

ALLEGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

INDEX

SEPTEMBER 3, 2009 PLANNING SESSION

JOURNAL 58

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September 3, 2009 Planning Session

SEPTEMBER 3, 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 September 3, 2009, at 9:30 A.M. in accordance with the motion for adjournment of August 6, 2009, and rules of this Board; Chairman Jones presiding.

The invocation was offered by District 5 Commissioner Kapenga.

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 TERRY BURNS [ARR: 9:07 AM]	DIST #7 DON BLACK
DIST #2 - EXCUSED -	DIST #8 TOM JESSUP
DIST #3 PAUL VANECK	DIST #9 FRITZ SPREITZER
DIST #4 MARK DeYOUNG	DIST #10 - EXCUSED -
DIST #5 DEAN KAPENGA	DIST #11 LARRY JONES
DIST #6 MAX THIELE	

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NO COMMENTS

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

AGENDA - ADDITIONS

3/ Chairman Jones asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Commissioner Thiele asked to have the RFP concerning the Construction Manager and Architect/Engineer for the Justice project added to the discussion agenda.

Commissioner Spreitzer addressed his concerns regarding the

location of the Sheriff's office. Rob Sarro stated that he has sent a letter to Representative Genetski and hopes to hear soon if he and the Chairman can meet with representatives of the Attorney General's office to discuss the location issue.

Moved by Commissioner Thiele, seconded by Commissioner Spreitzer to adopt the changes to the meeting agenda as requested. Motion lost on roll call vote since the vote resulted in a tie: Yeas - 4 votes. Nays - 4 votes. Absent - 3 votes.

	FERRY BURNS	N	DON BLACK
	STEVE McNEAL	Y	TOM JESSUP
Y	PAUL VanECK	Y	FRITZ SPREITZER [left 12 00 pm]
N	MARK DeYOUNG		JON CAMPBELL
N	DEAN KAPENGA	N	LARRY JONES [left 12:00 pm]
Y	MAX THIELE		

AGENDA - CLOSED SESSION SET

4/ Administrator Rob Sarro asked to have a closed session set at the end of today's meeting to discuss his findings concerning labor negotiations.

Moved by Commissioner DeYoung, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to set the closed session at the end of the agenda to discuss labor negotiations. Motion carried.

AGENDA - ADOPTED AS AMENDED

5/ Moved by Commissioner VanEck, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung to adopt the meeting agenda as amended. Motion carried.

2008 AUDIT REPORT - REHMANN ROBSON

6/ Stephen Blann, gave an overview of the audit report and stated that the county had a "clean" bill of health regarding their financial status in all areas. He went through the audit and findings section by section and addressed the questions of the Board.

Moved by Commissioner DeYoung, seconded by Commissioner Thiele to set this on the September 10, 2009 agenda for action. Motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT PROJECT TEAM - PRESENTATION

7/ Sheriff Koops reviewed how the Law Enforcement Project Team came into being during the planning process. He stated that the team has attempted to address the level of services provided by the county and by the contracted deputies in an attempt to develop models for contracting with local units for law enforcement services. He stated this presentation will help share the findings of the team so far and to gather the questions and concerns of the Commissioners so that complete information can be provided in the final format.

Lt. Frank Baker provided the findings of the team to date and demonstrated what this means for law enforcement services. Contracted deputies, County Deputies and State Police are trying to coordinate their activities for better service to the residents. Municipalities are having a harder time funding contractual officers and the State has scaled back on staffing for MSP. Better coordination and cooperation among locals, county and state will be essential in the future if we are to overcome the economic challenges to provide law enforcement services in the future.

Fewer deputies would mean greater response times and reductions of services. Overtime would increase to address emergency situations and longer waits would occur for response to non-emergency situations. This would decrease revenues and greatly impact the safety on the roads and the level of crime in the county. Currently, contracted deputies provide 25% of the staff and services on road patrol. If this is reduced, the general fund would either have to pick up these positions or

reduce law enforcement services across the county. He presented several scenarios on how reductions could impact law enforcement services. He demonstrated that the level we have now is the bare minimum to responsibly address the public safety needs of the county.

Rob stated that Denise will coordinate gathering questions and concerns of the Commissioners on this topic which they would like to see the team address.

BREAK - 11:45 A.M.

8/ Upon reconvening at 12:00 P.M., the following Commissioners were present: Commissioner Burns, VanEck, DeYoung, Kapenga, Thiele, Black, and Jessup. Absent - Commissioners McNeal, Spreitzer, Campbell and Jones. Vice-Chairman DeYoung took over the meeting in the absence of the Chairman.

SHERIFF'S REQUEST FOR BUDGET ADJUSTMENT - FY 2009

9/ Sheriff Koops stated that with the loss of contracts with the locals, there will have to be two layoffs. Laketown Township is down to one deputy and Salem Township has pulled out of the Salem/Dorr/Leighton contract. Salem Township had tried to pass a millage to cover their portion of the contract and the voters turned down the request. Twenty five percent of the road force is local contracts. He is exploring what can be done internally to minimize the impact of the loss of the contracts.

He would like to have the Board consider budget adjustments or transfers between budget activities to continue to the end of the year. He hopes there can be some grant funds available for next year. He stated that he has always come under budget and he plans to do so this year, even if the budget adjustment he is requesting is granted.

Moved by Commissioner Burns, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to set this issue as a discussion item on the September 10, 2009 agenda. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION - CONTINUED DISCUSSION

10/ Rob stated that with the new acts that exist, the board will have an opportunity to re-affirm the planning commission structure or other vehicle to perform the planning duties. Currently the goals for the planning commission were set to comply with federal funding needs and are these goals still appropriate? He would recommend that this be sent to a committee, such as County Services to explore what goals should be set or what direction the board wants to see it go.

Moved by Commissioner Kapenga, seconded by Commissioner Jessup to refer the task of setting goals for the Planning Commission to the County Services Committee to establish the board's goals after looking at its needs. Motion carried by roll call vote: Yeas - 4 votes. Nays - 3 votes. Absent - 4 votes.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

11/ Administrator Rob Sarro reported that MMRMA is hosting a workshop September 22 - 24, 2009 at Crystal Mountain. They would like us to put together a team [sheriff, jail administrator, county administrator and a commissioner] for a training covering operation issues related to jails. Administration has reserved a condo with two rooms for attendees if the board wishes to send a team.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

12/ Moved by Commissioner VanEck, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to recess to closed session to discuss contract negotiations. Motion carried by roll call vote: Yeas - 7 votes. Nays - 0 votes. Absent - 4 votes. The meeting recessed at 12:45 P.M.

C L O S E D S E S S I O N**RECONVENE/ROLL CALL**

13/ Upon reconvening at 12:55 P.M., the following Commissioners were present: Commissioner Burns, VanEck, DeYoung, Kapenga, Thiele, Black and Jessup. Absent: Commissioners McNeal, Spreitzer, Campbell and Jones.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL SEPTEMBER 17, 2009 AT 9:30.M.

14/ Moved by Commissioner VanEck, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to adjourn until September 17, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 12:58 P.M.


Clerk/Registrar

