

KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

*Thursday, June 12, 2003
Administration Building - Room 310*

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

Present: Commissioners Agee, Boelema, Bulkowski, Hiddema, Horton, Koorndyk, Kuipers, Mast, Mayhue, Morgan, Postmus, Rolls, Tanis, VanderMolen, Vaughn, Vonk, Voorhees, Wahlfield, Chair Morren – 19.

Absent: None

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of May 22, 2003 Meeting
- b) May 22 and June 3, 2003 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)
- c) Resolutions:

6-12-03-69 – WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY AND PRIVACY POLICIES / INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

WHEREAS, the County's website, accessKent.com, has a need for formal policies on accessibility and privacy; and

WHEREAS, the accessibility policy requirements would ensure that the website is reasonably accessible to all persons, and that it is designed using standards guided by the recommendations of the World-Wide Web Consortium's (W3C) Web Accessibility Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the privacy policy would provide guidelines for data security and the types and uses of personal information collected;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the website accessibility and privacy policies.

6-12-03-70 – REVISION OF FLEET POLICIES / ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, all fleet policies are to be reviewed every two years; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing the fleet policies, Fiscal Services and Fleet Services staff recommend the Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Replacement policy be revised by deleting provisions regarding the replacement of large mowers, riding mowers, and tractors, as they are not titled vehicles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the recommended revisions for the Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Replacement Policy.

6-12-03-71 – SBC MICHIGAN EASEMENT FOR CABINET AT NORTH KENT LANDFILL / PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, on November 27, 2000, Kent County granted an easement for a telecommunications cabinet to SBC Michigan, however, SBC requested the wrong location; and

WHEREAS, said easement has now been released back to the County; and

WHEREAS, SBC Michigan has now identified the proper location for the cabinet easement, which is proposed to be located on a portion of North Kent Landfill property; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Public Works approved said easement at its April 16, 2003 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Public Works has determined that the easement will not adversely affect the County's activities on the property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby grants SBC Michigan an easement for a telecommunications cabinet on North Kent Landfill property, and the Chair, or Vice-Chair in his absence, is authorized and directed to sign said easement.

6-12-03-72 – COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM APPROPRIATION / COURT SERVICES

WHEREAS, this is a Special Project Fund program that receives the majority of its funding from the Community Corrections Office; and

WHEREAS, in preparing its 2003 budget request, Court Services staff utilized the Contributions From Local Units revenue line to represent County General Fund allocation as well as local unit payments for services. Since the County typically uses the Transfer revenue line to reflect County General Fund contributions, an amount equal to the anticipated General Fund request was not included in the General Fund appropriations in the 2003 budget; and

WHEREAS, the discrepancy was discovered as part of the review of Special Projects programs, and the process revised for the 2004 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates an additional \$62,000 to the 2003 Court Services - Special Projects Fund – Community Services Program.

6-12-03-73 – GRANT OF EASEMENT TO DEQ FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION AT SPARTAN CHEMICAL SUPERFUND SITE / TREASURER'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, in 2003, Kent County acquired the defunct Spartan Chemical Company property by tax foreclosure judgment; and

WHEREAS, the Spartan Chemical Company property is an environmentally contaminated site listed on the National Priorities List of Superfund Sites; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental Quality has installed and continues to operate groundwater treatment and monitoring equipment at the site, and may have need to conduct other response activities on the site in accordance with state and federal law; and

WHEREAS, the DEQ requires an easement from the owner of the property to gain future access to the site for performance of ongoing response activities, including operation and maintenance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby grants an easement to the Department of Environmental Quality for ongoing environmental remediation at the Spartan Chemical Superfund Site.

Commissioner Kuipers requested that Resolution 6-12-03-69 be removed from the consent agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Agee, supported by Commissioner VanderMolen, to approve the remaining consent agenda items.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Wahlfield, Morgan, Rolls, Horton, Tanis, Hiddema, Boelema, Voorhees, Agee, Mast, VanderMolen, Postmus, Bulkowski, Mayhue, Vaughn, Koorndyk, Kuipers, Chair Morren - 19.

Nays: 0.

6-12-03-69 – WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY AND PRIVACY POLICIES / INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

WHEREAS, the County's website, accessKent.com, has a need for formal policies on accessibility and privacy; and

WHEREAS, the accessibility policy requirements would ensure that the website is reasonably accessible to all persons, and that it is designed using standards guided by the recommendations of the World-Wide Web Consortium's (W3C) Web Accessibility Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the privacy policy would provide guidelines for data security and the types and uses of personal information collected;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the website accessibility and privacy policies.

Motion by Commissioner Agee, supported by Commissioner Horton, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Wahlfield, Morgan, Rolls, Horton, Tanis, Hiddema, Boelema, Voorhees, Agee, Mast, VanderMolen, Postmus, Bulkowski, Mayhue, Vaughn, Koorndyk, Kuipers, Chair Morren - 19.

Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

6-12-03-74 – APPROVAL OF AREA AGENCY ON AGING FY 04 ANNUAL PLAN / ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, Inc. (AAAWM) 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 AAWM 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 \$14,546 toward the match and operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, AAWM estimates that 44 percent of its Older American Act and Older Michiganian Act funds are paid to Kent County service providers, and that 55 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 Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan’s Multi-Year Action Plan for Fiscal Years 2004-2006 and Annual Implementation Plan for Fiscal Year 2004.

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

6-12-03-75 – LEASE OF FACILITY AT 728 FULLER NE / COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

WHEREAS, Resolution 9-26-02-139 established a Kent County Community Mental Health (CMH) Authority; and

WHEREAS, the resolution creating the authority calls for the County and the Authority to enter into a lease providing for the continued use of the facility at 728 Fuller NE by the Authority; and

WHEREAS, according to the terms of the lease, the Authority will continue to be responsible for services to, and maintenance of, the property as required by the Facilities Use Policy; and

WHEREAS, the document has been reviewed and approved as to form by Civil Counsel, and was approved by the CMH Authority Board on May 12, 2003.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the lease with the Kent County Community Mental Health Authority (dba Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Network of West Michigan) for the continued use of the facility at 728 Fuller N.E., Grand Rapids.

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, supported by Commissioner VanderMolen, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried by voice vote.

6-12-03-76 – TITLE IV-D CONTRACT AMENDMENT / FRIEND OF THE COURT

WHEREAS, the Michigan Family Independence Agency provides Title IV-D funding to the Friend of the Court to operate a Cooperative Reimbursement Program designed to secure and enforce support orders; and

WHEREAS, since the contract was awarded, banking costs have increased \$60,000 as interest earnings used to offset the expense have decreased. In addition, an estimated figure for cost allocation was used to prepare the original grant budget and contract. Actual cost allocation is \$40,727 higher than estimated; and

WHEREAS, budget adjustments are due to the State by June 30, 2003; and

WHEREAS, any unexpended general fund dollars at the end of the fiscal year will be returned to the general fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the amendment of the Title IV-D contact, and to appropriate an additional \$66,480 from the State Family Independence Agency and \$34,247 from the County undesignated, unreserved general fund balance to the Friend of the Court.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Wahlfield, Morgan, Rolls, Horton, Tanis, Hiddema, Boelema, Voorhees, Agee, Mast, VanderMolen, Postmus, Bulkowski, Mayhue, Vaughn, Koorndyk, Kuipers, Chair Morren - 19.

Nays: 0.

6-12-03-77 – AMENDMENT TO THE KENT COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN / HUMAN RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners adopted the Kent County Employees' Retirement Plan and Trust effective December 8, 1948, which plan has been amended from time-to-time thereafter; and

WHEREAS, the pension benefits of the retiree population who retired prior to January 1991 have been eroded by inflation and since 1991 pension benefit enhancements, such as the multiplier changing from 2.0% to 2.25%, final average compensation figured on the best three of five years instead of the best five of ten years, and the addition of monthly healthcare supplements, have been added and this group of retirees were not eligible for such enhancements; and

WHEREAS, the following schedule of increases is recommended to provide retirees who retired prior to January 1, 1991 an enhanced benefit:

- benefit increase of 25% for retirements prior to 1/1/1975 - 24 retirees - average age 90.8.
- benefit increase of 20% for retirements from 1/1/1975 through 12/31/1979 - 43 retirees - average age 85.3
- benefit increase of 15% for retirements from 1/1/1980 through 12/31/1984 - 103 retirees - average age 80.9
- benefit increase of 10% for retirements from 1/1/1985 through 12/31/1990 – 155 retirees – average age 76; and

WHEREAS, this would establish a new base rate for future cost of living adjustments. For example, a retiree who retired in 1973, who receives a pension of \$200 per month, would begin to receive a pension of \$250 per month under this proposal and would receive that amount as a lifetime benefit; and

WHEREAS, the increase in pension costs based on a 15 year amortization schedule is approximately \$198,000 annually and would impact 325 retirees. The present value of the proposed benefits is \$1.95 million; and

WHEREAS, this proposal would increase the County pension contribution rate by 0.22% of annual payroll (approximately \$80 million for 2002) for a 15-year period and such contribution would be effective for budget year 2005.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves Amendment 2003-2 (attached) to the Kent County Employees Retirement Plan and Trust which will increase the pension of retirees who retired prior to January 1, 1991, effective August 1, 2003.

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

REPORTS

Census 2010

Commissioner Koorndyk said that, according to state law, any county with a population 600,000 or more shall have 25-35 commissioners. By the 2010 Census, Kent will have reached that threshold. A subcommittee has been convened to discuss whether or not we would like to influence legislation to change that threshold. The subcommittee will meet again in the next three weeks.

MISCELLANEOUS

Open House

Commissioner Wahlfield announced that he attended Commissioner Morgan's business' open house in Rockford last week.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:47 a.m., Commissioner Agee moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, June 26, 2003, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner VanderMolen. Motion carried.

David J. Morren, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk