

**KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

*Thursday, August 24, 2006  
Administration Building - Room 310*

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Meeting called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Chair Roger C. Morgan.

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

Absent: Agee, Voorhees – 2 (Excused).

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Trusock, 610 McKay Tower, Grand Rapids – As a judicial candidate for the newly created Circuit Court Judge position, he introduced himself as a local practicing attorney who has experience in civil, criminal and family law areas.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of August 10, 2006 Meeting
- b) August 15, 2006 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes  
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)
- c) Establish Public Hearing Date and Time -September 14, 2006, 7:00 p.m.  
Re: Proposed 2007 millage rates and 2007 budget
- d) Resolutions:

8-24-06-77 – HEALTHY KIDS – HEALTHY FAMILIES GRANT APPROVAL AND  
BUDGET APPROVAL / KENT/MSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

WHEREAS, the *Healthy Kids-Healthy Families* program is a family based program that addresses childhood overweight and the prevention of youth diabetes. The program will provide provision of in-home family based sessions and multi-family group education that address both the medical and psychosocial aspects of overweight children; and

WHEREAS, this program is an innovative collaboration in which MSU Extension, the MSU Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition and the MSU Department of Family and Child Ecology will partner with the clinical community in Kent County to implement a program with the goal of prevention or delay of obesity-related co-morbidities including early-onset diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular disease in youth ages 6 through 15; and

WHEREAS, the central premise of this project is that patient and family-centered programs, based on critical input from the target community, will produce optimal changes in health behaviors and health outcomes in at-risk populations; and

WHEREAS, MSU will be the employer of record for the positions. No County staff positions are involved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Kent County, Michigan does hereby accept funding from Spectrum Health for the Healthy Kids-Healthy Families Program and appropriates \$57,368 in grant funding to the Kent/MSU Cooperative Extension Budget (no County General Funds required).

8-24-06-78 – ACCEPT SECONDARY ROAD PATROL GRANT SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING AND BUDGET AMENDMENT / SHERIFF

WHEREAS, the County has received Secondary Road Patrol (SRP) funds for the past 27 years; and

WHEREAS, the SRP program provides supplemental funding for road patrol and accident prevention on secondary roads; and

WHEREAS, recently the State of Michigan notified the County that, due to revenues exceeding projections and a prior year carry-forward, a supplemental allocation of funds is available to local units of government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff Department has received notification that there is \$20,615 in supplemental funding available to Kent County; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff Department, if approved, is planning to use these grant funds to purchase new equipment to include radars, pursuit lights, and accident investigation equipment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Sheriff Department's request to accept supplemental funding for the Secondary Road Patrol and Traffic Accident Prevention Program Grant from the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates \$20,615 in grant revenues to the Sheriff's Department Special Projects – Secondary Road Patrol budget, contingent upon award and execution of a contract.

8-24-06-79 – INNOVATIONS IN GOVERNMENT AWARD / ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Emergency Needs Task Force (ENTF) was established in 1982 and is currently in its 25<sup>th</sup> year of operation; and

WHEREAS, this voluntary network of organizations, which includes representatives from public, private, faith-based and philanthropic organizations, has created a coordinated human service delivery system resulting in successful, coordinated multi-agency programs, braided funding, and effective new initiatives. These initiatives include, but are not limited to, the following: ACCESS food bank delivery system, utility shut-off delivery system, public/private single access medical transportation system, 10-year homelessness eradication planning, supportive housing development, and subsidized public housing coordination; and

WHEREAS, the Innovations in Government Award is sponsored by the Ash Institute at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government and is a significant force in recognizing and promoting excellence and creativity in the public sector; and

WHEREAS, the ENTF Coordinating Committee is recommending that the County apply for the Ash Institute Innovations in American Government Award to recognize its leadership in human service coordination and planning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the submittal of an application to the Ash Institute's Innovation in American Government Award for the creation and work of the Emergency Needs Task Force.

Motion by Commissioner Wahlfield, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, to approve the consent agenda items.

Motion carried:

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

Nays: 0.

## RESOLUTIONS

### 8-24-06-80 – APPROVAL OF AREA AGENCY ON AGING FY 07-09 MULTI-YEAR PLAN

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#### 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. Kent County annually contributes \$14,546 towards the match for operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, AAWM estimates that 53 percent of its Older American Act and Older Michiganian Act funds are paid to Kent County service providers and their Kent County clients. 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 approve the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan's Annual Implementation Plan for Fiscal Years 2007 – 2009.

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

8-24-06-81 – LAW ENFORCEMENT POSITIONS / AERONAUTICS

WHEREAS, the Department of Aeronautics and Human Resources is recommending the elimination of five Airport Law Enforcement Sergeant positions and the creation of four Airport Law Enforcement Supervisor positions and one Airport Security Coordinator (ASC); and

WHEREAS, the Supervisors, along with three-to-four Law Enforcement Officers (LEO's) will be grouped into four "squads". The Supervisors will provide statutory supervision of the officers on a 24/7 basis. The "squad" concept is expected to improve supervision, promotes teamwork and reduces overtime; and

WHEREAS, creation of the ASC position will improve communication and coordination with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA); and

WHEREAS, the Supervisors and the ASC will report to the Chief Airport Law Enforcement Officer, alleviating him of day-to-day supervision of LEO's and security coordination demands, allowing him to focus on managing the law enforcement section more effectively; and

WHEREAS, the newly created positions will be posted internally within the Airport Law Enforcement Section. External candidates will not be sought unless there is inadequate interest from qualified internal candidates. If a current Sergeant is not interested in, or is not selected for a Supervisor position, that individual will be placed in an open Law Enforcement Officer position; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisors, along with the ASC will be provided with an orientation and varied levels of training to assist them in transitioning to their new roles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the elimination of five Airport Law Enforcement Sergeant positions and to create four Airport Law Enforcement Supervisor positions and one Airport Security Coordinator (ASC) position within the Department of Aeronautics.

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

(Commissioner Vander Molen requested a roll call vote.)

Motion by Commissioner Vonk, supported by Commissioner Postmus, to amend the resolution by adding the words *a minimum of* (paragraph 2, second line, after the word "into") as follows:

WHEREAS, the Supervisors, along with three-to-four Law Enforcement Officers (LEO's) will be grouped into **a minimum of** four "squads." The Supervisors will provide statutory supervision of the officers on a 24/7 basis. The "squad" concept is expected to improve supervision, promotes teamwork and reduces overtime; and

Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to adopt resolution as amended carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Hiddema, Horton, Klein, Mast, Morren, Postmus, Rolls, Vander Molen, Vonk, Wahlfield, Chair Morgan – 12.

Nays: Bulkowski, Koorndyk, Mayhue, Tanis, Vaughn - 5.

8-24-06-82 – LABOR AGREEMENT – KCDSA CORRECTIONS OFFICERS / HUMAN RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the County of Kent and the Kent County Deputy Sheriff's Association representing the Corrections Officers have negotiated a labor agreement; and

WHEREAS, the agreement provides for a 2.0% increase to base wages (effective January 1, 2005) and a 1.5% increase (effective July 1, 2005), a 2.75% increase in 2006, a 2.75% increase for 2007, and a 2.75% increase for 2008; and

WHEREAS, the total addition to base salary costs over the life of the contract is \$3,868,074, and the total addition to wage-based benefit costs is \$565,398; and

WHEREAS, the annual base wage with scheduled increases is approximately \$14.1 million and the total four-year increase to salary and benefit costs is \$4,358,581; and

WHEREAS, the proposed contract has been ratified by the membership; and

WHEREAS, section 2.01 (o)(3) of the Kent County Employees' Retirement Plan will be modified to incorporate language agreed upon for calculation of final average salary in the case of a member of the KCDSA accruing service while on a Worker's Compensation leave.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the four-year labor agreement for the period January 1, 2005 – December 31, 2008, between the County of Kent and the Kent County Deputy Sheriff's Association representing the Corrections Officers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves amending the Kent County Retirement Plan to accommodate the agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners appropriates \$406,865 from the unreserved, undesignated General Fund balance which sum represents that portion of the settlement applicable to calendar year 2005 employee service.

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

Motion carried:

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

Nays: 0.

8-24-06-83 - COLDWATER / THORNAPPLE RIVER PROPERTY GRANT AGREEMENT / PARKS

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2005, the Board of Commissioners approved application to the MDNR Trust Fund Program for the purchase of the Coldwater/Thornapple River Property in Caledonia Township; and

WHEREAS, the estimated purchase price for the property is \$1.3 million. The final purchase price will be determined using the DNR appraisal process required by the grant process. DNR Trust Fund grant funds may be applied to purchase 74 percent of the appraised price. Caledonia Township is contributing \$100,000 toward the purchase price of the property; and

WHEREAS, the next step in the grant process is to approve and execute the Land Acquisition Project Agreement. Consideration of a finalized purchase price of the property will come before the Finance and Physical Resources Committee and the Board of Commissioners at a respective future meeting date; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement has been reviewed and approved as to form by Corporation Counsel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Kent County, Michigan does hereby accept the terms of the Agreement as received by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

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

Motion by Commissioner Koorndyk, supported by Commissioner Morren, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

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

Nays: Hiddema - 1.

#### 8-24-06-84 – POSITION CONVERSIONS – PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITIONISTS / HEALTH

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Community Health conducted a management evaluation of the Health Department's Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program. An outcome of this evaluation was the recommendation to use Registered Dieticians in the program to provide services to high-risk clients with nutritional needs. To address this recommendation, the Health Department is proposing to convert two vacant full-time Public Health Nurse positions to two full-time Public Health Nutritionist positions; and

WHEREAS, approximately 6,000 of the 21,000 participants enrolled in the WIC program are at high risk; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of salary and benefits for two Public Health Nurse positions (Teamsters, Step A) is \$124,064, and the total cost of salary and benefits for two Public Health Nutritionist positions (UAW, Grade 25 – Step 1) is \$126,908.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves converting two vacant full-time Public Health Nurse positions to two full-time Public Health Nutritionist positions in the Women, Infant and Children program.

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

#### REPORTS

Sports Commission Subcommittee

Commissioner Koorndyk reported that the Sports Commission Subcommittee continues to hold meetings and will submit its report to the Board in early October.

#### Building Task Force

Commissioner Wahlfield reported that the Task Force has been working on the 63<sup>rd</sup> District Courthouse for a year and a half. They have narrowed down the architects from twelve to two. Things are moving along well and he thanked Bob Mihos and Al Jano for their hard work and time.

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### Contract Bargaining

Commissioner Rolls stated that we need to be cognizant, when bargaining with our unions, that it is critical and imperative that we have facts and statistics for comparison.

#### Gun Amnesty Program

Commissioner Mayhue announced that yesterday, during a press conference, the Sheriff announced the gun amnesty buy back program for Kent County. The official kick off for buy-backs is September 7, 2006. However, the fundraising is going on now and monies can be deposited at all Fifth Third Banks.

#### Muscular Dystrophy

Commissioner Klein thanked Commissioners for their money pledges bailing her out of the Muscular Dystrophy lock-up fundraiser.

#### Congratulations

Chair Morgan congratulated Commissioner Mast on his re-election to the Michigan Association of Counties' board.

### ADJOURNMENT

At 9:16 a.m., Commissioner Wahlfield moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, September 14, 2006, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Postmus. Motion carried.

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Roger C. Morgan, Chair

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Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk