

KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

*Thursday, June 27, 2002
Administration Building - Room 310*

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Vice Chair David J. Morren.

Present: Commissioners Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Koorndyk, Kuhn, Kuipers, Mast, Mayhue, McGuire, Morgan, Morren, Postmus, Sak, Smoke, Vaughn, Vonk, Wahlfield- 18.

Absent: Chair Heacock – 1 (Excused).

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sharon Brinks, 1792 Forest Lake Drive SE, Kentwood - Announced that she is a county commission candidate for district 13.

Todd Martin, 72 Sheldon, Grand Rapids – He believes that his housing debt from the Kent County jail kept him homeless for five years. This debt appeared on his credit record for over 7 years. He asks Commissioners to reconsider the billing of inmates in order to prevent this from happening to others.

PUBLIC HEARING

Community Mental Health Authority

At 8:35 a.m., Vice Chair Morren announced this is the second of three public hearings required to be held prior to establishing a mental health authority pursuant to the Mental Health Code. On December 17, 2001, the Kent Community Mental Health Board voted to recommend to the Board of Commissioners (“BOC”) that it establish Kent Community Mental Health (“CMH”) as an authority. As a mental health authority, Kent CMH would no longer operate as a County department, but would, instead, be an independent unit separate from governance by the BOC. Authority board members would continue to be appointed by this Commission. The Legislative & Human Resources Committee held three work sessions and public comment on the proposal. On May 25, 2002, the BOC initiated the process to consider establishing Kent CMH as an authority. According to the Mental Health Code, prior to establishing Kent CMH as an authority, the BOC must hold three public hearings and adopt an enabling resolution addressing the following issues: 1) the purpose of the authority; 2) the duration of the authority; 3) the method by which the authority may be dissolved or terminated; and, 4) the distribution of assets in the event of termination and certain employment matters subject to the provisions of the Mental Health Code. Vice Chair Morren invited public comment on this proposed authority to address the Board at this time.

- 1) Merry Smith, International Representative for the UAW representing Kent County employees - **Opposed**. Ms. Smith discussed some of the problems Kent Community Hospital employees experienced since leaving County employment: wage increases decreased; recruiting and retaining staff; retiree complaints about the antiquated medical coverage. Spectrum contracts out many of the jobs at the hospital. Long-term employees work twice as hard because the contracted people come in for one day and leave not caring how good a job they do, they train those who really don't want to learn and to pick up after those who really don't care. What kind of care are the patients receiving in that situation? Things have begun to turn around. Ms. Smith begs the Commissioners not to make this move, because it is not in the best interest of the employees. Put it off for awhile.

- 2) Mark Witte, 2739 Ardmore Street SE, Grand Rapids - Associate Director of Professional Services at Wedgwood Christian Youth & Family Services spoke **in favor** of granting authority status. Wedgwood is a provider of outpatient and residential mental health and substance abuse treatment services for children and adults. Currently serving as co-chair of the children family and adult outpatient division of Kent CMH, he noted that his comments do not necessarily reflect the positions or thoughts of other providers in the division. He believes there would be no negative impact for providers or clients. Wedgwood serves clients from all across the state and holds contracts with several CMH agencies (some of which are mental health authorities). Authority status has never been an issue of any consequence to them as a provider in any other county and they cannot envision how it would be an issue in Kent. He cannot see how clients would be effected negatively by virtue of their participation in a more effective service delivery system. Secondly, he believes that savings historically have benefited clients directly. Significant administrative time and, therefore, expense goes into administering a system as a County agency, while the savings to be gained by becoming an authority are likely at first to be modest, they are nonetheless real savings. Third, in order to be effective, CMH must become both efficient and responsive. Increased state and federal regulations consume unbelievable amounts of time of both Kent CMH and providers alike. The real challenge is how to respond to all these changes which may mean changing as an organization. We need to seize every opportunity, which will help do what we do well today even better tomorrow. Kent CMH needs to be unburdened from the tasks/activities created primarily to meet the administrative needs of the County especially in the areas of finance, purchasing and human resources management. Authority status will not guarantee the desired result of efficiency, but it will offer Kent CMH an opportunity to try.

- 3) Kay Lynnes, 316 Bristol Avenue NW, Grand Rapids - **Opposed**. A mental health advocate, she has bipolar disorder and is very active in a number of advocacy and support groups locally, state and nationwide. The Michigan constitution states the importance of providing services for the seriously mentally ill. This responsibility has been delegated to the counties. It is important to consider long and hard before taking this away from the county unit for a number of reasons. Some people feel that the change would just be administrative in nature and not effect clients. There is the issue of accountability. Why the rush? All three hearings have been scheduled at 8:30 a.m. average. This is not a good outreach effort on the county commission's part.

- 4) Neville Mark, 5944 Valley Lane Drive SE, Kentwood - **Against the authority.** CMH is funded by federal and state governments and as such is not a true comparison to the Kent District Library, which is funded by a Kent County millage. With 4 or 5 administrators retiring at CMH, now is not the time to consider authority status. Consider putting this on hold. The hearing times are not convenient to individuals who work.
- 5) Linda Zeller, A Hope Network employee but previously was a 12-year employee of the Jackson/Hillsdale CMH. The Jackson/Hillsdale CMH went to authority status. The Jackson/Hillsdale CMH became very creative with their flexibility with regard to reserve accounts. She **favours** authority status.
- 6) Laura Shyne, A Cornerstone - CMH employee for almost 11 years is **against the authority** status. Her main concerns: pension; education tuition reimbursement; and, seniority as a county employee. How will the authority benefit both the providers and consumers? A lot of questions have yet to be answered.
- 7) Keith Cook, 1913 Radcliffe, Grand Rapids – As a CMH employee (11 ½ years) he is **opposed** to the authority. He sees no positive impact to employees or the clients. The timing is bad – delay this decision. CMH is currently providing efficient and very high quality service.
- 8) Todd Martin, 72 Sheldon SE, Grand Rapids - He isn't sure exactly what the authority is but, over the years, CMH has not been able to address certain issues regarding recipient rights and believes that is one important reason why the county government should stay involved. It is important that the community has a stepping stone to the government.
- 9) Tim Leonard, 1148 Orchard SE, Grand Rapids – **opposed.** An employee of CMH for the past 2 ½ years as a case worker and counselor. Loves working for the county, CMH and the Children's Service Unit where he works primarily with families. He prefers continuing to work for the County in that capacity and serving the families of Kent County is his primary goal.
- 10) Philip Gibson, 2190 Elmridge Drive NW, Grand Rapids - 11 year employee of the county - CMH for 9 years and Cornerstone for 2 years. Past co-chair of the bargaining unit for unit 1 County employees. Bargaining is an extremely time consuming process. Not sure what cost analysis has been done re bargaining for both the administration and employees on the bargaining committee. He suggests that the executive director of the CMH have bargaining experience. Neither highly pro nor con authority status. Not here out of self-interest, but here to serve consumers. However, he also chose to work for the county because of secure employment. Will authority status lend the same amount of security?
- 11) Hugh Hufnagel, 2546 Oakwood, East Grand Rapids - Chairman of the CMH Board **in favor** of authority status. This is the 2nd time the board has considered this. Two years ago, while exploring this issue, they learned of things that needed to be changed at the state level and those have been changed. The CMH Board supports the authority because it believes it is in

the best interest of the taxpayers, the clients and their families and their advocates, and believes its in the best interest of employees of CMH as well as providers. It will eliminate some duplication of administrative work that's done at both CMH and the County. One example is the budgeting process – different fiscal years and the budgeting processes are out of sync. The hours spent on this type of work would be better spent on issues more beneficial to clients. Analysis shows a saving of about \$200,000/yr. eventually by shifting to authority status. It will provide greater flexibility in dealing with some of the human resource issues that are unique to the CMH employees. It will provide new administrative options, e.g., the authority can own property, can borrow money, “think” and “act” more regionally, and establish reserve accounts. They understand that there are significant risks. Oversight, though lessened would still exist because the Commission will appoint all of the authority board members and one third of the board would be county commissioners. The employee concerns are very important - issues regarding wages, benefits and particularly pension. Authorities, which have gotten into trouble, did not do so because they switched to authority status. They were for reasons that don't apply here in Kent County. Another risk is that CMH would lose the County as a financial safety net. However they have always acted at CMH in a fiscally responsible manner. Change is difficult for people. However, there can really be no progress without change. On behalf of the CMH board, he urged Commissioners to support the change to authority.

- 12) Bill Phelps, a quality improvement manager at CMH and a union member. He **supports** authority status. He believes it will be more efficient and self-directed. This will equate to better quality services to the people being served by freeing up money that is currently be spent on unnecessary administrative functions. Change is difficult however he knows that the CMH Board is dedicated to serving the CMH mission and he trusts that the board will continue to do so even after they become an authority.
- 13) Jim Ash, 2229 Swensberg Avenue NE, Grand Rapids – **Opposed**. As a substance abuse director for 9 years, he has concerns about the authority and believes that the only ones to benefit will be the CMH administrators. There is a risk to many for a gain to few.
- 14) Laura Vredeveld, 1240 Bates SE, Grand Rapids – 7 year CMH employee who **supports** the authority. Believes there will be better services and flexible staffing. Believes as an authority they would focus on the mission and how their decisions would affect directly the consumers of mental health services in this community. CMH, acting as an authority, will continue to ensure that individuals needing mental health and substance abuse services have access to highest quality services possible. She, too, is concerned about matters of pension, salary, and benefits. She would like their years of service to the County and Kent CMH to be recognized during this process. She supports the move to an authority because she trusts that the board of CMH will recognize those who work daily to support the mission of this organization and will treat them fairly in the process.
- 15) Jerry Kiel, 1108 Lake Michigan Drive, Grand Rapids – A Kent County employee for 9 years with 20 years experience in substance abuse treatment. Believes that the oversight of the County Commission is important. Is **against the authority** and believes that the information they are receiving is biased. Remember to consider welfare for all.

Vice Chair Morren announced that the final public hearing would be held on Thursday, July 25, 2002, 8:30 a.m., Room 310, County Administration Building. In addition, written comments will be accepted by the BOC. The public hearing was declared closed at 9:25 a.m.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Metro Medical Response System Update – Dr. Jon Krohmer, KCEMS Medical Director

Dr. Krohmer gave a brief overview of the Metro Medical Response System. He went over the background, and previous and current activities of the system. (A description of the aforementioned is on file in the Office of the County Clerk.) He introduced Michelle Knapp, Program Director.

Area Agency on Aging – Annual Report

Tom Czerwinski, Director of the AAA, gave an update on the senior millage as this is the half-way point (fourth of the eight years) of the millage. He introduced Jackie O'Connor, Deputy Director, who reviewed their services, and how the money was spent. (A copy of the AAA's Annual Implementation Plan for fiscal year 2003 is on file in the Office of the County Clerk.)

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of June 13, 2002, Meeting
- b) June 18, 2002, Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)
- c) Resolutions:

6-27-02-70 – FY 2002 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS – SUBSTANCE ABUSE / COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

WHEREAS, Kent County CMH's portion of the liquor tax funding distributed from the Michigan Association of Substance Abuse Coordinating Agencies (MASACA) for the Montcalm, Ionia, Newaygo, and Kent (MINK) region for FY 2002 was greater than the estimated amount budgeted by \$256,437. The increased amounts by county are: Kent \$198,838; Montcalm \$23,493; Ionia \$16,400; and Newaygo \$17,706; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Community Health increased the funding allocation to Kent County CMH for substance abuse for Tobacco Vendor Education site visits by \$4,628.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the amendment to the Community Mental Health (CMH) budget to reflect increased revenue for Substance Abuse prevention, and to appropriate an additional \$261,065 for Substance Abuse Prevention Programming.

6-27-02-71 – FY 2002 BUDGET AMENDMENTS – VARIOUS GRANTS / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Community Health has made an additional \$2,600 in funding available for the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) program. The funding is for two additional housing certificates effective June 1, 2002; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Executive Order in December 2001 reduced funding for the HIV/AIDS Consortia program. The Health Department has since been given notice that \$20,359 in funding for these programs has been reinstated by the Michigan Department of Community Health; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Community Health has increased funding, under the CPBC agreement, \$11,500 for capacity building for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program. Funding is to be used for staffing, outreach, case management duties, and computer upgrades; and

WHEREAS, the Health Department regularly tests the water quality of inland lakes within the County, and the department has been awarded \$5,000 to add additional locations and frequencies to its testing schedule; and

WHEREAS, Ingham County has increased funding of \$16,317 for outreach services provided by the Kent Health Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the acceptance and appropriation of an additional \$55,776 in grant funding to the 2002 Health Department budget.

6-27-02-72 – SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION AND AMENDMENT TO STATE FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY / PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Michigan Family Independence Agency provides funding to counties to operate a Cooperative Reimbursement Program designed to establish paternity as well as to secure and enforce support orders; and

WHEREAS, the Prosecutor's Cooperative Reimbursement Program will continue with 19 full-time positions; and

WHEREAS, an additional Clerk III position has been recommended by the Personnel Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, the funding needs for the Prosecutor's program exceeds Kent County's allocation from the State by \$43,411; and

WHEREAS, at the State's request, the Prosecutor's Office is simultaneously submitting both the initial grant application and amendment; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is October 1, 2002, to September 30, 2003.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Prosecutor's request to submit an application to the State Family Independence Agency for a FY 2003 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Grant and Grant Amendment; 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; and

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

6-27-02-73 – STATE DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS EQUIPMENT GRANT AND AMEND BUDGET / SHERIFF

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of State Police has federal passthrough funds available from the Fiscal Year 2001 Domestic Preparedness Equipment Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, a multi-jurisdictional, multi-discipline committee of Kent County law enforcement has been formed to discuss the domestic preparedness needs of the County as it relates to law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, once the multi-discipline committee discussions have taken place, the Sheriff's Department is proposing to use these funds to purchase personal protection equipment for various emergency response agencies as well as monitoring and hazard testing equipment; and

WHEREAS, the date of the grant award was February 4, 2002.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves submission of an application for a State Domestic Preparedness Equipment Grant from the Michigan Department of State Police; and

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

6-27-02-74 – AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND CONTRACT APPROVAL – COMPREHENSIVE PLAN / 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, since administration costs exceed the cap imposed by the grantor, an allocation of general fund dollars will be included in the budget to support the full cost of the program; 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 Rehab, Prodigal/Pathfinder, Hope / Exodus, Salvation Army, Arbor Circle AOS, Grand Rapids Public Schools Business and Industry Center, Faith Counseling Services and Goodwill Industries. Funds are also requested to contribute to the implementation of a risk needs assessment tool at the Kent County Correctional Facility; and

WHEREAS, the grant request also includes funding for Probation Residential Services for Alternative Directions, Pathfinder Resources, One Way House, and Project Rehab; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated grant period is October 1, 2002, to September 30, 2003. It is expected that the grant will be renewable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves Community Corrections' request to submit an application for funding under PA 511 of 1988; and approves an amendment to the budget to account for revenues and expenditures associated with the grant, if approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes contracts with the proposed vendors not-to-exceed the recommended funding amounts.

6-27-02-75 – FAMILIES IN TOUCH GRANT APPLICATION AND BUDGET AMENDMENT / KENT/MSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

WHEREAS, Kent/MSU Cooperative Extension Service has operated the Families in Touch program with grant funding from Spectrum Health since 1998. Families in Touch offers education and support in parenting, food and nutrition and money management to families who do not qualify for public assistance, but who do not have the resources to seek assistance from other sources. Programming is offered at various locations throughout the County, and parenting programs are conducted at two Grand Rapids Public Schools. Additional sites have requested services, which have not been able to be provided with current staffing; and

WHEREAS, Kent/MSU CES proposes using grant funds to contract with MSU to hire an additional staff person to expand the Families in Touch programming. It is expected that the additional staffing will serve an additional 90 families annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves Kent/MSU Cooperative Extension Service's request to submit a grant application to the FOX 17 CareForce Fund, and to appropriate an additional \$28,262 in grant funding to Kent/MSU Cooperative Extension's 2002 Families in Touch budget, if approved.

6-27-02-76 – RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FUNDING PROPOSAL AND BUDGET AMENDMENT / KENT/MSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

WHEREAS, ACSET has identified the need for more long-term case management services for households receiving emergency services in the areas of shelter and utility assistance in order to keep the need from recurring; and

WHEREAS, as a part of that service, ACSET has requested Kent/MSU Cooperative Extension Service (CES) to provide money management and other required educational programs for eligible clients.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves Kent/MSU Cooperative Extension Service's (CES) request to accept funding from ACSET to provide four hours per week of educational programs on money management, budgeting, tenant/landlord, and consumer issues to families referred by ACSET; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board appropriates an additional \$3,000 to the 2002 Kent/MSU CES budget.

6-27-02-77 – APPROVE LEASE EXTENSION WITH ST. MARY'S MERCY MEDICAL CENTER AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Michigan Family Independence Agency provides funding to counties to operate a Cooperative Reimbursement Program (Resolution 06-22-00-84) designed to establish paternity and secure support orders; and

WHEREAS, as a part of its grant responsibilities, the Prosecutor's Office will use genetic testing in an attempt to establish paternity, which requires space for collecting genetic specimens as well as a wait area; and

WHEREAS, St. Mary's Mercy Medical Center is willing to continue to lease a community room two Thursdays a month for \$300 a month, which is the same amount paid for the last two years; and

WHEREAS, the proposed lease extension is for a one-year period (October 1, 2002, to September 30, 2003).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Prosecutor's Office request to execute a lease extension with St. Mary's Mercy Medical Center to provide space to facilitate the genetic draws; and

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

6-27-02-78 – SUBMISSION OF AN INNOVATIONS WORK GROUP GRANT AND BUDGET AMENDMENT / PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, the goal of the program is to develop a regional electronics recycling infrastructure that will reduce the amount of electronic waste disposed of in landfills; and

WHEREAS, the counties of Kent, Ottawa, Kalamazoo, Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Montcalm, and Muskegon are collaborating on this public/private partnership; and

WHEREAS, the participants will design and implement a regional consumer electronics recovery and recycling program that includes collecting, transporting and processing components.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Department of Public Works' request to submit an application to the Environmental Protection Agency for an Innovations Work Group Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners directs the Board of Public Works to execute the agreement on behalf of the County.

6-27-02-79 – APPROVAL OF AREA AGENCY ON AGING FY 03 ANNUAL PLAN / ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, Inc. serves the nine counties (Allegan, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo, and Osceola) of Region 8; and

WHEREAS, since its inception in 1974, the agency has operated under three-year plans with annual funding and service components. Plans must be prepared according to a format prescribed by the State Commission on Aging; and

WHEREAS, the State Office of Services to the Aging requires AAAWM to request approval of the three-year plan and subsequent annual implementation plans by the Board of Commissioners of each county in its service area; and

WHEREAS, the annual budget reflects only Older Americans Act, Older Michiganian Act dollars, and local funding required to meet the minimum match funding requirement. No millage funds from Kent County (or other counties within the region) are included in the budget, nor are local match dollars in excess of the minimum required. Kent County annually contributes \$14,077 toward the match and operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, AAAWM estimates that 43 percent of its Older American Act and Older Michiganian Act funds are paid to Kent County service providers, and that 51 percent of its Medicaid Waiver funds are expended for Kent County residents. Based on the 2000 census, 55 percent of the region's population aged 60 and older resides in Kent County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan's (AAAWM) Annual Implementation Plan for Fiscal Year 2003.

Motion by Commissioner Hiddema, supported by Commissioner Wahlfield, to approve the consent agenda items.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Buege, Morgan, Horton, Vonk, Hiddema, Boelema, McGuire, Wahlfield, Postmus, Smoke, Mast, Kuhn, Sak, Vaughn, Mayhue, Koorndyk, Kuipers, Vice Chair Morren – 18.

Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

6-27-02-80 – CONTRACT WITH ROCKFORD AMBULANCE, INC. AND ALLIANCE GC CONSTRUCTION GROUP AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, as part of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Annual Action Plans that have been approved by the Board of Commissioners, a total of \$375,000 has been budgeted to construct a facility to be used as a new senior center in the Rockford area and to house the main office of Rockford Ambulance, Inc., a Michigan non-profit corporation; and

WHEREAS, Alliance GC Construction Group has been selected as the construction contractor and they will provide construction services for a not-to-exceed price of \$467,320.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves Community Development's request to contract with Rockford Ambulance, Inc. and Alliance GC Construction Group to construct a facility to house the offices of a fire/rescue operation and a new senior center located in Courtland Township; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair to sign all contract documents.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Buege, Horton, Vonk, Hiddema, Boelema, McGuire, Wahlfield, Postmus, Smoke, Mast, Kuhn, Sak, Vaughn, Mayhue, Koorndyk, Kuipers, Vice Chair Morren – 17.

Nays: 0.
Abstain: Morgan – 1.

6-27-02-81 – APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, MCL 52.201 requires the Board of Commissioners of each county to appoint a County Medical Examiner for four-year terms. The current term expires December 31, 2002; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Douglas Mack, who retired from the County on March 1, 2001, had agreed to continue to serve in this capacity as a rehired retiree until a suitable replacement could be found; and

WHEREAS, Dr. David Persaud has been hired as the Health Department's new Medical Director, beginning July 1, 2002. Dr. Persaud meets the requirements of MCL 52.201 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners appoints David Persaud, M.D., as the County Medical Examiner, effective July 1, 2002, for the term extending through December 31, 2002.

Motion by Commissioner Mast, supported by Commissioner Kuhn, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried by voice vote.

REPORTS

Justice Task Force

Commissioner Morgan stated that the Justice Task Force has scheduled 9 subgroup meetings this summer. They expect a report to come to the Board in September.

MISCELLANEOUS

Car/Truck Fatalities

Commissioner Vonk stated that Kent County was ranked number one for car/truck fatalities. He would like to see the Sheriff's Department, in conjunction with the State Police, work to take steps to remove Kent County from the top ten.

Public Hearing

Commissioner Sak asked that consideration be given to holding an evening public hearing with regard to the Community Mental Health Authority issue.

Road Patrol Negotiations

Commissioner Sak asked for an update on the status of the road patrol negotiations. Administrator Delabbio stated that the negotiations are still in process. There was a tentative agreement that was reached by the bargaining committee of POAM and the County's bargaining team, but the union membership voted against it. Now bargaining sessions are scheduled. Commissioner Sak asked for a schedule of the bargaining sessions.

Letter

Commissioner Buege asked Commissioners to pay attention to the mailing packet from last week. There was a letter from Candi Teachout in support of the CMH authority.

Acknowledgment

Commissioner Mayhue applauded the individuals who spoke at the public hearing with regard to the CMH issue.

Introduction

Assistant Administrator Vanderberg introduced the new administrative intern, Shakira Johnson.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:06 a.m., Commissioner Hiddema moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, July 11, 2002, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Sak. Motion carried.

David J. Morren, Vice Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk