

Barry County Board of Commissioners
Committee of the Whole
July 6, 2010; 9:00 a.m.

Chair Houtman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Commissioners Callton; VanNortwick; Stolsonburg; Houtman, Gibson; Bremer, Lyons, and Nevins. Clerk Jarvis was also present.

Others: Tammy Berdecia; Luella Dennison; Jean Gallup, Bannon Backhus; Keith Ferris; Shirley Barnum; Jack Miner; Megan Lavelle; Bob Dickinson; Gary White; Dep. Tim Allen; Ginger Hentz; Barb Lyons, Kathy Wiggins; Bill Johnson; Dar Leaf; Dr. Linda Robinson and Dorothy Flint.

The following people arrived during the meeting: Jim McManus; Jeff Westra; Tom Evans, Kori Rolison, Bob Nida, Tim McMahan, Sgt. Julie Jones, Marilyn Smith.

Public Comment

Keith Ferris, Charlton Park, reminded everyone that the Gas and Steam event is this weekend, Friday and Saturday at Charlton Park. He thanked everyone for his or her help on the 4th of July.

Gary White, candidate for 5th District Commissioner, introduced himself.

Ginger Hentz - Education regarding advisory boards

Ms. Hentz provided an overview of advisory boards: definitions, purpose, uses, structure and composition; membership and meetings; models; and extension experience. Boards are unofficial and voluntary. Discussion occurred.

Ginger Hentz - Creating Entrepreneurial Communities Project Request

Ms. Hentz reviewed the request and process. Moved by Nevins seconded by Bremer to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the proposed Resolution of Support and Endorsement of the Creating Entrepreneurial Communities project for the 2010-1013 cohort, including a pledge of in-kind support in the form of promotion of the program through county networks, office and meeting space, and workstation technical support. Discussion occurred. All ayes; motion carried by voice vote.

Sheriff Leaf – LEIN Fees outstanding balance discussion

Sheriff Leaf reviewed the issue regarding the outstanding LEIN fees. Discussion occurred.

(Recess 9:36 a.m.; Resumed 9:42 a.m.; all members present.)

Barb Lyons – Animal Control concerns

Ms. Lyons shared her concerns and frustrations concerning issues relating to animals/pets in Barry County. She asked that Board members shadow Animal Control so they develop a better understanding of what the officers need to deal with. She shared different issues she has encountered relating to animals and owners in the county. Discussion occurred.

Jim McManus – Joint Planning Facilitation Funding request

Mr. McManus gave an overview of the request and status of the project. The requested funds are already in the budget. Moved by Gibson, seconded by Stolsonburg to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approving the expenditure of up to \$1,250, as the County's contribution, to pay for a facilitator to finalize the Intergovernmental Agreement and Contract between the City and the Townships for the PIUSA. Voice Vote: Callton, VanNortwick, Stolsonburg, Houtman, Gibson, Bremer and Nevins: Ayes; Lyons: Nay. Motion carried.

Jeff Westra – Resolution Honoring James Westra Upon His Retirement

Mr. Westra requested the Board adopt the proposed resolution. Moved by VanNortwick, seconded by Gibson to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to approve Resolution #10-17, Resolution to Honor James M. Westra upon His Retirement from Barry County. All ayes; motion carried by voice vote.

(Recess 10:15; resume 10:20. Callton and Nevins absent; Callton and Nevins entered at 10:21 a.m.)

Luella Dennison – Finkbeiner/Crane Road Bridge Bond Resolution

Ms. Dennison reviewed the request and indicated why information is missing from the proposed resolution. That information will appear on the final document. Moved by Stolsonburg seconded by Bremer to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of Resolution #10-20 to Authorize Issuance of Michigan Transportation Bonds for Finkbeiner/Crane Road Bridge Project as supplemented by recommended bid information on July 13, 2010. All ayes; motion carried by voice vote.

Luella Dennison - RFP to Conduct Feasibility Study for Relocation of County Offices to Former Library Building

Ms. Dennison reviewed the request and discussion occurred whether to proceed with the request for proposals. Houtman noted that MSUE will be looking at a different type of office set up than they have at this time. The request requires firms to interview the prospective tenants for space requirements. Moved by Bremer seconded by VanNortwick to approve the proposed Request for Proposals to conduct a feasibility Study for the Relocation of County Offices to the former City Library Building. All ayes; motion carried by voice vote.

Kori Rolison – Amendment to IVD contract

Prosecutor Evans explained the request: it does not affect the funds for the contract but reflects certain language regarding personal identifying information. Moved by Nevins, seconded by Stolsonburg to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of Contract #CSPA 10-08002, Agreement between State of Michigan Department of Human Services and the County of Barry, Amendment #1. All ayes; motion carried by voice vote.

Bob Nida/Tim McMahon – Amendment to IVD contract

Mr. Nida explained the request. This amended changes language as well as sets the maximum amount of the agreement. Moved by Nevins, seconded by Gibson to recommend to the Board of Commissioners the approval of Amendment #1, Contract #CSFOC 10-08001 Agreement between State of Michigan Department of Human Services and the County of Barry. All ayes; motion carried by voice vote.

Julie Jones – Marine Safety Grant Request

Sgt. Jones and Captain Johnson reviewed the request. This is a grant with 100% reimbursement for the purchase of a boat and trailer. Moved by Gibson, seconded by Bremer to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the grant application to the Department of National Resources & Environment for Marine Equipment of \$14,963 to be used to purchase a new patrol boat. Discussion occurred. Funds were budgeted. All ayes; motion carried by voice vote.

Bob Houtman – Recommendation regarding BOC compensation 2011-12

Chair Houtman reviewed the reasons for placing this matter on the agenda. Compensation for Commissioners must be approved prior to the term, which begins January 2011. Discussion occurred relative to problems that may occur with this type of compensation policy. Per diems for other boards that currently receive pay pursuant to the Commission schedule will need to be set. The Road Commission will also need to be reviewed. These matters will be scheduled for the July 20, Committee of the Whole meeting. Moved by Stolsonburg seconded by VanNortwick to direct the County Administrator to prepare a resolution to 1) eliminate the current base salary and per diem compensation package for Commissioners; 2) create a flat salary system to compensate Commissioners for regular, special and liaison assignment meetings and 3) the compensation levels to be set at \$9,500 for Commissioner and \$10,500 for Chairperson. Roll call taken. All ayes; no nays; motion carried.

Public Comment

Lynn Anderson Longstreet spoke regarding various issues relating to the Animal Control and the conversations she had with Sheriff Leaf. Chair Houtman requested this matter be placed on the July 20, 2010 Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda and requested Ms. Longstreet and the Sheriff attend.

Dr. Linda Robinson commented on various issues with the Animal Control: policies, procedures and her various offers to help. She was invited to attend the July 20, 2010 meeting.

Marilyn Smith – bid for 305 Russell St., Middleville

Ms. Smith reviewed the request and asked the Board to approve the bid from Fox Building Services. Moved by Stolsonburg seconded by VanNortwick to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the bid from Fox Building Services in the amount of \$15,840 for home repairs are 305 Russell St., Middleville MI to be paid from the HOME fund. All ayes; motion carried by voice vote.

Other Business

Commissioner Bremer reminded everyone about the breakfast Saturday morning for the Gas and Steam Engine Club.

Commissioner Gibson reported there is a breakfast at the Airport Sunday morning from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 .m. Everyone is invited.

Adjournment (11:15 a.m.)

Moved by Stolsonburg, seconded by Lyons to adjourn. All ayes; motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Jarvis
Barry County Clerk