

KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

*Thursday, November 8, 2001
Administration Building - Room 310*

Meeting called to order at 8:33 a.m. by Chair Steven R. Heacock.

Present: Commissioners Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Koorndyk, Mast, Mayhue, McGuire, Morgan, Morren, Postmus, Sak, Vaughn, Vonk, Wahlfield, Chair Heacock – 16.

Absent: Kuhn, Kuipers, Smoke – 3 (Excused).

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of October 25, 2001 Meeting

b) Resolutions:

11-08-01-155 – AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL – CITY OF PLAINWELL / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the members of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council ("Metro Council") have by majority vote approved Amendment No. 28 in the Articles of Incorporation of Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, the amendments have now been submitted for approval by the legislative bodies of the local governmental units that belong to Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kent has considered Amendment No. 28 in the Articles of Incorporation of Metro Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Amendment No. 28 in the Articles of Incorporation of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council, approving the removal of the City of Plainwell as a member of the Metro Council, is hereby approved.

11-08-01-156 – AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL – ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the members of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council ("Metro Council") have by majority vote approved Amendment No. 29 in the Articles of Incorporation of Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, the amendments have now been submitted for approval by the legislative bodies of the local governmental units that belong to Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kent has considered Amendment No. 29 in the Articles of Incorporation of Metro Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Amendment No. 29 in the Articles of Incorporation of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council, approving the addition of Allendale Township as a member of the Metro Council, is hereby approved.

11-08-01-157 – AMENDED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY POLICIES ON REMOTE ACCESS AND 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 amended Acceptable Use Policy and the Remote Access Policy to provide direction for the use of County computer resources and technology and protection of County assets.

11-08-01-158 – BUDGET AMENDMENT – PROBATION RESIDENTIAL SERVICES / COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

WHEREAS, the County, through the Office of Community Corrections, receives funds from the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) for Probation Residential Services.

Kent County Office of Community Corrections currently contracts for these services with Alternative Directions and Pathfinder Resources; and

WHEREAS, MDOC recently notified Kent County of an additional \$5,400 in funding for probation residential services for the current fiscal year. Alternative Directions has indicated that they have the capacity to use the additional funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the amendment to the contract with the Michigan Department of Corrections for additional funding for probation residential services and authorizes an amendment to the budget to account for associated revenues and expenditures.

11-08-01-159 – APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

WHEREAS, funding for these services is provided by the Michigan Department of Environmental Health through an annual contract; and

WHEREAS, the requirements in the document are consistent with previous years' requirements. The total amount of the contract is \$426,172, which is a less than one percent increase over last year's funding level. Funds were already included in the Health Department's 2002 Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the contract with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for water monitoring and on-site sewage evaluation.

11-08-01-160 – AMEND THE 2000 - 2001 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF – KENT NARCOTICS PROGRAM / SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Special Projects Fund Sheriff Kent Narcotics Program has ended the year on September 30, 2001 with a budget shortfall of \$165; and

WHEREAS, the amended budget for the program had a total appropriation for expenditures of \$81,600;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates \$165 to the Special Projects Fund Sheriff Kent Narcotics Program Salary & Wages Account; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Budget of the General Fund Sheriff Administration & Road Patrol be reduced by \$165 in Salary & Wages.

Motion by Commissioner Postmus, supported by Commissioner Sak, that the consent agenda items be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Buege, Morgan, Horton, Vonk, Morren, Hiddema, Boelema, McGuire, Wahlfield, Postmus, Mast, Sak, Vaughn, Mayhue, Koorndyk, Chair Heacock – 16.

Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

11-08-01-161 – AMENDMENT OF HOTEL / MOTEL TAX ORDINANCE / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, on May 7, 1975, the Board enacted an "Ordinance to Provide for the Imposition and Collection of an Excise Tax on Persons Engaged in the Business of Providing Rooms for Transient Guests" (the Hotel/Motel Tax Ordinance); and

WHEREAS, in accordance with MCLA §141.867, the revenues derived from the tax are used in part to finance the acquisition, construction, improvement and maintenance of convention and entertainment facilities, including the payment of principal and interest on bonds issued by the County for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with terms of the Ordinance, the tax was to remain in effect for a period of 25 years from the date upon which the Ordinance was enacted; and

WHEREAS, in May 1989, the Ordinance was amended to increase the tax rate from 3% to 5%, the maximum allowable under state law, and the Ordinance was extended to remain in effect for a period of 25 years from the date upon which the amendment was enacted; and

WHEREAS, in June 2000, the County entered into various agreements to establish the Grand Rapids-Kent County Convention/Arena Authority for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, financing, refinancing and maintaining a new convention center; and

WHEREAS, the convention center project will require the payment of existing bonds and the issuance of new bonds; and

WHEREAS, the effective period of the Ordinance must be extended for a period of 30 years from the date of this amendment's enactment to ensure adequate financing for the payment of existing bonds and future bond issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the "Ordinance to Provide for the Imposition and Collection of an Excise Tax on Persons Engaged in the Business of Providing Rooms for Transient Guests" be amended to continue for a period of 30 years from the date upon which this amendment is effective.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the amendment shall become effective on February 1, 2002, which is the first day of the month following the expiration of 60 days after this amendment is enacted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk shall cause the amendment to be published as a part of the minutes of the meeting at which it was adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with the foregoing be and are hereby rescinded.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Buege, Morgan, Horton, Vonk, Morren, Hiddema, Boelema, McGuire, Wahlfield, Postmus, Mast, Sak, Vaughn, Mayhue, Koorndyk, Chair Heacock – 16.

Nays: 0.

REPORTS

Parks Subcommittee

Commissioner Morren stated that the final meeting of the Parks Subcommittee was held on Tuesday, November 6th. He thanked Commissioners and staff who worked on this committee and said that a report will be submitted soon.

Community Mental Health Funding Subcommittee

Commissioner Boelema stated that soon the Michigan Department of Community Health ("DCH") will have representatives in Kent County to discuss community mental health. Also, state budget cuts have been made and he's concerned that the cuts will affect CMH and public health services in Kent County.

Chair Heacock stated that the Governor's executive order is available on the Governor's website. With respect to health services, hospitals were hit the hardest with no significant cuts in

Medicaid general funding or in funding for community mental health. That, however, doesn't mean that Commissioner Boelema's caution is invalid; second round cuts may occur.

Commissioner Buege stated that the cuts to the DCH actually aren't as significant as cuts in other areas and that the recommended DCH cuts are hurting us as little as possible.

A copy of the Governor's executive order will be distributed to Commissioners.

Prevention Subcommittee

Chair Heacock stated that Mary Swanson spoke yesterday to the Grand Rapids Community Foundation on the Prevention Report and did an excellent job. Chair Heacock stated that these community leaders received the report well and appreciate the Board of Commission's focus on this very important issue.

MISCELLANEOUS

Zoo Master Plan

In response to a question from Commissioner Sak, Assistant Administrator Vanderberg noted that the John Ball Zoological Garden Master Plan would be given to Commissioners by 9:00 am. He also noted that the three neighborhood groups in the area were invited to a presentation from 1:00 - 3:00 pm and a press conference will be held at 11:00 am. The meeting at 1:00 is designed to give a chance for residents to stop by, pick up the plan and talk briefly to Keith Larson who will be presenting the plan. There will be four public dates for citizens to appear and give their comments. Wondergem Consulting handled the fax and the schedule for the master plan will be available in the press packet that Commissioners receive today.

Chair Heacock stated that the architects will present the proposed master plan at 11:00 a.m. The plan will go through the normal process. A press conference was arranged because the County was receiving so many press inquiries.

Free Enterprise

Commissioner Mayhue, Hiddema, Horton, and Sak expressed their concern over the County's role in the DeVos Place naming issue.

Chair Heacock noted that the employment issue was the Administrator's responsibility and not the Board's. Administrator Delabbio stated that it would be inappropriate to discuss in this setting, but he would be happy to discuss it with Commissioners at any other time.

Mayor of Detroit

Commissioner Mayhue stated that his friend Kwame Kilpatrick was elected Mayor of Detroit. He expressed his desire to facilitate good relations between Kent County and the City of Detroit. He knows his family and has been asked to help on the fundraising committee so he will be asking some individuals to help put the inauguration together.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:53 a.m., Commissioner Postmus moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Tuesday, November 20, 2001, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Koorndyk. Motion carried.

Steven R. Heacock, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk