

KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Thursday, December 15, 2005
Administration Building - Room 310

Meeting called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Chair David J. Morren.

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

Absent: Rolls, Vaughn – 2 (Excused).

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kristi Sallie, 2321 Kent Blvd, Grand Rapids – Her mother (Annie Mae Sallie) was a Kent County employee for 25 years. She reiterated again that doctors were responsible for her mother's death.

Mona Sallie, 2321 Kent Blvd, Grand Rapids – Commented on not knowing what she can or can't say during public comment. She reiterated that her mother was killed in the hospital; it is grounds for investigation and asked once again what the Board of Commissioners is going to do about it.

Clyde Sallie, 2321 Kent Blvd., Grand Rapids – Said that he will appear before every meeting until something is done about his wife's death.

(Chair Morren stated that Board of Commissioners has requested from the Sallie Family a copy of the autopsy report and will not respond until that report is received and reviewed.)

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Employee Service Awards

Chair Morren presented the following employees with service awards:

Central Services	Robert Burch	25 years
Circuit Court	Gail VanTimmeren	25 years
	Douglas Dok	25 years
	Jack Roedema	30 years
	Kenneth VanWoerkom	35 years
	Facilities Management	Lawrence Conrad
Friend of the Court	Lawrence Groggel	30 years
John Ball Zoo	Andrea Perry	25 years

Public Works	Alan Ream	25 years
Sheriff's Department	Jon Hess	25 years
	Joseph Glynn	25 years
63 rd District Court	Honorable Steven Servaas	35 years

Proclamation

Commissioner Postmus presented a proclamation to retired Department of Public Works Director, Curt Kemppainen, outlining his 27 years of dedicated service to Kent County.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of November 17, 2005 Meeting
- b) November 15 & December 6, 2005 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)
- c) Resolutions:

12-15-05-113 – JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLOCK GRANT / CIRCUIT

COURT – FAMILY DIVISION

WHEREAS, the federal government has made funds available through the State for local governments to increase the accountability of juvenile offenders and the juvenile justice system. The program was started in 1999, and is now in its sixth year of operation; and

WHEREAS, funding is determined according to a formula based on the governmental unit's justice expenditures and reported violent crime data. Previously, five local governments were eligible for funding: Kent County, and the cities of Grand Rapids, Kentwood, Walker and Wyoming. All five units cooperate in a regional program with the County acting as fiduciary. This year's proposal is a continuation of the arrangements and programs started in 2000; however, this year, under the State funding formula, only the County and the City of Grand Rapids qualify for funding; and

WHEREAS, the Family Division of Circuit Court proposes to use the funds to continue to support the Court-Community Policing Partnership. JAIBG funds will support a portion of the existing Juvenile Probation Officers to provide an accountability-based sanction program; and

WHEREAS, grant funds may only be used to pay for 90 percent of the program costs with remaining costs paid for by the participating units. The 2006 Budget was prepared using an estimated grant amount. Last month the Circuit Court received the annual allocation from the state, which requires an additional \$882 in County local match. Circuit Court has indicated the funds for the additional match will be available in their 2006 budget; and

WHEREAS, if grant funding ceases, the positions will be eliminated unless continuation funding is approved pursuant to the Fiscal Policy on Grants and Contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the grant application to the Michigan Department of Human Services for the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board appropriates an additional \$882 to

the 2006 Special Project Fund, and reduces the Circuit Court General Fund Budget by \$882 and increases the General Fund Transfers to Other Funds Budget by \$882.

12-15-05-114 – FALLASBURG DAM BUDGET AMENDMENT /
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, per Resolution 2-83-29, the County entered into a lease agreement on the property commonly known as Fallasburg Dam, with STS HydroPower, LTD., for the purpose of generating and selling hydroelectric power; and

WHEREAS, this facility was originally under the management of the Parks Department; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Department operations were transferred to the County Board of Commissioners on October 1, 2002, the management of this facility was transferred to Facilities Management; and

WHEREAS, according to the lease agreement with STS HydroPower, the County shall annually contribute \$4,000 plus interest, of the \$29,000 base rent, to an escrow fund or account to be used solely to pay the costs of maintenance and repairs; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, in 1983, annual contributions, interest, and maintenance expenses were accounted for in the General Fund resulting in a net balance of \$86,803; and

WHEREAS, since assuming the management of this facility, Facilities Management has deposited \$8,000 plus \$742 in interest to an escrow account in the Special Projects Fund; and

WHEREAS, Facilities Management requested the appropriation of \$95,545; \$86,803 from General Fund Reserves; and \$8,742 from Special Project Fund Reserves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners appropriates \$95,545 to the FY 2005 Facilities Management Fallasburg Dam budget in the Special Project Fund, \$8,742 from the Special Project Fund Reserves; and \$86,803 from General Fund Reserves.

12-15-05-115 – CLOSEOUT OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN THE BUILDING
AUTHORITY CONSTRUCTION FUND / FISCAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Building Authority Construction Fund accounts for construction projects of the Building Authority, such as the Family Court, the Correction & Detention Facility, the Courthouse, the Sheriff's Administration Building, and the Cooperative Extension Facility; and

WHEREAS, the capital expenditures associated with the Family Court, the Cooperative Extension, the Courthouse, and the Correction & Detention Construction Projects have been completed, leaving a balance of \$121,421.15 in the Building Authority Construction Fund; and

WHEREAS, Fiscal Services is requesting \$120,812.93 be transferred to the Building Authority Debt Service Fund to finance associated debt service expenses. The balance is to be transferred to the General Fund (\$489.99) and the Sheriff's Administration Building Project in the Building Authority Construction Fund (\$118.23).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners appropriates \$121,412.15 to the FY 2005 Correction & Detention Construction Project in the Building Authority Construction Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners appropriates \$120,812.93 to the FY 2005 Building Authority Debt Service Fund.

12-15-05-116 – CLOSEOUT OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2004A & 2004B / FISCAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners authorized the Series 2004A & 2004B bond issuance in the sum of \$10.5 million with resolution 8-26-04-79; and

WHEREAS, the projects financed by the issuance of these tax-exempt bonds include: the 82 Ionia acquisition; the Courthouse land acquisition; and the Monroe property acquisition; and

WHEREAS, the capital expenditures associated with the before mentioned projects have been completed, leaving a balance of \$216,377.51 in the Capital Improvement Bond Fund; and

WHEREAS, Fiscal Services is requesting the \$216,377.51 be transferred to the Capital Improvement Debt Service Fund to finance associated debt service expenses and to closeout the Capital Improvement Bond Fund; and

WHEREAS, the current available budget balance in the Capital Improvement Bond Fund is \$161,150.96, requiring an additional appropriation of \$55,226.55 to closeout the fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners appropriates \$55,226.55 to the FY 2005 Capital Improvement Bond Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners appropriates \$216,377.51 to the FY 2005 Capital Improvement Bond Fund.

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

Motion carried:

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

Nays: 0.

(Commissioner Agee left the meeting at this time.)

RESOLUTIONS

12-15-05-117 – 2006 DISCRETIONARY AND CURRENT UNMET NEEDS FUNDS / DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners annually allocates funds to the DHS to be awarded by the DHS Board following a review of proposals submitted by various community or social service agencies. Funds are separated into two categories; and

WHEREAS, programs funded by the Discretionary Funds are those that are not traditionally recurring expenses, and for which other alternative sources may be available, but which are not available at this time. The 2006 budget includes \$117,055 for this category. The DHS Board conducted a competitive review process for these funds in late 2005, and is recommending 14 programs for funding, totaling \$117,055; and

WHEREAS, programs included in the Current Unmet Needs category are those agencies and programs that annually receive assistance due to an absence of other funding sources, their ability to leverage significant other resources, or are in support of a cooperative effort of multiple funding sources. The 2006 budget includes \$329,200 for Current Unmet Needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners allocates \$446,255 in funding for human services programs as recommended by the Department of Human Services (DHS) Board.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Wahlfield, Morgan, Horton, Tanis, Hiddema, Boelema, Voorhees, Vander Molen, Postmus, Bulkowski, Mayhue, Koorndyk, Klein, Chair Morren – 15.

Nays: 0.

Abstain: Mast – 1.

12-15-05-118 – 17 MILE ROAD PROPERTY PURCHASE / FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, in 2003, Board Chair David Morren established an Administrative Building Task Force, comprised of Commissioners Wahlfield, Morgan, and VanderMolen, with several charges, one of which was to proactively develop and recommend a strategy for the future of the County Administration Building and other County facilities; and

WHEREAS, during the past several months, various sites have been looked at in terms of a potential location for a future North County Service Complex. Intensive efforts on the part of the task force have resulted in a recommendation to acquire property for the long-term needs of the County. This property is located, geographically, in the growing north sector of the County, on a major east-west artery, near the US-131 corridor; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this land acquisition is to enable the County to eventually consolidate County services on an owned site, which is more cost-effective than leasing; and

WHEREAS, water, sanitary and storm sewer exists on 17 Mile Road. The property is large enough to service the needs of the County for many years; and

WHEREAS, final closing of this purchase is subject to: 1) an acceptable Survey; 2) Title Work; 3) an acceptable Appraisal and 4) an acceptable Phase 1 Environmental Report

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the purchase of approximately fourteen acres of property on 17 Mile Road, east of US-131 for \$702,000, plus closing costs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that \$750,000 be reprogrammed from other project appropriations in the Capital Improvement Fund to the new CIP Project (North County Property) appropriation.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Wahlfield, Morgan, Horton, Tanis, Hiddema, Boelema, Voorhees, Mast, Vander Molen, Postmus, Bulkowski, Mayhue, Koorndyk, Klein, Chair Morren – 16.

Nays: 0.

12-15-05-119 – BYRON TOWNSHIP PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A DOWNTOWN

DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY / FISCAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, Byron Township has proposed to establish the boundaries of a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) District in the Township; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposal was held by the Byron Township Board on November 14, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the County of Kent contributes over \$1.8 million annually to tax increment authorities in the various units of local government within the County; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a new Downtown Development Authority and establishment of a tax increment financing district could result in an increase of the County's tax levy being captured by local governmental units in Kent County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Kent is required to assess the impact on the County's financial condition which would result from creation of this tax increment district; and

WHEREAS, Act 197, P.A. of 1975, as amended, provides that not more than sixty days after a public hearing, the governing body of the jurisdiction levying property taxes that would otherwise be subject to capture, may exempt its taxes from capture by adopting a resolution to that effect.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kent, that the County of Kent hereby exercises its option, pursuant to the provisions of Act 197, P.A. 1975, as amended, to exempt its property taxes from capture in the area proposed to be established as the Byron Township - Downtown Development Authority District which was the subject of the public hearing held on November 14, 2005; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Clerk of Byron Township as required by Act 197, P.A. of 1975, as amended.

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

12-15-05-120 – ACCEPT A STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT AND BUDGET AMENDMENT / SHERIFF

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of State Police – Emergency Management Division provides federal pass-through funds for homeland security programs; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds are to be used for improved prevention, response, and mitigation of terrorist-related incidents involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive agents as well as cyber attacks; and

WHEREAS, the County's grant, if approved, is allocated between State Homeland Security Program (\$1,693,599) and Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (\$629,075); and

WHEREAS, in addition to the above-referenced allocations, the County will receive pass-through funds for the Metropolitan Medical Response System Program (\$220,764), which will be administered by the Kent County Emergency Medical Services; and

WHEREAS, the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program funds are exclusively for the project expenses of this program; and

WHEREAS, the grant pays the salary of one Solution Area Planner position; and
WHEREAS, as a condition of the grants, the County will be responsible for all financial reporting; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is September 1, 2005, to March 31, 2007.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners accepts a State Homeland Security Grant from the Michigan Department of State Police; 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 County Administrator/Controller to sign all grant documents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates \$2,543,438 from the Michigan Department of State Police – Emergency Management Division to the Sheriff’s Emergency Management Budget – Special Projects Fund, contingent upon award and execution of a contract.

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

12-15-05-121 – LAND USE EDUCATOR POSITION – MSU EXTENSION /
ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE

WHEREAS, from 2003 – 2005, Kent County contracted with Kent MSU Extension to provide land use education including coordination of Smart Growth activities and administrative support for Purchase of Development Rights. The funding amounts for the three year period were prorated and in 2005, the County funded .75 percent of the Land Use Educator position salary; and

WHEREAS, as required by the Board of Commissioners, a cost-benefit analysis was conducted to determine the further need for the position. The review of the land use educator activities for FY 2003-05 and the performance indicators for this three year period demonstrates an accomplishment of many of the goals set forth in the 2002 Land Use Educator proposal including establishment of a solid framework for continued land use education in Kent County; and

WHEREAS, the Land Use Educator position has received a three-year grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation grant to fund .4 FTE for the purpose of co-coordinating a MSU Land Policy Program project to replicate the Kent County United Growth model throughout the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, MSU Extension has requested continuation of County funding for a .6 FTE Land Use Educator position for three years (FY 2006 – 2008) to continue land use education, coordinate United Growth activities, and provide administrative support for the PDR program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves a 3-year contract extension with MSU Extension for FY 2006 – 2008 to fund a 0.6 FTE Land Use Educator position.

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Thank you

Commissioner Koorndyk thanked Chair Morren for his leadership over the last several years.

Commissioner Morgan presented a proclamation to Chair Morren acknowledging his accomplishments and proclaiming December 15, 2005, David J. Morren Day in Kent County.

Chair Morren said it has been a privilege to serve as Chair of the Board of Commissioners and thanked his colleagues and County staff.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:42 a.m., Commissioner Horton moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Tuesday, January 3, 2006, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Molen. Motion carried.

David J. Morren, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk