

Barry County Board of Commissioners
Committee of the Whole
September 6, 2011; 9:00 a.m.; Commission Chambers

Members present: Commissioners Ben Geiger, Howard Gibson, Robert Houtman, Joe Lyons, Don Nevins, Dan Parker; Craig Stolsonburg and Jeff VanNortwick. Clerk Pam Jarvis was also present.

Others present or who arrived after the meeting started: Michael Brown, Luella Dennison; Jean Gallup, Sandy Ponsetto, Julie Makarewicz, Holly Steiner, Mark Doster, Chuck Reid, Dep. Leatherman, Sheriff Leaf, Darla Burghdoff, Bob Dwyer, Eldon Shellenbarger, Heather Wing, Fred Jacobs, Mike Snyder, Rex and Krista Jones, Fran Williams, Valerie Byrnes, Wayne Adams and Mark Noteboom.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Eldon Shellenbarger commented on the T.O.S.T. Holly Steiner commented on a property tax to aid veterans. Fred Jacobs spoke regarding the budget and Economic Development. Mike Snyder commented on the Historical Society. Bob Dwyer spoke about privatizing the airport.

DARLA BURGHDOFF – REQUEST TO PURCHASE RECORDING AND IMAGING SOFTWARE

Ms. Burghdoff reviewed the request and quotes. Discussion occurred. Moved by Gibson seconded by Houtman to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the contract for purchase of new recording and imaging software from Tyler Technologies for the register of deeds, abstract and clerk's vital records. Motion carried by voice vote with Geiger voting no.

COMMISSIONER STOLSONBURG – CONTNUED DISCUSSION REGARDING COMBINING THE OFFICE OF COUNTY CLERK AND REGISTER OF DEEDS

Discussion occurred relative to the process. MSU-E declined to perform an evaluation. The process was discussed. Moved by Nevins seconded by Parker to leave the offices as their currently exist. Further discussion occurred. Parker withdrew his second because the motion would not allow for a public hearing. The motion died. Moved by Houtman seconded by Geiger to schedule a public hearing. Motion carried by voice vote with Nevins voting no. A public hearing is scheduled for October 12, 2011 at 7 p.m.

HEATHER WING - UPDATE OF ACSAB:

Ms. Wing has compiled a list of rescue shelters, some of them licensed by the State of Michigan. Discussion occurred. Commissioner Houtman commented on the recent activities by the Animal Control.

REX JONES - UPDATE ON ZONING

Mr. Jones and Mrs. Jones provided a summary of what has occurred relative to their kennel license. Following much discussion, it was decided to request the Zoning Board of Appeals move the appeal to October and consult with the county's attorney.

(Recess: 10:50 a.m.; resume 11:02 a.m.; Nevins is absent)

MICHAEL BROWN – REQUEST FOR REFUNDING RECORDING FEES

Mr. Brown and Mark Doster reviewed the request and policy. Mr. Doster provided a history of why the policy was necessary. Moved by Houtman seconded by VanNortwick to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the Policy on Refunding of Recording Fees. Motion carried.

MICHAEL BROWN – BUDGET AMENDMENT H-11

Mr. Brown presented the request and reviewed proposed amendment. Moved by Geiger seconded by Gibson to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of Budget Amendment H-11. Motion carried.

MICHAEL BROWN – 2012 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION:

Mr. Brown reported the budget is proposed as directed by the Board of Commissioners. It is balanced for 2012. However, 2013 will prevent a variety of issues including issues relating to revenue sharing. Discussion occurred relative to the process: appeals by departments, recommendation for capital purchases and the public hearing. Moved by Geiger seconded by Parker to recommend proceeding through the budget process: furnish the budget to the departments, allow department appeals if there are any, finish the capital budget requests and set the public hearing on the budget. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

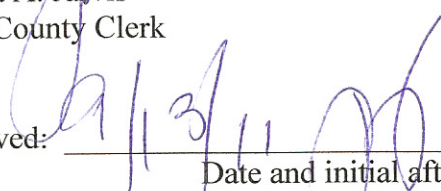
Mr. Dwyer commented on the combination of the Clerk/Register of Deeds office and the possibility of becoming a charter county. Wayne Adams commented on the allocation of funds for Economic Development. Holly Steiner commented on building security.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Stolsonburg adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.


Pamela A. Jarvis
Barry County Clerk

Approved:  _____
Date and initial after approval