

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SESSION  
Special Planning Session – Intergovernmental Meeting  
County of Allegan, City of Allegan, Allegan Township

August 21, 2008

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegan, State of Michigan met in the Zimmerman Room of the Human Services Building in the Township of Allegan on August 21, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., as set; Chairman McNeal presiding.

The invocation was offered by District #8 .Commissioner Jessup.

The Clerk led the board in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The following Commissioners were present:

DIST # 1	TERRY BURNS	DIST # 7	DON BLACK
DIST # 2	STEVE McNEAL	DIST # 8	TOM JESSUP
DIST # 3	PAUL VanECK	DIST # 9	FRITZ SPREITZER
DIST # 4	MARK DeYOUNG	DIST #10	JON CAMPBELL
DIST # 5	- EXCUSED -	DIST #11	LARRY JONES
DIST # 6	MAX THIELE		

Allegan City:

Rob Hillard, City Manager  
Ed Kowalski  
David Williams  
Mike Morton  
Betty McDaniels

Allegan Township:

Steve Schulz  
Hollis Hough  
Jane Waanders  
Basil Smith

Valley Township:

Bob Dobbins  
Harry Smith

**Public Participation – No Comments**

2/ Chairman McNeal opened the meeting to public participation. As there were no comments from the public, he declared the meeting closed to public participation and introduced Dr. Lynn Harvey who addressed the importance of intergovernmental communication.

**Purpose of the Meeting**

The purpose of meeting is to identify issues and opportunities for working together. Dr. Harvey asked everyone to think about some of the projects that have done in the past together. What are some of the future projects that need to be worked on? What needs to take place before we can work together collaboratively or move forward on any project?

**Process:**

The group divided participants into 4 work groups to:

1. Identify past intergovernmental projects
2. Identify emerging issues that require multi-unit focus.

After listing the emerging issues that require the municipalities to most effectively work together to accomplish, each participant was given 4 dots and with instructions to place each dot

on each of the projects he or she found to be most important or most critical to address. The areas which received the most number of votes were:

1. Jail Project [13 votes]
2. Facilities Master Plan [14 votes]
3. Wind energy Project/Energy Development [13 votes]
4. Higher education [7 votes]
5. Law Enforcement, Combine through the County [5 votes]
6. Senior Needs [5 votes]

What would it take to move some of these projects forward?

Vision	} Task Forces
Scope	
Mission	

Facilities Master Plan – County has identified the county participants and would like to invite the City and Township to participate. The County needs to get official support from the two municipalities. Equal representation on the task force is not needed, but the lines of communication should be kept open.

Some of the comments from the local municipalities which showed concerns they are having are:

- The county isn't always perceived as following through with what is stated. This can cause misinterpretation of actions and cause some to question if there are "hidden agendas".
- Need to regain trust in one-another.
- Local municipalities require more information about what is in the Facilities Master Plan before they have enough information to work with.
- Some feel they are being "told"; not being "consulted"

The next step is scheduling an informational meeting to allow the city & township to air any concerns and make sure everyone has the same information. The county will work with the local units to set a date for another meeting. Rob Sarro reminded everyone that information about the jail project and what the county has done so far can be found on the web site: [www.allegancounty.org/jailproject](http://www.allegancounty.org/jailproject) .

**Adjourn until a future date can be set**

Moved by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Thiele to adjourn until another meeting can be organized and set. Motion carried and the meeting was recessed at 10:20 p.m.

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Clerk-Register

# All gan County Board of C m m i s s i o n e r s



County Services Building  
3283 – 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Allegan, MI 49010  
269-673-0203 Main Office  
269-686-5331 Main Fax  
<http://www.allegancounty.org>

**Steve McNeal, Chairman**  
**Larry "Casey" Jones, Vice Chairman**

## **DISTRICT 1**

Terry Burns  
616-403-0427  
tburns@  
allegancounty.org

## **SPECIAL PLANNING SESSION – AGENDA**

Thursday, August 21, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
Board Room – County Services Building

## **DISTRICT 2**

Steve McNeal  
269-751-7271  
smcneal@  
allegancounty.org

6:30 PM      **SOCIAL TIME** (refreshments provided)

**PURPOSE STATEMENT:** To identify issues and potential barriers that may be overcome to develop a more productive working relationship among the three agencies. Dr. Lynn Harvey will be facilitating this special session.

## **DISTRICT 3**

Paul VanEck  
616-688-5619  
pvaneck@  
allegancounty.org

7:00 p.m.      **CALL TO ORDER:**  
**OPENING PRAYER:**  
**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**  
**ROLL CALL:**  
**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

## **DISTRICT 4**

Mark DeYoung  
616-681-9413  
mdeyoung@  
allegancounty.org

## **DISTRICT 5**

Dean Kapenga  
269-751-8586  
dkapenga@  
allegancounty.org

7:15 PM      Introductions  
Review purpose, agenda and expectations

## **DISTRICT 6**

Max R Thiele  
269-673-4514  
mthiele@  
allegancounty.org

7:30 PM      Identify past intergovernmental projects (Breakout Groups)

## **DISTRICT 7**

Don Black  
269-792-6446  
dblack@  
allegancounty.org

8:00 PM      Identify emerging issues that require multi-unit focus (Breakout Groups)

## **DISTRICT 8**

Tom Jessup  
269-637-3374  
tjessup@  
allegancounty.org

8:45 PM      **BREAK**

## **DISTRICT 9**

Fritz Spreitzer  
269-673-4131  
fspreitzer@  
allegancounty.org

9:00 PM      Identification of constraints to addressing issues  
Next Steps – How to plan for resolution (Assign task force;  
deadlines; set next session)

## **DISTRICT 10**

Jon C Campbell  
269-694-4632  
jcampbell@  
allegancounty.org

9:45 pm      **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

## **DISTRICT 11**

Larry "Casey" Jones  
269-664-5362  
lcjones@  
allegancounty.org

10:00 PM      **ADJOURNMENT: Thursday, August 28, 2008 @ 1:00 p.m. @ BOARD ROOM – COUNTY SERVICES BUILDING, COUNTY SERVICES COMPLEX @ DUMONT.**

### **Mission Statement**

"The Allegan County Board of Commissioners shall plan, develop, and evaluate the necessary policies and resources to ensure our county continues to progress and prosper"

August 21, 2008

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