

KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

*Thursday, October 11, 2007
- Annual Meeting -
Administration Building - Room 310*

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Roger C. Morgan.

Present: Commissioners Boelema, Bulkowski, Dillon, Hennessy, Hiddema, Klein, Mayhue, Morren, Parrish, Rolls, Tanis, Vander Molen, Vaughn, Vonk, Voorhees, Wahlfield, Chair Morgan - 17.

Absent: Agee, Mast (Excused) - 2.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sidney Deans, 843 Dickinson SE, Grand Rapids – He questioned whether the needs of the average citizen are being met versus the County spending dollars for parks, trails and other “luxury” items. He is very concerned about the quality of water and the effect that potential leaching from landfills could have on ground water.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of September 27, 2007 Meeting
- b) October 2, 2007 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)
- c) Appointment to the Department of Human Services Board: Jerry Kooiman
- d) Resolutions:

10-11-07-102 – 2007 APPORTIONMENT REPORT / BUREAU OF EQUALIZATION

WHEREAS, the Finance and Physical Resources Committee has reviewed the supporting documents setting forth the necessary millage required by the several taxing jurisdictions in the County of Kent, townships, local school districts, intermediate school districts and community colleges; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has further examined the dollar requirements necessary to fund the assessments for drains and rejected taxes and finds them in proper order.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners does hereby certify the millage rates of these governmental jurisdictions and directs that the millage rates of the County of Kent, townships, local school districts, intermediate school districts and community colleges, and the dollar amounts for the drains and rejected taxes be spread on the respective township and city rolls; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize and direct the Chair and the Clerk of the Board to sign the millage rate certificates.

10-11-07-103 – ACCEPT GRANT FROM AREA COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING (ACSET) / FRIEND OF THE COURT

WHEREAS, for at least the last twelve years, the County has operated or been affiliated with the Work First (WF) program formerly known as Parents' Fair Share; and

WHEREAS, the objective of the WF program is to provide employment services for unemployed parents with child support obligations in Kent County; and

WHEREAS, in the past, the grant paid approximately 100% of the salaries and benefits for three existing positions; and

WHEREAS, this year it is projected that the grant funding at the 100% level will last through approximately July 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS, to fund the three positions for the whole year, it will cost approximately \$196,339 or \$24,531 more than the grant amount; and

WHEREAS, because the Fiscal Policy on Grants requires Board approval for continuation funding, FOC will submit a cost-benefit analysis and supplemental funding request on or before March 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the contract period is October 1, 2007, to September 30, 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts a grant from the Area Community Service Employment & Training agency, contingent upon award and execution of a contract; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriate \$171,808 from ACSET to the Friend of the Court Fund; 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 or County Administrator to sign the contract documents, as appropriate.

(Commissioner Dillon requested that Item C – Appointment to the DHS Board be removed from the consent agenda.)

Motion by Commissioner Boelema, seconded by Commissioner Klein, to approve the remaining consent agenda items.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Bulkowksi, Dillon, Hennessy, Hiddema, Klein, Mayhue, Morren, Parrish, Rolls, Tanis, Vander Molen, Vaughn, Vonk, Voorhees, Wahlfield, Chair Morgan – 17.

Nays: 0.

c) Appointments to the DHS Board: Jerry Kooiman

Motion by Commissioner Boelema, seconded by Commissioner Morren, that Jerry Kooiman be appointed to the Department of Human Services Board.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Bulkowksi, Dillon, Hennessy, Hiddema, Klein, Mayhue, Morren, Parrish,

Parrish,

Rolls, Tanis, Vander Molen, Vaughn, Vonk, Voorhees, Wahlfield, Chair Morgan – 17.

Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

10-11-07-104 – CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION GRANT FOR THE CHILDREN’S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE / HEALTH

WHEREAS, the Health Department has received notice that \$111,456 in grant funds are available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to expand the Children’s Environmental Health Collaborative to focus on environmental issues that affect children in Kent County; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds will be used to develop a three-year strategic plan, create a matrix of Kent County-specific environmental issues and their relative risk, form functional workgroups on specific toxics, implement a comprehensive education and prevention campaign regarding children’s environmental health issues, and develop three Grand Rapids-targeted projects that will be the focus of the Children’s Environmental Health Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, the grant will fund one full-time Public Health Program Supervisor position (UAW 26). This position will develop the infrastructure and enhance the capacity of the existing Children’s Environmental Health Collaborative by providing leadership and coordination to the collaborative. The total cost of salary and benefits for this position is \$68,918. In addition, the grant will fund \$19,047 to support existing staff in the supervision and completion of the grant objectives; and

WHEREAS, the remaining \$23,491 of grant funds will be used for supplies, travel, and contractual services; and

WHEREAS, the costs for this grant have been included in the Health Department’s 2008 budget; and

WHEREAS, in the event grant funding is eliminated, the position will be eliminated unless continuation funding is approved pursuant to the Fiscal Policy on Grants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners accept funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the Children’s Environmental Health Initiative and approves adding one full-time Public Health Program Supervisor position (UAW 26) subject to the Fiscal Policy on Grants.

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

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Bulkowksi, Dillon, Hennessy, Hiddema, Klein, Mayhue, Morren, Parrish,

Rolls, Tanis, Vander Molen, Vaughn, Vonk, Voorhees, Wahlfield, Chair Morgan – 17.

Nays: 0.

10-11-07-105 – APPROVAL OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND BUDGETING CONTRACT (CPBC) FOR FY 2008 / HEALTH

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Planning Budget Contract (CPBC) is an annual agreement between the State and the County to provide certain required Public Health services

including immunizations, infectious and sexually transmitted disease control, hearing and vision screening, and food protection, as well as several other state-funded programs; and

WHEREAS, funding for CPBC activities is consistent with last year's levels. However, due to the lack of an adopted budget by the State, budget amendment(s) related to the CPBC contract may be necessary as more certain funding levels become known; and

WHEREAS, revenues and expenses related to the CPBC agreement were used to prepare the Health Department's 2008 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Health Department's Comprehensive Planning and Budgeting Contract (CPBC) for FY 2008.

Motion by Commissioner Vander Molen, seconded by Commissioner Klein, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Bulkowksi, Dillon, Hennessy, Hiddema, Klein, Mayhue, Morren, Parrish,

Rolls, Tanis, Vander Molen, Vaughn, Vonk, Voorhees, Wahlfield, Chair Morgan – 17.

Nays: 0.

10-11-07-106 – LEPARD PRESERVE PARKING AND TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS / PARKS

WHEREAS, in 2003, 51.65 acres of land in Caledonia Township (at 76th and Broadmoor) was donated to Kent County with the expectation that the property would be used as a nature preserve and for outdoor education; and

WHEREAS, through Resolution 11-26-02-172, the Board of Commissioners accepted this donation with the understanding that Caledonia Township would commit funding for the development of parking and trails at the park; and

WHEREAS, cost estimates for the parking lot and interpretive trail total \$64,193; and

WHEREAS, on September 5, 2007, the Board of Trustees of Caledonia Township approved funding of \$64,193 to be provided to Kent County for parking and trail improvements; and

WHEREAS, a \$64,193 appropriation to the CIP Fund is required to proceed with development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the addition of the Lepard Preserve Improvement Project to the 2007 Capital Improvement Program, and to appropriate \$64,193 from Caledonia Township to the 2007 CIP Fund budget for the project.

Motion by Commissioner Vaughn, seconded by Commissioner Morren, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Bulkowksi, Dillon, Hennessy, Hiddema, Klein, Mayhue, Morren, Parrish,

Rolls, Tanis, Vander Molen, Vaughn, Vonk, Voorhees, Wahlfield, Chair Morgan – 17.

Nays: 0.

REPORTS

Downtown Development Authority

Commissioner Mayhue stated that the DDA's recent report indicates that, since 2006, 32 construction projects have been completed and, currently, there are \$1 billion dollars of construction projects underway. There is a proposal forthcoming to expand the Grand Rapids DDA district along with a plan that may reduce the tax burden in the area for participating units of government.

Chair Morgan thanked Commissioner Mayhue and stated the County will review the proposal when it is received and compare it to our established policy.

MISCELLANEOUS

Appointment Subcommittee

Chair Morgan announced that the Appointment Subcommittee meeting will follow this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:54 a.m., Commissioner Boelema moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, October 25, 2007, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Molen. Motion carried.

Roger C. Morgan, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk