

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SESSION

October 16, 2008

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegan, State of Michigan met in the Board Room of the County Services Building in the Township of Allegan on October 16, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., as set; Chairman McNeal presiding.

The invocation was offered by District #10 Commissioner Campbell.

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	- EXCUSED -
DIST # 4	MARK DeYOUNG	DIST #10	JON CAMPBELL
DIST # 5	DEAN KAPENGA	DIST #11	LARRY JONES
DIST # 6	MAX THIELE [arr: 9:45]		

### **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.

### **Minutes of September 18, 2008 Session – Adopt as Distributed**

3/ Moved by Commissioner Kapenga, seconded by Commissioner VanEck to adopt the minutes of the September 18, 2008 session as distributed. Motion carried.

### **Agenda – Approved as Distributed**

4/ Moved by Commissioner VanEck, seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the agenda as distributed. Motion carried.

### **General Updates**

5/ Rob Sarro announced the resignation of Senior Services Director, Jeanne Silvers and stated that the Administrative staff will be handling the RFPs for any contracts and will fill in as needed. There was discussion regarding the applications received to fill the 3 seats opening on the Senior Services board. Commissioner Kapenga asked that an exit interview be conducted to see if there were things the Board could address that would benefit the next person.

Intergovernmental Meeting update: Rob reviewed a listing of concerns and next steps brought up at the last intergovernmental meeting. There was discussion on the cost of transporting prisoners in Ottawa County and how those numbers relate to Allegan County. Rob cautioned that we need to understand more about the numbers presented by Ottawa County and see if we can determine what they represent, e.g., are there any offsets, etc. Rob will be researching some of these issues. Next steps include two key issues to be addressed; 1) our efforts in terms of the facilities master plan [are we serious about that] and 2) potential infrastructure partnership on the water/sewer project.

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**Miner Lake Area Sewer/water Project – Rescind Previous Resolution**

6/ Moved by Commissioner Black, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung to rescind the Miner Lake Area Sewer System Project resolution which was passed April 26, 2007 [see page 210 – 211 agenda item #63, Journal 56].. Motion to rescind this resolution carried by roll call vote: Yeas – 8 votes. Nays – 1 vote. Absent – 2 votes.

Y	TERRY BURNS	Y	DON BLACK
Y	STEVE McNEAL	N	TOM JESSUP
Y	PAUL VanECK		FRITZ SPREITZER
Y	MARK DeYOUNG	Y	JON CAMPBELL
Y	DEAN KAPENGA	Y	LARRY JONES
	MAX THIELE		

**Annual Intergovernmental Meeting – Begin Planning**

7/ Rob asked for direction on whether the Board wanted him to begin planning for a meeting with all governmental units in the county. When the Clerk and Treasurer used to host these meetings, turn-out was excellent and provided opportunities to develop relationships that will benefit the locals as well as the county. Commissioner Jones stated he has been talking with many of the departments to see if he can organize a similar meeting for next year and will be meeting with the Administrator on this.

**Break – 11:00 A.M.**

8/ Moved by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung to recess for ten minutes. Motion carried.

Upon reconvening at 11:20 a.m., the following Commissioners were present: Commissioner Burns, McNeal, VanEck, DeYoung, Kapenga, Black, Jessup, Campbell and Jones. Absent – Commissioners Thiele and Spreitzer.

**Budget Policy Review**

9/ Rob recommended that the budget policy be reviewed now that the process of setting the 2009 budget is completed. While things are fresh in everyone’s mind, the board should consider what worked and what didn’t. They do not plan to have a budget surplus. He reviewed the changes/refinements he is recommending to some of the sections and stated that we need to become “service level focused” for future budgets and asked for input regarding these changes. Rob said that they will need a clarification regarding philosophy; a methodology with respect to the jail in relationship to the general funds. There was general consensus that these budget policy issues should be set on a planning session.

**WEMET Funding Options**

10/ Rob addressed changes to the WEMET funding. Ottawa County is prepared to loan \$200,000.00 to the program using forfeiture funds as collateral. Repayment will be spread among the counties if forfeiture funds aren’t sufficient to cover the repayment, although they haven’t heard from Muskegon County on the issue. Rob would like the Board to decide whether they are willing to underwrite this program and to what extent. Jon suggested we ask our questions when WEMET comes in to present the annual report. The funding has been cut at the federal level.

**Medical Examiner-Transportation Agreement/Proposed Cremation Fee**

11/ There was general agreement to set the transportation issue on the next discussion agenda. The transportation issue is time sensitive. The cremation fee will in no way offset the increased costs for transportation. There is need to contact the funeral homes before making changes.

**Review BOC 2008 Meeting Schedule**

12/ The dates which were reviewed were, Wednesday, November 26, 2008, December 4, 2008 and December 23, 2008.

Moved by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Jessup to draft a resolution for consideration at the next meeting to eliminate the November 26, 2008 and December 4, 2008 meetings. Motion carried.

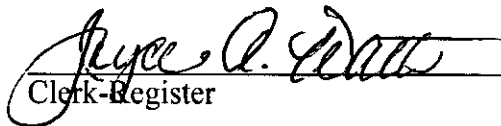
**Public Participation – Comments**

13/ Chairman McNeal opened the meeting to public participation and the following individual offered comments:

1. Naomi Whetzel, Monterey Township, encouraged the Board to make sure that services to seniors are not interrupted while searching for a new director.

**Adjourn until November 6, 2008 at 9:30 A.M.**

14/ Moved by Commissioner Thiele, seconded by Commissioner Jones to adjourn until November 6, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. Motion carried and the meeting was recessed at 12:47 p.m.

  
Clerk-Register

# All gan County B a r d f C o m m i s s i o n e r s



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

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## **BOARD PLANNING SESSION-AGENDA**

Thursday, October 16, 2008 - 9:30 a.m.  
Board Room - County Services Building

Revised 10/14/08

9:30 a.m.      **OPENING PRAYER:** Commissioner Campbell  
**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**  
**ROLL CALL:**  
**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**  
**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** September 18, 2008  
**ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:**  
**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- 1) General Updates
- 2) Annual Intergovernmental Meeting
- 3) Review Budget Policy
- 4) WEMET funding options
- 5) Medical Examiner–Transportation Agreement; proposed cremation fee process
- 6) Review BOC 2008 meeting schedule

## **OTHER ITEMS:**

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Thursday, November 6, 2008 @ 9:30 A.M. @ BOARD ROOM -  
COUNTY SERVICES BUILDING, COUNTY SERVICES COMPLEX.

### **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"

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