

COUNTY SERVICES COMMITTEE
October 16, 2018
Minutes

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

Members Absent: Nolan

Others Present: Bill Conklin, Deb Fett, Jill Rhode, Sue Graham, Becky Bennett, Tim Dolehanty, Lindsey LaForte, and others

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Sebolt 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 October 9, 2018 Open and Closed Session Meeting Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. GREBNER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. MAIVILLE, TO APPROVE THE OPEN AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 9, 2018 COUNTY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Nolan.

Additions to the Agenda

9. Resolution to Authorize Membership with the Capitol Council of Governments

Limited Public Comment

None.

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

1. Innovation & Technology Department
 - a. Resolution to Approve the Purchase of an Additional License for Netbrain Software
 - b. Resolution to Approve the Contract for Renewing Courtview Support Services
 - c. Resolution to Approve Renewal of Training from ITProTV
2. Health Department – Resolution to Accept Substance Use Disorder Funding Award

3. Financial Services
 - a. Resolution to Waive the Public Act 152 Health Care Requirements for 2019
 - b. Resolution to Accept the Recommendation of the Ingham County Health Care Coalition for Employee Benefits for 2019 and Authorizing Letters of Agreement with Bargaining Units

4. Purchasing Department – Resolution to Approve the Disposal of County-Owned Surplus Property

5. Road Department
 - a. Resolution to Authorize the Purchase of Single Tungsten Carbide Inserted Grader Blades
 - b. Resolution to Endorse the Clinton County Road Commission Act as the Lead Act 51 Agency for the Coleman Road from Wood Road to West Road Project
 - c. Resolution to Approve a Restrictive Covenant for the Kerns Road Salt Storage Site Closure Project
 - d. Resolution to Approve the Special and Routine Permits for the Ingham County Road Department

8. Board of Commissioners
 - a. Resolution Honoring Chris Holman for His Service as a Member of the Capital Region Airport Authority
 - b. Resolution Honoring Richard Baker for His Service as a Member of the Capital Region Airport Authority

9. Resolution to Authorize Membership with the Capitol Council of Governments

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Nolan.

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

Vice Chairperson Sebolt stated that the resolutions would be taken out of order and Agenda Item 7 would be completed prior to Agenda Item 6.

7. Controller's Office – Resolution Honoring Deb Fett as Recipient of the Michigan Government Management Information Sciences IT Professional of the Year Award

MOVED BY COMM. MAIVILLE, SUPPORTED BY COMM. NAEYAERT, TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION.

Vice Chairperson Sebolt stated that the Committee wanted to offer congratulations to Ms. Fett and recognize her while she was at the meeting.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Nolan.

6. Indigent Defense Collaborative Committee – Resolution Creating an Administrator Position and an Executive Assistant Position for the Public Defenders Office
MOVED BY COMM. GREBNER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. MAIVILLE, TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Grebner stated that the County was setting up a multimillion dollar department and this was the time to ask some questions. He asked if this would be a 4-5 million dollar annual operation.

Tim Dolehanty, Controller, stated that it was estimated to have an annual budget of that much.

Commissioner Grebner asked if there would be about 30 attorneys on staff.

Sue Graham, Human Resources Director, stated that there would be about 26 attorneys on staff and about 37 total positions on staff.

Commissioner Grebner asked if they would set up the rest of the structure once there was a Public Defender selected.

Ms. Graham stated that the Public Defender would be involved in that.

Commissioner Grebner stated that most of the positions still needed to be classified.

Ms. Graham stated that some of the position classifications and job descriptions could be transferred from the Prosecutor's Office as they were similar in job requirements and duties.

Commissioner Grebner asked why they did not establish the other 34 positions now, and if it was because they were waiting for the Public Defender to be in office.

Ms. Graham stated that they were waiting for the Public Defender to be selected.

Commissioner Grebner stated that the Public Defender would have input even though the office was already set up. He further stated that was the case even though the Public Defender may not know a lot about setting up this office as no one had done this particular job before.

Commissioner Hope stated that the legal skills of a Public Defender were really important to her as a member of the selection panel, but the administrative skills were equally important. She further stated that she would like to select someone who could do both well.

Commissioner Grebner stated that he was mainly saying he did not think the County had ever set up an office like this and he was not sure how it would be staffed. He further stated that he could see how the work flow would work and how it would be supervised, in theory.

Commissioner Grebner stated that there would be a period time in which the office would be set up and then they would discover how they would actually function. He further stated that it would be different than how it was originally set up.

Commissioner Grebner stated that in six months or a year the Public Defender's Office would find all sorts of inconsistencies as to what was thought might happen and what was actually happening. He further stated that the department would try to paper over the issues because they would not want to bring it back to the Board of Commissioners and make a fuss.

Commissioner Grebner stated that this was not the normal way of expanding government for the Board of Commissioners. He further stated that normally they took something that already existed and expanded it.

Commissioner Grebner stated that, instead, they were creating a whole new office. He further stated that the Board of Commissioners needed to pay attention to this office and their staff needed to pay attention.

Commissioner Grebner stated that the Public Defender's Office would not end up functioning like on paper today. He further stated all over the County, there would be new problems created by this department.

Commissioner Grebner stated that the Prosecutor's Office, Sheriff's Office, and District Courts would all be affected. He further stated that there would be hearings the District Court barely knew were legally possible done routinely by the Public Defender's Office.

Commissioner Grebner stated that with this department, there would be a chance for 100% of cases to have briefs filed and it would be a learning experience.

Commissioner Hope stated that some of these pitfalls had been discussed in the Indigent Defense Committee meetings. She further stated that they had some guidance on establishing the Public Defender's Office that had come from the State and other counties that are further along.

Commissioner Hope stated that she agreed that they should keep an eye on this office.

Commissioner Grebner stated that he imagined that there would be a time when there was a case and in the past nothing would have been filed, but now the Public Defender's Office would file a brief. He further stated that then the Prosecutor's Office would follow up, and the Judge would have to hear the motion and write an opinion.

Commissioner Grebner stated that some of those rulings would be appealed. He further stated that this was all a good thing.

Commissioner Grebner stated that the Public Defender's Office would improve the quality of justice, but they should know that someone would be responding to briefs that had not done so often in the past.

Commissioner Grebner stated that if there were an additional 1,000 briefs a year it would result in 500 or more hearings. He further stated that the County just needed to be prepared.

Commissioner Grebner stated that the Public Defender's Office may be paid for with funds from outside the County, but it would cost the rest of the County a couple million dollars.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Nolan.

Announcements

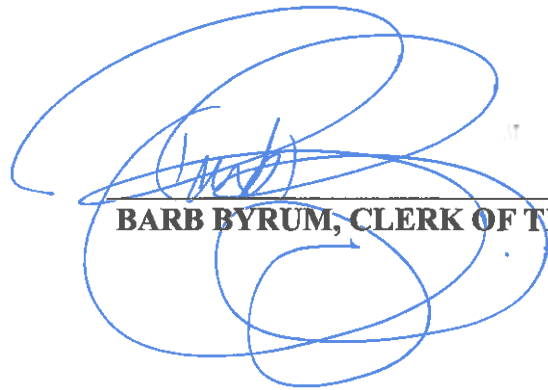
None.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.



BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD

