

Commissioner Nolan stated that under the Jail Administration the Jail Medical was not meeting the requirements needed for certification.

Chairperson Banas stated that Jared Cypher, Deputy Controller, had shown her some information that stated that Jail Medical provided 16-20 hours of services. She further stated that it did not include weekend hours.

Ms. Vail stated that service coverage went down when there were staff vacancies such as right now.

Chairperson Banas asked if the Jail Medical nurses worked 8 or 12 hour shifts.

Ms. Vail stated that hospital nurses commonly worked 12 hour shifts, but County nurses more commonly worked an 8 hour shift. She further stated that she was unsure of the shift length for the Jail Medical nurses.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that he had been clear about where he stood on privatization. He further stated that privatization was rarely ever as successful as it was promised.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that privatization rarely, if ever, saved as much money as promised. He further stated that privatization came with additional costs that were not included in the RFP.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that he did not think that privatization was a successful endeavor. He further stated that when the County approved the County Jail's Food Services privatization, he warned that it would start a slow creep into more privatization.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that it felt like that was what was happening.

Ms. Vail stated that she did not even know about that.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that he hated to say, "I told you so," but it felt that that was happening and this was a slow chipping away toward privatization. He further stated that they will privatize, and privatize, and privatize until there was so little being done by the County that they just privatized everything.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that this was not a successful way to go for the County. He further stated that unless there was a magic trick he would still be skeptical.

Chairperson Banas stated that she agreed with Ms. Vail that quality medical care was needed. She further stated that good time to examine this issue and push for more resources for the ICHD, if that was needed.

Chairperson Banas stated that maybe there would be a good firm to handle Jail Medical, but the Board of Commissioners needed to look at this. She further stated that if a director was uncomfortable with no manager somewhere in their department, then it needed to be examined.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that he agreed.

Commissioner Koenig stated that \$1.6 million was a lot of money. She asked if the Sheriff was fine with this or if that money was from somewhere else.

Ms. Vail stated that \$1.6 million was the amount of funding transferred to the ICHD from the ICSO.

Commissioner Koenig asked how many staff members would be laid off.

Ms. Vail stated that there would be eight positions. She further stated that it would affect five nurses, but two of those positions are currently vacant, two medical assistants, and an LPN.

Commissioner Koenig stated that she kept hearing from Ms. Vail that this was a hard service to provide.

Ms. Vail stated that this was difficult because this not what they were trained to do. She further stated that they tried but experienced challenges.

Ms. Koenig asked what the names of the private companies were.

Ms. Vail stated that they included Corizon and Correct Care Solutions.

Commissioner Koenig stated that there was no question that those companies would cost more than what they had currently budgeted. She asked if the County could create a new department that provided this services.

Commissioner Koenig stated that Ms. Vail was stating that the ICHD could not do Jail Medical.

Ms. Vail stated that she was not saying that, but it was not what they were trained to do.

Commissioner Koenig stated that maybe they could have a little department to handle Jail Medical. She further stated that she had spoken to the Sheriff and he was positive about making changes at that same time as they prepared to build the new facility.

Commissioner Koenig stated that the new facility probably would not be completed until 2022 but it was nice to have the ducks in a row. She further stated that it would help architecturally for the provider of Jail Medical to dictate their needs.

Discussion.

Commissioner Koenig stated that the timing to examine this issue could not be better.

Ms. Vail stated that was why she was bringing this to the Committee now. She further stated that doing Jail Medical differently was a maybe, but it was worth looking at it and making the decisions based on quality and patient care.

Ms. Vail stated that ICHD was currently struggling with Jail Medical.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that he wanted to be clear that he thought that quality patient care needed to be a priority, but he did not think that the County would get that through privatization. He further stated that a change may be needed, but privatization may not be the right change.

Commissioner Nolan stated that she commended Ms. Vail for looking down the road. She further stated that the new Justice Complex was a project that would not be done for another 3 years.

Commissioner Nolan stated that it was helpful to have the foresight to examine Jail Medical and look at options. She further stated that she appreciated it.

Ms. Vail stated that the Sheriff was not necessarily up to speed on Jail Medical because he was relatively new in that position and had a lot going on. She further stated that the issue was that there were a lot of gaps and holes that needed to be covered.

Ms. Vail stated that having a Jail Medical manager was essential. She further stated that Judge Boyd had contacted her a number of times to speak to her about medication issues.

Ms. Vail stated that she and Judge Boyd had met, discussed the issues, fixed the problems and then problems developed again. She further stated that there must be an answer.

Commissioner Koenig stated that she heard Ms. Vail state that Jail Medical was not meeting her standards and making her uncomfortable. She asked if the County made a department to handle Jail Medical should it be under ICHD or ICSO.

Ms. Vail stated that if completely separate from ICHD that would be even more costly and difficult. She further stated that Major Southworth stated at the Law & Courts Committee that the ICSO did not want that responsibility and they did not speak medical.

Chairperson Banas stated that she spoke with Ms. Vail earlier in the week and had asked about changing Jail Medical to a hybrid system where it was partially done by the County and partially privatized.

Chairperson Banas asked if it was possible to contract with services to back fill when needed.

Ms. Vail stated that the firms would not be interested in doing that because helping the County would not encourage the County to hire them and it would be working against themselves. She further stated that when she had worked in Kalamazoo there were some organizations that would fill in gaps, but she was not sure if they could provide that for nurses for backfill.

Ms. Vail stated that they did use temporary employees to some extent in ICHD. She further stated that it was not the easiest position to recruit people for as it involved working in the jail.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that in response to these companies backfilling positions that had been done to some extent by Canteen Food Services. He further stated that regarding the comment about not wanted to compete against themselves, it proved some of his concerns.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that of course patient care should be number one, but private companies always wanted profit above all. He further stated that patient care would be number two if they privatized because making money was always number one for private companies.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that the County would not keep quality patient care as top priority if they go private.

Chairperson Banas stated that the County would go forward for the RFP and bring back the information. She further stated that this was an issue that should be settled sooner rather than later, and it was a good time to explore this issue.

Chairperson Banas stated that this was a good time to plan the facility and make changes. She further stated with the difficulties they were experiencing, the Board of Commissioners should not leave ICHD hanging.

Chairperson Banas stated that the ICHD needed real resources now. She further stated that part of the trouble in government was that the offices were always working with the least amount of people possible.

Chairperson Banas stated that other areas of the County worked with less such as the Clerk's Office had less staff and the Sheriff's office has less Deputies. She further stated that they would not let this go without a conclusion.

Chairperson Banas stated that the Board of Commissioners should look at numbers soon and resolve the issue.

Commissioner Nolan stated that she wanted to comment that there would have been a report tonight about the Medical Care Facility, which was a premier care facility and nonprofit. She further stated that there was a waiting list for it.

Commissioner Nolan stated that there were many for-profit medical care facilities in the County too. She further stated that people did not have a choice but to use them because of the waiting list.

Commissioner Nolan stated that it was a good idea to have the County provide the services but it was not always possible.

Chairperson Banas stated that she would like to investigate ways to retain employees in Jail Medical even though it was a tough environment. She further stated that there may be ways to make the job more appealing.

Chairperson Banas stated that it was a necessary job because people who were incarcerated often had some serious medical and substance abuse issues, and very serious needs. She further stated that they needed to find a way to make this work.

Chairperson Banas stated that employees needed to understand that they were valued and maybe that was not always communicated well.

Commissioner Koenig stated that the Medical Care Facility acted as a nonprofit but could do it because they were funded by Medicaid and Medicare. She further stated that if Jail Medical could be funded in the same manner, it could be perfect.

Ms. Vail stated that inmates could not be covered by Medicaid or Medicare.

Commissioner Koenig stated that was true, but this needed to be changed. She further stated that this Country was a mess with health care.

Chairperson Banas thanked Ms. Vail for the discussion.

Announcements

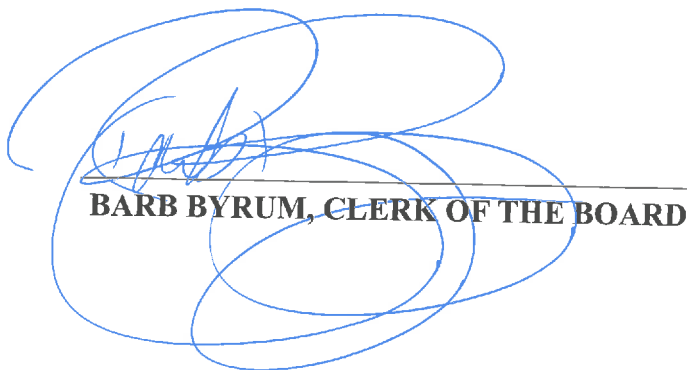
None.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD

