

**KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

*Thursday, July 28, 2005*

*Administration Building - Room 310*

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

Present: Commissioners Agee, Boelema, Bulkowski, Hiddema, Horton, Klein, Koorndyk, Mast, Mayhue, Morgan, Postmus, Tanis, Vander Molen, Vaughn, Vonk, Voorhees, Wahlfield, Chair Morren – 18.

Absent: Rolls – 1 (Excused).

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of July 14, 2005 Meeting
- b) July 19, 2005 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes  
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)
- c) BDO Seidman Audit Report – Receive and File.

Motion by Commissioner Mayhue, seconded by Commissioner Vander Molen, to approve the consent agenda items.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Voorhees, Vonk, Vaughn, Vander Molen, Tanis, Postmus, Morgan, Mayhue, Mast, Koorndyk, Klein, Horton, Hiddema, Bulkowski, Boelema Agee, Chair Morren – 18.

Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

7-28-05-59 – FY2005 CHILD CARE FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT ./ DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Child Care Fund accounts for revenues and expenses associated with the care of children who are delinquent or in child protective wards; costs associated with placement or in-home care that avoid placement are shared 50/50 with the State. For some programs, the County pays 100 percent and is reimbursed by the State; for care in State institutions, the County is required to pay the 50 percent share to the State; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the abuse and neglect side of the program, administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS), has increased substantially. In 2004, Kent County had one of its highest recorded years of children removed and placed in foster care; and

WHEREAS, the Family Foster Care line item of the County Child Care Fund was impacted this fiscal year by two factors. The first is the decreasing number of children who are eligible for Title IV-E payments for care. The second is the increase in the number of children in foster care. The projected number of children in foster care for 2005 was 210 per month. The actual number of children in foster care for 2005 is averaging 249 per month, which is 39 more each month than planned; and

WHEREAS, the FY2005 Budget provides for a spending allowance representing a 5 percent reduction from prior year actual. Spending for the first six months of the current fiscal year has been at a 15.2 percent increase over a comparable period in the prior fiscal year. If this increased rate of disbursement is sustained through the end of the current fiscal year, this account will exceed its budgetary allowance by approximately \$1.6 million.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby accepts \$800,000 from the Michigan Department of Human Services and appropriates \$1,600,000 to the FY2005 Child Care Fund Budget with \$800,000 to come from DHS and \$800,000 from the unreserved, undesignated General Fund balance.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Voorhees, Vonk, Vaughn, Vander Molen, Tanis, Postmus, Morgan, Mast, Koorndyk, Klein, Horton, Hiddema, Bulkowski, Boelema Agee, Chair Morren – 17.

Nays: Mayhue - 1.

7-28-05-60 – LAND ACQUISITION GRANT APPLICATION – CHIEF HAZY CLOUD  
ADDITION / PARKS

WHEREAS, the parcel would provide 96 acres for inclusion in Chief Hazy Cloud Park and meets the 2003 Kent County Park, Recreation and Natural Areas Master Plan's priority of acquiring land adjacent to existing County park land and preserving unique property rich in natural resources in that the proposed parcel includes 1900 feet of Grand River frontage; and

WHEREAS, the estimated purchase price for purposes of the grant is \$2 million. The final purchase price will be determined using the DNR appraisal process required by the grant process. Grant funds may be applied to purchase 74 percent of the appraised price. The Parks Department will also be seeking additional funds to offset the local share; and

WHEREAS, if the application is approved by the State, the acquisition with final price and funding proposal would still need to be brought to the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, deadline for the grant application is August 1, 2005.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the submittal of a grant application to the DNR Trust Fund to fund the purchase of 96 acres of property for expansion of Chief Hazy Cloud Park in Ada Township.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Voorhees, Vonk, Vaughn, Vander Molen, Tanis, Postmus, Morgan, Mayhue, Mast, Koorndyk, Klein, Horton, Bulkowski, Boelema Agee, Chair Morren – 17.

Nays: Hiddema - 1.

7-28-05-61 – MILLENNIUM PARK LAND PURCHASE – DEVELOPER’S WEST

PROPERTY / PARKS

WHEREAS, the former Georgia-Pacific West Plant property was approved for purchase from Developer’s Inc. by the Board of Commissioners on November 25, 2003; and

WHEREAS, under the original agreement, the County would not take possession of the property until 2011 and at that time would pay Developer’s Inc. \$900,000; and

WHEREAS, subsequent discussions with Developers, Inc. has led to an updated purchase agreement to allow the County to take possession of a portion of the property sooner and to utilize grant funds to reduce the cost to the County. Under the new purchase agreement, the County will take possession of 36 acres (the South Portion, PPN 41-17-04-200-004 and 41-17-03-100-006) in 2005, and would pay Developer’s the pro-rated share of the original \$900,000 purchase price associated with that acreage. The remaining acreage (the North Portion, PPN 41-13-34-300-006 and 41-13-34-300-007) would continue to remain in the possession of Developer’s Inc. until 2011; and

WHEREAS, Developer’s Inc. will remove buildings, cap gypsum deposits and grade the northern portion of the property prior to the County assuming possession in seven years; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement has been reviewed by civil counsel and approved as to form.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the updated purchase agreement for the former Georgia-Pacific West Plant property and appropriates \$900,000 from the Millennium Park CIP, expending \$405,000 (\$135,198 from DNR Trust Fund) upon close for the South portion in 2005 and the balance of \$495,000 upon close on the North portion of the property.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Voorhees, Vonk, Vaughn, Vander Molen, Tanis, Postmus, Morgan, Mayhue, Mast, Koorndyk, Klein, Horton, Hiddema, Bulkowski, Boelema Agee, Chair Morren – 18.

Nays: 0.

7-28-05-62 – MILLENNIUM PARK LAND PURCHASE – RUSTICUS PROPERTY / PARKS

WHEREAS, Roland Rusticus owns 70 acres within the foot print of Millennium Park; and

WHEREAS, since plans for the park were first announced, County staff and representatives have been in contact with Mr. Rusticus in attempts to acquire the property. Those discussions have resulted in an agreement for the County to purchase the property (PPN

41-17-08-200-001, 41-17-05-400-003) from Mr. Rusticus for \$327,216, the appraised value of the property; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rusticus will retain possession of approximately 2 acres of property for an existing radio transmission tower and radio equipment and the County will provide an easement for access to the tower.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the purchase agreement for the Rusticus Property and appropriates \$327,216 from the Millennium Park CIP to include \$242,140 from the DNR Trust Fund for the purchase.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, supported by Commissioner Klein, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Wahlfield, Voorhees, Vonk, Vaughn, Vander Molen, Tanis, Postmus, Morgan, Mayhue, Mast, Koorndyk, Klein, Horton, Hiddema, Bulkowski, Boelema Agee, Chair Morren – 18.

Nays: 0.

#### REPORTS

There were no reports.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

##### Subcommittee

Commissioner Koorndyk said that, at Commissioner Mayhue's request, a committee has been formed to look into the effect of the recent U.S. Supreme Court's decision on eminent domain and a report will be sent to the full Board.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 8:55 a.m., Commissioner Mayhue moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, August 11, 2005, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vaughn. Motion carried.

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David J. Morren, Chair

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Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk