

ALLEGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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2009 SESSIONS

JOURNAL 58

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January 22, 2009  
 PLANNING SESSION

**JANUARY 22, 2009 SESSION - INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE,  
 ROLL CALL**

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegan, State of Michigan, met in the Commissioners' Room of the County Services Building in the Township of Allegan on January 22, 2009, at 1:00 P.M. in accordance with the motion for adjournment of January 15, 2009, and rules of this Board; Chairman Jones presiding.

The invocation was offered by District 11 Commissioner Jones.

The County Clerk led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Upon roll call the following members answered as Commissioners for the respective Districts:

DIST #1 - EXCUSED -	DIST #7 - EXCUSED -
DIST #2 STEVE McNEAL	DIST #8 - EXCUSED -
DIST #3 PAUL VANECK	DIST #9 FRITZ SPREITZER
DIST #4 MARK DeYOUNG	DIST #10 JON CAMPBELL
DIST #5 DEAN KAPENGA	DIST #11 LARRY JONES
DIST #6 MAX THIELE	

**AGENDA - ADDITIONS/CHANGES**

2/ Chairman Jones asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Commissioner Spreitzer asked to move item #3 to the end of the discussion agenda.

Moved by Commissioner Spreitzer, seconded by Commissioner Campbell to approve the changes to the meeting agenda as requested. Motion carried.

**AGENDA - ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

3/ Chairman Jones called for the adoption of the meeting agenda.

Moved by Commissioner VanEck, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

**ROD MILLER, CRS - REGIONAL JAIL PRESENTATION**

4/ Rob Sarro introduced Rod Miller, CRS to give the regional jail presentation. He reported that he made a presentation to the Kent County board this morning. He stated the value of addressing certain problems regionally and the benefits that could be achieved by acting in cooperation with one or more other counties. The three counties who are looking at the regional jail concept are doing so because all three counties are facing capacity issues. Kalamazoo is already boarding inmates elsewhere and Kent is utilizing management tools to maintain their capacity. Fewer people are being incarcerated each year, but the jail populations are increasing due to longer sentences. He addressed evaluating options for the county and the benefits or downside of working within a regional format.

**BREAK - 2:17 P.M.**

5/ At 2:17 p.m., Chairman Jones declared a short recess.

Upon reconvening at 2:32 P.M., the following Commissioners were present: Commissioner McNeal, VanEck, DeYoung, Kapenga, Thiele, Spreitzer, Campbell and Jones. Absent - Commissioners Burns, Black and Jessup.

**DISCUSSION - CONTINUED**

6/ Rod stated that even though there was no interest from Kalamazoo and Kent Counties in partnering on a regional jail at this time, Allegan should build in the option to expand or

contract the jail structure to give us the flexibility to respond appropriately to future pressures. Don't build extra beds, but engineer for them at the onset of the project so that in time the option to expand would be possible without massive rebuilding. The county is strategically placed to potentially benefit from partnering with one or more of our neighbors. But, the county needs to focus on the immediate problem of how to replace the jail which is unsafe. He cautioned that we shouldn't extend the time by arguing over the site. A successful building project will require developing specific long term plans as well as looking at and learning from others. He reported that he just received some additional inmate data from the state that could assist us with the population study.

**CIRCUIT/FAMILY COURT - CORRECT THE RANGE DESIGNATION**

7/ Rob explained the error which occurred on the resolution passed at the last meeting [Journal 58, January 15, 2009, item 13.2; page 29]. The collections position should be classified at a Range 4, not a Range 3.

Moved by Commissioner Thiele, seconded by Commissioner VanEck to amend the previous adopted resolution and make the correction as stated. Motion carried by roll call vote: Yeas - 8 votes. Nays - 0 votes. Absent - 3 votes.

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT-COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL ON MAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

8/ WHEREAS, Allegan County Board of Commissioner Jon C.

Campbell (District 10) has expressed an interest to serve on the Michigan Association of Counties Board of Directors for the upcoming year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Allegan County Board of Commissioners hereby gives its support for Commissioner Jon C.

Campbell of District 10 to be chosen to serve on the Michigan Association of Counties Board of Directors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as confirmation of their support the County Clerk is instructed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Board of Directors of the Michigan Association of Counties.

Moved by Commissioner Spreitzer, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to adopt the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NO COMMENTS**

9/ Chairman Jones opened the meeting to public participation and as there were no comments with the public, he closed the meeting to public participation.

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FEBRUARY 5, 2009 AT 9:30 A.M.**

10/ Moved by Commissioner VanEck, seconded by Commissioner McNeal to adjourn until February 5, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

  
Clerk-Register

