

KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Thursday, April 27, 2000
Administration Building - Room 310

Meeting called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Chair Steven R. Heacock.

Present: Commissioners Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Kooiman, Kuhn, Kuipers, Malone, Mast, McGuire, Morren, Postmus, Rekeny, Sak, Smoke, Talen, Turner, Wahlfield, Chair Heacock – 19.

Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Postmus gave the invocation.
The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Postmus, supported by Commissioner Mast, that the minutes of the April 13, 2000 worksession and meeting be approved. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion by Commissioner Morren, supported by Commissioner Malone, that the minutes of the Finance Committee (reports of Claims and Allowances) of April 18, 2000, be received, concurred in and filed.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Turner, Talen, Smoke, Rekeny, Postmus, Morren, McGuire, Mast, Malone, Kuipers, Kuhn, Kooiman, Horton, Hiddema, Buege, Boelema, Chair Heacock – 18.

Nays: 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Right Place Program

Birgit Klohs, President of The Right Place Program, gave an annual update to the Board. She distributed a new corporate brochure that was developed for The Right Place Program explaining their business. The Right Place has five (5) strategic objectives: 1) retain, expand and attract businesses; 2) lead local workforce development initiatives; 3) support world-class manufacturing practices; 4) provide a voice for industry on regional business issues in cooperation with the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce; and 5) focus on future issues of strategic importance. Ms. Klohs also reviewed highlights of 1999 and future goals for this year.

2000 Financial Overview

Dave Waichum, Director of Fiscal Services, announced that Kent County now has AAA rating. He reviewed the Kent County 2000 Financial Overview (copy is on file in the Office of the

County Clerk) discussing topics such as demographics, organization, taxes and cash management, financial administration, fiscal rules, capitol improvement budget, financial position, and debt position.

(Commissioner Sak entered the meeting at this time.)

RESOLUTIONS

4-27-00-45 – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES /PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works is recommending changing its organizational structure from budget based to functional organization of divisions in order to increase the efficiency of operations; and

WHEREAS, DPW recommends that responsibilities be reallocated among divisions to create a Facilities Operations Division and an Engineering Services Division, replacing the current Water and Sewer Division and Solid Waste Division; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Services Division will provide engineering, construction management and environmental compliance services for both solid waste and water and sewer; the Operations Division will manage the operation of both solid waste and water and sewer facilities and systems; and

WHEREAS, reorganization requires the creation of an Engineering Services Division Director and an Environmental Compliance Manager position; and

WHEREAS, the current Civil Engineering Manager position will be converted to Engineering Services Division Director, managing all engineering and environmental compliance for DPW; and

WHEREAS, a vacant Civil Engineer II position will be converted to Environmental Compliance Manager, performing site maintenance and monitoring for closed and operating landfills and environmental compliance functions for all DPW construction projects; and

WHEREAS, the vacant Water/Sewer Division Director position is no longer necessary and will be deleted; and

WHEREAS, no County General Funds are required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves to 1) create the classification of Engineering Services Division Director (MPP Grade 29) and convert one Civil Engineering Manager position (MPP Grade 28) to Engineering Services Division Director; 2) create the classification of Environmental Compliance Manager (MPP Grade 26) and to approve conversion of one vacant Civil Engineer II position (MPP Grade 27) to Environmental Compliance Manager; and 3) delete the Water/Sewer Division Director classification (MPP Grade 29) and the vacant Water/Sewer Division Director position.

Motion by Commissioner Hiddema, supported by Commissioner Kooiman, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried by voice vote.

4-27-00-46 – ADOPTION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY POLICY –
ACCEPTABLE USE / INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the use of County computer resources for the performance of work and the efficient exchange of information consistent with the County's statutory, regulatory and procedural purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners may, from time to time, establish rules and regulations so as to best manage the interests and business of the County; and

WHEREAS, use of the County's computer resources is a privilege and not a right that may be revoked for use inconsistent with established procedures and standards; and

WHEREAS, the County has a significant investment in technology and therefore a significant exposure to potential malicious or illegal actions, ranging from damage to equipment or networks to inappropriate or illegal communication.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the adoption of the Acceptable Use Policy to provide direction for the use of County computer resources and technology and protection of County assets.

Motion by Commissioner Talen, supported by Commissioner McGuire, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried by voice vote.

4-27-00-47 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH MSU CENTER FOR URBAN AFFAIRS
AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, in the near future, the Federal government is expected to reduce the level of funding available to Kent County to deal with the needs of its homeless population; and

WHEREAS, Community Development is proposing to enter into a contract with Michigan State University Center for Urban Affairs to analyze the current homeless program and to make recommendations as to how best allocate declining financial resources in the future; and

WHEREAS, under the proposed contract, the MSU Center for Urban Affairs would:

1. Use data supplied by The Salvation Army's Homeless Assistance Program to develop a database of homeless families and individuals; and
2. Tabulate and analyze the resources and services provided to those homeless families and individuals; and
3. Provide written, audiovisual and verbal presentations highlighting the key findings and conclusions, as well as recommendations on how future resources should be allocated to optimize services to homeless families and individuals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves entering into a contract with Michigan State University Center for Urban Affairs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair to sign the agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Sak, supported by Commissioner Postmus, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Turner, Talen, Smoke, Sak, Rekeny, Postmus, Morren, McGuire, Mast, Malone, Kuipers, Kuhn, Kooiman, Horton, Hiddema, Buege, Boelema, Chair Heacock – 19.

Nays: 0.

4-27-00-48 – CONVEYANCE OF CASNOVIA SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM TO VILLAGE OF CASNOVIA / PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, Kent County, through the Board of Public Works, acquired and constructed the Casnovia Sewage Disposal System, serving the Casnovia Sewage Disposal District which contains lands within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Village of Casnovia in Kent and Muskegon Counties; and

WHEREAS, the System is owned by the County on behalf of the Village, which operates and maintains it; and

WHEREAS, the principal, interest and bond handling charges on all bonds issued by the County in accordance with the County Sewer Agreement have been fully paid and discharged; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with various agreements between the Board of Public Works and the Village, the parties intend to execute a transfer agreement and related instruments to effect the transfer of the System to the Village; and

WHEREAS, in order for the transfer to occur, the County must execute an Assignment of Easements and Quitclaim Deed for the real property occupied by the System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Assignment of Easements and Quitclaim Deed in the form attached hereto, and the Chair, or Vice-Chair in his absence, is authorized and directed to execute said instruments on behalf of the County and deliver same to the Village of Casnovia.

Motion by Commissioner Sak, supported by Commissioner Postmus, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried by voice vote.

4-27-00-49 – SECCHIA MILLENNIUM COMMISSION “MILES OF TILES” / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Families Participation in Neighborhood and Local Government Events Committee, a subcommittee of the Secchia Millennium Commission, is coordinating a millennium legacy art project for children, families, and people of all ages called “Miles of Tiles – A Millennium Legacy Project!”; and

WHEREAS, participants will paint, at no charge, four-inch tiles that will become part of a permanent public display. The project will be subsidized through sponsors purchasing tiles at \$5 each.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Kent County’s purchase of 1,000 tiles would enable citizens to paint tiles for a gift to the future from this millennium.

Motion by Commissioner Buege, supported by Commissioner Kooiman, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried by voice vote.

4-27-00-50 – 2000 EQUALIZATION REPORT / BUREAU OF EQUALIZATION

WHEREAS, the Kent County Bureau of Equalization has completed its review of the 2000 assessment rolls of the twenty-one (21) townships and nine (9) cities of Kent County; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Kent County Bureau of Equalization recommends the adoption of the equalized value of real and personal property as follows:

Real Property:	Agricultural	\$ 186,069,100
	Commercial	2,823,834,050
	Industrial	1,385,779,600
	Residential	9,721,623,842
	Developmental	4,507,100
	TOTAL REAL	\$14,121,813,692
Personal Property:	TOTAL PERSONAL	\$ 1,791,085,408
	GRAND TOTAL	\$15,912,899,100

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in compliance with Section 211.34 M.C.I.A., 1984, as amended, the Kent County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the 2000 Kent County Equalization Report attached to this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints David G. Jager, Equalization Director, to represent Kent County in matters of equalization before the State Tax Commission pursuant to MCL 209.7.

Motion by Commissioner Buege, supported by Commissioner Malone, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Turner, Talen, Smoke, Sak, Rekeny, Postmus, Morren, McGuire, Mast, Malone, Kuipers, Kuhn, Kooiman, Horton, Hiddema, Buege, Boelema, Chair Heacock – 19.

Nays: 0.

4-27-00-51 – AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION,
CONTRACT APPROVAL, AND BUDGET AMENDMENT /
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

WHEREAS, Public Act 511 of 1988 provides funding for Community Corrections Advisory Boards to administer and operate programs to provide alternatives to incarceration for offenders; and

WHEREAS, the amount requested represents the full amount of funds available to Kent County; and

WHEREAS, if approved, funding will be provided to the following local programs: Kent County Court Services Department (Pretrial Programs, Work Crew and Community Service Programs, and Case Management), Pathfinder Resources, Project Intervene, Hope Exodus, Salvation Army Day Reporting Center, Arbor Circle AOS, and Grand Rapids Public Schools Business and Industry Center; and

WHEREAS, the grant request also includes pass-through funding for Probation Residential Services for Alternative Directions and Pathfinder Resources; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated grant period is October 1, 2000, to September 30, 2001. It is expected that the grant will be renewable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners to approve Community Corrections' request to submit an application for funding under PA 511 of 1988; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves and authorizes the Chair of the Board of Commissioners to sign contracts with the proposed vendors at an amount not exceed the recommended funding level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves an amendment to the budget to account for revenues and expenditures associated with the grant, if approved.

Motion by Commissioner Wahlfield, supported by Commissioner Sak, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Turner, Talen, Smoke, Sak, Rekeny, Postmus, Morren, McGuire, Mast, Malone, Kuipers, Kuhn, Kooiman, Horton, Hiddema, Buege, Boelema, Chair Heacock – 19.

Nays: 0.

4-27-00-52 – APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATION TO 61ST DISTRICT COURT
AND BUDGET AMENDMENT / COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH –
CORNERSTONE

WHEREAS, 61ST District Court has indicated it has funds available through the State Office of Drug Control Policy to increase substance abuse services for offenders, and has approached Kent CMH to submit a proposal for the funds; and

WHEREAS, CMH proposes to use the funds to hire an additional Assessor/Treater who would be available to provide timely assessment for approximately 325 misdemeanor offenders, and assist with assessment at the Correctional Facility; and

WHEREAS, services would be targeted to individuals who are incarcerated for a misdemeanor and are waiting legal disposition pending a substance abuse assessment. These individuals are not typically those who are prioritized by the current substance abuse assessment program at the Correctional Facility, which must target individuals meeting other criteria (e.g. pregnant women, IV drug users, etc.); and

WHEREAS, funding of \$48,750 annually will be available through September 30, 2003.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the submission of a grant application to 61ST District Court for Substance Abuse Assessment; and to approve an amendment to the budget to account for the grant, if approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the addition of one Assessor/Treater (UAW Range 28) to Cornerstone; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event grant funding is decreased, or fails to support the position, the position will be eliminated unless continuation funding is approved pursuant to the Fiscal Policy on Grants and Contracts.

Motion by Commissioner Buege, supported by Commissioner Wahlfield, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Turner, Talen, Smoke, Sak, Rekeny, Postmus, Morren, McGuire, Mast, Malone, Kuipers, Kuhn, Kooiman, Horton, Hiddema, Buege, Boelema, Chair Heacock – 19.

Nays: 0.

4-27-00-53 – APPROVAL OF LABOR AGREEMENT – POLC – PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS / HUMAN RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the Negotiating Committee, acting on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, recommends approval of a three-year labor contract with the Police Officers Labor Council representing employees of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office in the classifications of Assistant Prosecuting Attorney I, II, III, and Senior Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the proposed agreement is summarized on attachments to this resolution; and

WHEREAS, this proposed contract has been ratified by members of the Police Officers Labor Council; and

WHEREAS, the salary and fringe benefit increases will result in a cost of \$353,559 for the length of the contract, and

WHEREAS, this contract settlement will affect 32 full-time employees assigned exclusively to the Prosecutor's Office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approve and ratify said proposed contract; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair is authorized and directed to sign said agreement on behalf of Kent County.

Motion by Commissioner Malone, supported by Commissioner Sak, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Turner, Talen, Smoke, Sak, Rekeny, Postmus, Morren, McGuire, Mast, Malone, Kuipers, Kuhn, Kooiman, Horton, Hiddema, Buege, Boelema, Chair Heacock – 19.

Nays: 0.

4-27-00-54 – VIDEO ARRAIGNMENT SYSTEM AND USE OF CONTINGENCY / INFORMATION SYSTEMS

WHEREAS, the current Video Arraignment System was implemented in 1992 when the new Correctional Facility was opened. The video and audio signals are transmitted over analog fiber optic cable that the County has leased from MCI/Worldcom. In mid-December 1999, MCI/Worldcom advised the Purchasing Division that they would no longer support this

cable, but agreed to extend the service for a maximum of six months to allow the County to make other arrangements; and

WHEREAS, Purchasing and Information Technology (IT) staff evaluated the options and agreed that ISDN lines provide the best combination of quality, reliability and cost; and

WHEREAS, the equipment currently in use is not compatible with the ISDN lines. The monitors and microphones can be reused, but the cameras and all electronic connecting components must be replaced. Purchasing and IT staff evaluated various brands of ISDN compatible systems and recommend the Polycom Viewstation; and

WHEREAS, proposals were requested from Midstate Security, MCI/Worldcom, Ameritech and Lucent Technologies. Staff recommends contracting with Midstate Security because they are the current vendor and most familiar with the wiring and cabling requirements of the County facilities and because their cost for the Polycom equipment was the lowest; and

WHEREAS, the monthly costs of the ISDN lines will be comparable to that of the leased fiber optic cables and can be covered by budgeted operating funds. However, the costs of the equipment and installation of the ISDN lines are an unforeseen expense that cannot be covered by currently budgeted funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the contract with Midstate Security Company to provide equipment and ISDN lines for the Video Arraignment System at the Kent County Correctional Facility, the 63rd District Court locations and Circuit Court at a total cost of \$100,396 for 2000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves an amendment to the 2000 CIP Budget to account for the project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes the transfer of \$100,396 from the 2000 Contingency Account to the Video Arraignment System CIP Budget to pay for the first year of the contract.

Motion by Commissioner McGuire, supported by Commissioner Sak, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Turner, Talen, Smoke, Sak, Rekeny, Postmus, Morren, McGuire, Mast, Malone, Kuipers, Kuhn, Kooiman, Horton, Hiddema, Buege, Boelema, Chair Heacock – 19.

Nays: 0.

REPORT

Drain Commissioner

Motion by Commissioner Kuhn, supported by Commissioner Malone, to receive and file the Drain Commissioner Report.

Motion carried by voice vote.

APPOINTMENT

Liaison Committee of the Grand Rapids – Kent County Convention / Arena Authority

Motion by Commissioner Hiddema, supported by Commissioner Wahlfield, to appoint Commissioners Boelema, Kooiman and Postmus, to the Liaison Committee of the Grand Rapids – Kent County Convention / Arena Authority.

Motion carried by voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Juvenile Court Meeting

Commissioner Boelema reported on a meeting that he attended where recognition was given to individuals participating in the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) group. The group is comprised of adults who become mentors to children caught up in the court system. The Judge assigns the citizen to work with a youngster, to support them, while he/she goes through the court process.

Governor's Council on Physical Fitness

Commissioner Sak, Chairman of Fitness West Michigan, distributed information on the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health & Sports and Fitness West Michigan to each Commissioner. On Wednesday, May 3, 2000 there will be approximately 205,000 kids in the entire State of Michigan participating in this annual event. The local ACES (All Children Exercising Simultaneously) with a Friend, which has been adopted statewide through the Governor's Council, will be having their own event on Wednesday, May 3rd in celebration of 2000 at the VanAndel Arena from approximately 10:00 to 12:30 p.m. He invited Commissioners to attend and participate in this event.

Festival 2000

Commissioner Kuhn distributed and explained the meaning behind this year's Festival poster, which was designed by local artist Paul Collins.

Arena/Convention Center Authority

Chair Heacock reported that the Authority had it's first meeting and a county representative was elected chair. Chair Heacock will fill that position for the first year. The by-laws were changed to adhere to the county's request with respect to personal attendance at regular meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:53 a.m., Commissioner Postmus moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, May 11, 2000 at 7:30 a.m. for a special meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Sak. Motion carried.

Chair

Chief Deputy County Clerk