

KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Thursday, July 11, 2002

Administration Building - Room 310

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

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

Absent: Smoke, Vonk, Chair Heacock – 3 (Excused).

Invocation: Commissioner Boelema introduced Pastor Ruth Hawley-Lowry, Newhall Reformed Church, who gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Floyd, 1135 Iroquois SE, Grand Rapids – A candidate for the 17th Circuit Court judgeship, he's been an assistant prosecuting attorney for the past 13 years. He intends to make a difference in the administration of justice in Kent County and believes that the circuit court should reflect the racially, ethnically and politically diverse community in which we live.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Resignation – Commissioner Smoke, District 12

Motion by Commissioner Buege, supported by Commissioner Kuhn, to receive and file the resignation letter (effective July 10, 2002) of Commissioner Richard E. Smoke (copy of letter is on file in the Office of the County Clerk).

Motion carried by voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of June 27, 2002, Meeting
- b) July 2, 2002, Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)
- c) Appointment to Foreign Trade Zone Board – Ray De Winkle
- d) Resolutions:

**7-11-02-82 – CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANT /
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, for the past three years, the Health Department has received car seats for distribution to clients from the Greater Grand Rapids Safe Kids Coalition. Earlier this year, the Department was notified that the car seats will no longer be available, as the program's funding has decreased; and

WHEREAS, the Health Department wishes to maintain the car seat distribution program, and has learned that funds are available from the Michigan Department of Community Health (DCH) for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, goals of the program are to decrease the number of child deaths and injuries in motor vehicle crashes by increasing the number of child safety seats that are used appropriately; to increase child safety seat training, promotion and educational programs; and to increase child safety seat usage through child safety seat distribution; and

WHEREAS, the target population for the program Health Department clients who are: low income (150% of poverty), eligible for WIC or Maternal and Infant Support Services (MSS/ISS) and have no other means of acquiring a child safety seat.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves submission of a grant application for child passenger safety seat distribution, education, and training; and to appropriate an additional \$30,000 in grant funding to the Health Department budget to fund the project, if awarded.

7-11-02-83 – ACCEPT FY 2003 TITLE IV-D COOPERATIVE REIMBURSEMENT GRANT / FRIEND OF THE COURT

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

WHEREAS, the Friend of the Court's Cooperative Reimbursement Program currently operates with 106 full-time positions plus 7 FTEs in support services from the Circuit Court – Family Division (Referees & clerical); and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Friend of the Court's request to accept an FY 2003 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Grant from the State Family Independence Agency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event grant funding is eliminated 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.

7-11-02-84 – INCREASE IN CONSULTANT CONTRACT FOR LAND USE EDUCATION / KENT/MSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

WHEREAS, Kent MSU Extension has a Community and Economic Development Extension Agent who serves as a Land Use Educator and Project/Rural Component Coordinator for the United Growth of Kent County project; and

WHEREAS, the agent's entire salary is paid using grant funds and Extension budget dollars, however a portion of the grant funding will cease in 2003; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Sprawl Subcommittee identified land use education, creation of a Purchase of Development Rights program, and County staff participation in the Blueprint II process as critical needs to be addressed by the Land Use Educator; and

WHEREAS, Kent/MSU Extension has experienced significant growth in its land use education activities as a result of the United Growth for Kent County project and the recommendations of the Urban Sprawl Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, the funding requested (25% of salary costs in 2003, 50% of salary costs in 2004, and 75% of salary costs in 2005) would allow the Land Use Educator to continue to assist in the implementation of the Urban Sprawl Subcommittee's recommendations; and

WHEREAS, at the end of the program, the County will perform a cost-benefit analysis to determine the further need for the position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners contract with Michigan State University to perform land use education activities and enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the University at a cost of \$8,876 in 2003; \$18,888 in 2004; and \$30,124 in 2005.

(Commissioner Kuhn requested that Resolution 7-11-02-84 be removed from the consent agenda.)

Motion by Commissioner Boelema, supported by Commissioner Mast, to approve the remaining consent agenda items.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Kuipers, Koorndyk, Mayhue, Vaughn, Sak, Kuhn, Mast, Postmus, Wahlfield, McGuire, Boelema, Hiddema, Horton, Morgan, Buege, Vice Chair Morren - 16.

Nays: 0.

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Memorandum of Agreement with the University at a cost of \$8,876 in 2003; \$18,888 in 2004; and \$30,124 in 2005.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Kuipers, Koorndyk, Mayhue, Vaughn, Sak, Mast, Postmus, Wahlfield, McGuire, Boelema, Hiddema, Horton, Morgan, Buege, Vice Chair Morren - 15.

Nays: 0.

Abstain: Kuhn - 1.

RESOLUTIONS

7-11-02-85 – 82 IONIA / ADMINISTRATION/BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Kent County has leased approximately 72,000 square feet of the building and associated parking at 82 Ionia from SIBSCO, LLC for ancillary functions of the County Courthouse since 1998; and

WHEREAS, the 20-year lease provides for opportunities to exercise an option to purchase the property throughout the term of the lease; and

WHEREAS, the next option period is March 2003; and

WHEREAS, County staff prepared a report, which outlines the rationale for the County to exercise its option to purchase the property; and

WHEREAS, the Finance & Physical Resources Committee reviewed the report on June 4, 2002, and the consensus of the Committee was to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to exercise the option to purchase the property when the next opportunity presented itself (2003); and

WHEREAS, in order to exercise this option to purchase 82 Ionia, the County must provide notice to the building owners not less than 225 days prior to the expiration of the lease year (in other words, no later than August 10, 2002).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby directs the County Administrator/Controller to formally notify SIBSCO, LLC of the County's intent to exercise the option to purchase 82 Ionia in March 2003, subject to a review/evaluation by the Facilities Planning and Management Director.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the funds necessary to acquire the building and associated renovation work shall be incorporated into the 2003 Capital Improvement Program budget.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Kuipers, Koorndyk, Mayhue, Vaughn, Sak, Kuhn, Mast, Postmus, Wahlfield, McGuire, Boelema, Hiddema, Horton, Morgan, Buege, Vice Chair Morren - 16.

Nays: 0.

7-11-02-86 – CREATE POSITION OF PROGRAM COORDINATOR AT HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND BUDGET AMENDMENT / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Community Health has made funds available to local health departments for bioterrorism activities. These funds are being

incorporated into the current year Comprehensive Planning, Budgeting and Contracting (CPBC) Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Kent County has been allocated \$173,026, and may be used for planning and response efforts (including those that have already been incurred), coordination staffing and activities, and information technology and communication hardware, software and support; and

WHEREAS, the Health Department proposes using one-time funding as follows:

- \$130,026 to cover costs associated with bioterrorism response efforts related to anthrax and other biological agents; and
- \$13,000 for hardware and software required to connect to the Health Alert System Network, as well as emergency communications equipment; and

WHEREAS, on-going funding will be used to create a Program Coordinator Position (MPP 22) within the Health Department to serve as an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. Duties will include coordination of Health Department planning and preparedness activities with other local and state agencies, serving as a KCHD/community resource on bioterrorism, and providing a link with surveillance activities; and

WHEREAS, funding for continuing the staff position and technological support will be included in the FY 2003 CPBC Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the creation of one full-time Program Coordinator at the Health Department to serve as an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for bioterrorism planning and response activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board appropriates \$173,026 in additional funding from the Department of Community Health to the Health Department to fund the position and associated bioterrorism planning and response activities; and

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

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Kuipers, Koorndyk, Mayhue, Vaughn, Sak, Kuhn, Mast, Postmus, Wahlfield, McGuire, Boelema, Hiddema, Horton, Morgan, Buege, Vice Chair Morren - 16.

Nays: 0.

7-11-02-87 – PARKLAND ACQUISITION – RUEHS PARK / PARKS DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners has made acquisition of parkland a priority per the establishment and funding of the Parks Acquisition Fund CIP; and

WHEREAS, a parcel of property is available adjacent to Ruehs Property in an area planned for expansion of this park; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition fits the criteria established in the current Kent County Parks and Natural Areas Master Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the purchase of property from Barbara J. Waite for the price of \$154,400; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Board Chair Steven Heacock or his designee is hereby authorized to execute documents necessary to complete the purchase.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Kuipers, Koorndyk, Mayhue, Vaughn, Sak, Kuhn, Mast, Postmus, Wahlfield, McGuire, Boelema, Hiddema, Horton, Morgan, Buege, Vice Chair Morren - 16.

Nays: 0.

REPORTS

There were no reports.

MISCELLANEOUS

Jury Commission

Commissioner Mayhue announced that at today's Jury Commission meeting Jury Commissioner Wayne Bentley will present his recommendations to improve the jury process.

Commissioner Morgan stated that the Justice Task Force will meet on August 1st to address jury issues.

Commissioner Kuhn stated that the role of the Board of Commission is similar to the role of the general public in being an observer of the court system.

Introduction

Vice Chair Morren introduced and welcomed Dr. David Persaud, Kent County's new medical director and chief medical examiner.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:50 a.m., Commissioner Boelema moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, July 25, 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