

KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

*Thursday, October 12, 2000
Administration Building - Room 310*

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chair Steven R. Heacock.

Present: Commissioners Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Kooiman, Kuhn, Kuipers, Malone, Mast, McGuire, Morren, Postmus, Sak, Smoke, Talen, Turner, Chair Heacock – 17.

Absent: Rekeny, Wahlfield - 2 (Excused).

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

PUBLIC HEARING

2001 Budget and Millage

County Administrator Daryl Delabbio and Fiscal Services Director Dave Waichum presented an overview of the budget.

Motion by Commissioner Sak, supported by Commissioner Turner, to move into the Public Hearing. Motion carried by voice vote.

At 7:18 p.m., a hearing was held on the proposed 2001 budget and millage. Public Comment: 1) Bill Hall, 6027 Meadowlark Drive NE, Rockford – Libertarian Party candidate for County Commission District 4. He commented on the millage rate by saying that the proposed budget would set the millage rate at only two-hundredths of a mill less than what it currently is and would mean the typical homeowner would be looking at an increase in their tax bill this year. He believes this is wrong particularly when there is a surplus of funds and suggested that the money be given back to the taxpayers. He also said that the millage rate for next year could be set at zero.

Commissioner Sak requested that clarification be made with regard to the general public's perception that the County has a \$100 million dollars reserve undesignated general fund. He has requested information regarding this in the past.

Administrator Delabbio stated that if you take both the reserve and undesignated portion it equates to about \$92 million dollars. Of that, about half is reserved per the Fiscal Policy established by the Board of Commissioners. We have certain reserves by law or by agreement that we must maintain. The County ended December of 1999 with an approximate \$42 million dollars unreserved undesignated fund balance. So far this year, we have spent about \$6 million dollars of that for a variety of reasons through actions made by this Board of Commissioners. We have roughly \$37 million in unreserved and undesignated funds.

Commissioner Sak asked what is an acceptable amount in the unreserved undesignated fund

for

the financial markets or bonding agencies of what we would consider annual operating budget?

Administrator Delabbio commented that the rating agencies base their ratings on a variety of things not only on fund balance. The last time the County received a rating increase, Kent showed \$45 million dollars in unreserved undesignated which was this past March.

Commissioner Sak stated that he feels it is critical that we clarify this information and present it to the public in an accurate capacity.

Commissioner Talen stated that he was very impressed with the presentation which was clear and concise, and thanked both Administrator Delabbio and Fiscal Services Director Dave Waichum for putting the presentation together.

Administrator Delabbio said that he would also like to thank Marvin Van Nortwick, Budget Coordinator, for all of his work.

Motion by Commissioner Hiddema, supported by Commissioner Kooiman, to move out of the public hearing and back into general session.

Motion carried by voice vote.

Chair Heacock declared the hearing closed at 7:25 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Zemaitis, 1321 Preston Ridge, Walker – A candidate for the Family Court Judge reviewed his experience and qualifications.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of September 28, 2000 Meeting
- b) October 3, 2000 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)
- c) Resolutions:

10-12-00-147 – ADD POSITIONS TO CIRCUIT COURT – FAMILY DIVISION FOR GRIP GRANT / CIRCUIT COURT – FAMILY DIVISION

WHEREAS, on August 10, 2000, the Board of Commissioners approved the Circuit Court – Family Division’s request to accept grant funding to implement a Grand Rapids Intervention Program with the City of Grand Rapids Police Department. The program expanded the Court-Community Policing Partnership into the West Side and South sectors of the City. Funding for the program, \$136,990, would be provided by the City as part of a grant from the State Office of Drug Control Policy; and

WHEREAS, the program is slated to begin on October 1, 2000, and may be renewed annually for three years; and

WHEREAS, the Court originally intended to use contractual employees to staff the program, but has since determined that using temporary agencies will reduce the number of hours of surveillance available; and

WHEREAS, the Court is now requesting to hire five part-time Home Detention Monitors (UAW Range 18) and one part-time Clerk II (UAW Range 15) for the program, at a cost not to exceed \$136,990.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the addition of five part-time Home Detention Monitors (UAW Range 18) and one Clerk II (UAW Range 15) to the Circuit Court – Family Division for the Grand Rapids Intervention Program, at a cost not to exceed \$136,990; and

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

10-12-00-148 – APPROVE ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH AREA COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING (ACSET) / FRIEND OF THE COURT

WHEREAS, for at least the last six years, the County has operated or been affiliated with the Work First Program, formerly known as Parents' Fair Share; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, the Friend of the Court (FOC) operated the program with two temporary employees hired through The Job Shoppe, Inc; and

WHEREAS, this year the Michigan Department of Career Development, Office of Workforce Development, issued a policy change that liberalized the eligibility requirements for the Non-Custodial Parent Work First Program; and

WHEREAS, the new policy allows the referral of any non-custodial parent who is in arrears in his/her support or in imminent danger of becoming in arrears due to lack of employment or underemployment to the Work First Program; and

WHEREAS, due to the expanded scope of the program, the FOC has requested three full-time, grant-funded positions; and

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department has reviewed this request and recommends its approval; and

WHEREAS, the grant pays for all staff costs including fringe benefits and requisite equipment; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated grant period is October 1, 2000, to September 30, 2001.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Friend of the Court's application to the State Family Independence Agency for an FY2001 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the addition of one Clerk Typist II (UAW 15) and two Case Workers (UAW 23); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event grant funding is terminated or decreased, the position(s) will be eliminated unless continuation funding is approved pursuant

to

the Fiscal Policy on Grants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair to sign all grant documents.

10-12-00-149 – 2000 BUDGET INCREASE FOR ADDITIONAL REVENUES /
COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Health (DCH) has identified \$789,987 of PEPM (Per Eligible Per Month) Medicaid revenue that was not allocated previously; and

WHEREAS, OBRA (Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act) PASARR (Pre Admission Screening Annual Residential Review) activity is billed to the State Department of Community Health on a fee for service basis. The number of OBRA assessments is higher than originally planned, therefore CMH will receive more revenue than originally planned. The increase in the OBRA budget is \$16,130; and

WHEREAS, CMH became the coordinating agency for substance abuse services for the MINK region this year. The Kent County Health Department was the coordinating agency in prior years. The Health Department transferred the Liquor Tax balance, the Liquor Tax Risk Pool balance, and the carry over from the previous year to CMH during FY99/00. These amounts were not originally planned for in the CMH budget. The total transfers from the Kent County Health Department are \$217,921; and

WHEREAS, actual interest income has been significantly higher than originally budgeted. Adjustment to recognize \$80,000 of additional interest income in the budget is reasonable based on current earnings. This increase will be used for the Substance Abuse program; and

WHEREAS, the Community Mental Health Department recently received notice of an increase in its allocation of Medicaid-Children's Waiver Funds (\$86,739) from the Department of Community Health for the 1999/2000 budget; and

WHEREAS, the proposed changes adjust the revenues for the various programs and account for the expenditures associated with each.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves a \$1,190,777 increase to the 2000 CMH Budget to recognize additional revenues and expenditures earned and incurred during the current fiscal year.

10-12-00-150 – DEFEASANCE AGREEMENT – KENT COUNTY SEWAGE DISPOSAL –
CALEDONIA SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM / FISCAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the County of Kent (the "County"), the Village of Caledonia (the "Village") and the Charter Township of Caledonia (the "Township") have previously entered into the Amended and Restated Caledonia Sewage Disposal System Contract, dated as of February 1, 1994 (the "Contract"), pursuant to which the County agreed to finance on behalf of the Village and the Township certain sewage disposal facilities described therein (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Contract, on May 26, 1994, the County issued its Kent County Sewage Disposal Bonds - Caledonia Sewage Disposal System (General Obligation Limited Tax), Series 1994 in the aggregate principal amount of \$3,790,000 (the "Bonds") to

finance part of the costs of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Village and the Township are obligated under the Contract to make payments to the County at the times and in the amounts necessary to enable the County to

pay principal of and interest on the Bonds when due, and to the making of such payments the Village and the Township have each pledged its full faith credit; and

WHEREAS, the Contract provides that the Contract shall terminate when the Bonds and the interest thereon are paid and fully discharged or provision has been made therefor and upon such termination, the portion of the Project constituting the "Village Project" (as defined in the Contract) and the portion of the Project constituting the "Township Project" (as defined in the Contract), and all easements and rights-of-way related to each, respectively, shall become the property of the Village and the Township, respectively, and the sewage treatment facility located in the Village, the appurtenances thereto and the site therefor shall become the property of the Village subject to the Township's continuing capacity rights therein; and

WHEREAS, the Village and the Township have requested the County to enter into a Defeasance Agreement, dated as of December 1, 2000 (the "Defeasance Agreement"), setting forth the terms and conditions under which provision shall be made for the payment of the bonds in accordance with the Contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kent, as follows:

1. The Defeasance Agreement (including the Escrow Deposit Agreement attached thereto), in the form presented to this meeting, is hereby approved, and the Chairman and the Secretary of the Board of Public Works are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Defeasance Agreement (and the Escrow Deposit Agreement attached thereto) in substantially the form approved, with such changes as may be necessary or desirable and not materially adverse to the County. The Chairman and the Secretary of the Board of Public Works and the Director of the Department of Public Works are each hereby authorized to execute such other documents as may be necessary to accomplish the defeasance of the Bonds and the transfer of the Project to the Village and the Township as contemplated by the Contract and the Defeasance Agreement.

2. All resolutions and parts of resolutions, insofar, as the same may be in conflict herewith, are hereby rescinded.

10-12-00-151 – APPROVAL TO CONTRACT WITH MDEQ FOR WATER MONITORING AND ON-SITE SEWAGE EVALUATION / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Environmental Health Division performs certain technical services relating to non-community water supply, drinking water, swimming pools, and on-site sewage; and

WHEREAS, funding for these activities was previously provided by the Department of Community Health (DCH) as part of the Comprehensive Plan and Budget Contract (CPBC) . Beginning with FY00, funding for these activities at the State level was moved from DCH to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ); and

WHEREAS, the requirements in the proposed contract are consistent with the past program requirements; and

WHEREAS, total funding for FY01 is \$423,619, which represents a 1.55 percent increase from the FY00 funding level.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of

Commissioners approves the Health Department's request to enter into a contract with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for water monitoring and on-site sewage evaluation.

10-12-00-152 – HEALTHY KENT 2010 GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION TO THE GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Health Kent 2010 initiative began with a community health assessment which identified five areas for improvement: violence, substance abuse, infant mortality, chronic disease, and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, to address these health problems, five Implementation Teams (I-Teams) were formed to identify community health improvement goals and objectives, and to develop strategies to meet them. The I-Teams have been in place since 1995 and include citizens, stakeholders, provider staff, and Health Department personnel; and

WHEREAS, with the consent of the Healthy Kent Steering Committee, the Health Department has been encouraged to apply for multi-year funding from local foundations. The Health Department has already requested \$50,000 over a three-year period from both the Steelcase and Frey Foundations and is now requesting \$50,000 from the Grand Rapids Foundation; and

WHEREAS, funding will be used to support I-Team activities and initiatives (e.g. health promotion campaigns, violence prevention activities, community meetings and assessments, etc.).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Health Department's request to submit grant application to the Grand Rapids Community Foundation for support of Healthy Kent 2010 activities.

10-12-00-153 – AMEND 2000 BUDGET FOR DISTRICT HEATING AND COOLING OPERATION / PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, the cost of fuel oil and natural gas for the boilers at the District Heating & Cooling Operation (DHCO) has risen dramatically during the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, the average costs for spot market natural gas has increased 34% above the monthly average cost for calendar year 1999. The increased costs are attributed to reduced production, increased demand and speculation DHCO staff have aggressively pursued obtaining fuel at the lowest possible rates; and

WHEREAS, the steam customers were informed in May 2000 that the monthly fuel costs rate adjustment would be in effect beginning with the June 2000 billings. This budget adjustment was approved by the Board of Public Works at their September 27, 2000 meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the revenue and expense budgets of the District Heating & Cooling Operation be increased by \$780,000 to reflect the higher costs of fuel.

Motion by Commissioner Malone, supported by Commissioner Buege, that the consent agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Kooiman, Kuhn, Kuipers, Malone, Mast, McGuire, Morren, Postmus, Sak, Smoke, Talen, Turner, Chair Heacock – 17.

Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

10-12-00-154 – 2001 MILLAGE RATE

WHEREAS, the County Administrator/Controller has submitted a proposed budget for the year 2001, which outlines requirements for revenues and expenditures for operations and capital programs; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing has been held on the proposed 2001 budget following notice as required by law, including notice concerning the millage rate to be levied as required by the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, P.A. 2 of 1978, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget requires the levy of 5.3340 mills, including the levy of 4.2865 mills for general operating purposes, 0.7998 mills for debt service and operation of County correction and detention facilities, and 0.2477 mills for senior services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby certifies a levy of taxation of 5.3340 mills, which includes the levy of 4.2865 mills for general operating purposes for the County of Kent for 2001, 0.7998 mills for debt service and operation of County correction and detention facilities as approved by County electors on August 7, 1990, and 0.2477 mills for senior services as approved by County electors on November 3, 1998.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Kooiman, Kuhn, Kuipers, Malone, Mast, McGuire, Morren, Postmus, Sak, Smoke, Talen, Turner, Chair Heacock – 17.

Nays: 0.

REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

MISCELLANEOUS

Zoo and Park Update

Commissioner Sak asked for a Zoo and Park update.

Assistant Administrator Vanderberg responded by saying that he met with Professor Kenneth Polakowski (Professor Emeritus from University of Michigan School of Architecture – who specializes in zoo and park design) and John Lewis, Zoo Director on Monday, October 9th. The Professor has been suggested as someone who could help consult the process of amending the zoo master plan and/or put a plan together for the park improvements. They met for about 2 ½ hours and he spent another hour touring the zoo. They talked extensively about former master plans, the current proposal, how the latest iteration, which Mr. Lewis presented to the neighborhood association, went and talked a lot about the park. Professor Polakowski did meet

with the neighbors for a couple of hours as well. Professor Polakowski will put together a proposal, which would involve a work plan and schedule of fees and, once submitted, will be reviewed.

Introduction

Commissioner Horton introduced his son, Seth.

Appointed Boards and Interview Subcommittee

Chair Heacock announced the nine Commissioners who have volunteered to serve on the Appointed Board and Interview Subcommittee and they are Commissioners Morren, Kuhn, Smoke, Buege, Horton, Mast, Turner, Talen and Chair Heacock. They have met once and reviewed the applications, and will be doing interviews and making recommendations to the Board of Commissioners regarding those appointments.

Mandated Services Study

Administrator Delabbio announced that Commissioners received a copy of the updated mandated services study, which will be updated on an annual basis. He asked Commissioners to replace the version in their folders.

Introductions

Administrator Delabbio introduced Assistant Administrator Vanderberg's daughter, Samantha. He also introduced Emily Kamara, student at Aquinas College, who is shadowing him this semester. She is in a Community Leadership Program.

Budget Presentation

Administrator Delabbio also announced that if Commissioners want a copy of the power point presentation on the budget, they can request a copy from Jim Day.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:36 p.m., Commissioner Malone moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, October 26, 2000 at 8:30 a.m. for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Sak. Motion carried.

Chair

Chief Deputy County Clerk