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Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by County Clerk Mary Hollinrake.


Absent: None.

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair
Clerk Hollinrake opened nominations for Chair of the Board of Commissioners.
Commissioner Antor nominated Sandi Frost Parrish.
Nomination seconded by Commissioner Morgan.
Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, supported by Commissioner Agee, that the nominations be closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Sandi Frost Parrish.
Motion carried by voice vote.
Sandi Frost Parrish was declared elected Chair of the Board of Commissioners.

Chair Parrish thanked Commissioners for their confidence in her leadership. Because the Board of Commission is a dynamic group of individuals committed to serving Kent County and their constituents, she is proud to be serving with them. Kent County faces challenges shared by all levels of government today; the County will continue to approach these challenges with its usual rigor, thoughtfulness and discipline. We must lead, not react, in the face of new realities. Her hope is that a new found sense of innovation, which this Board certainly has the capacity to muster, will lead to solutions successfully positioning Kent County for its future. In this environment of uncertainty, organizations of all kinds must find ways of leveraging problems from opportunity. That means we must define new ways of thinking, acting and measuring. In the coming months she hopes to layout, with her colleagues, for the residents of Kent County, a framework of how the Board might act together to this end. The Chair thanked her fellow Commissioners.

Vice Chair
Chair Parrish opened nominations for Vice Chair.

Commissioner Hirsh nominated Stan Ponstein.
Nomination seconded by Commissioner Dillon.

Commissioner Rolls nominated Dean Agee.
Nomination seconded by Commissioner Voorhees.
Commissioner Bulkowski nominated Jim Talen.
Nomination seconded by Commissioner Synk.

First Vote for Vice Chair:

(Because there was no majority vote, a second vote required.)

Second Vote for Vice Chair:
Talen – Bulkowski, Talen – 2.

Dean Agee was declared elected Vice Chair of the Board of Commissioners.

Minority Vice Chair
Chair Parrish opened nominations for Minority Vice Chair.

Commissioner Dillon nominated Carol Hennessy.
Nomination seconded by Commissioner Vaughn.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, supported by Commissioner Agee, that the nominations be closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Carol Hennessy.
Motion carried by voice vote.

Carol Hennessy was declared elected Minority Vice Chair of the Board of Commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brenda Stringer, John Ball Zoo Society – Gave an update on the Zoo Society’s fundraising campaign which to date has raised $96,028 and thanked those who have contributed.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of December 15, 2009 Meeting

b) December 1 & 15, 2009 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)

Motion by Commissioner Antor, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

APPOINTMENTS

2010 STANDING COMMITTEES
Motion by Commissioner Agee, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, that the appointments by Chair to Standing Committees be approved. Motion carried by voice vote.

### 2010 CITIZEN APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

**Aeronautics Board**  
Joseph Tomaselli

**Agricultural Preservation Board**  
Carlton Blough

**Area Agency on Aging of Region VIII – Advisory Council**  
Frederick Deane

**Area Agency on Aging of Region VIII – Board of Directors**  
Albert Page

**Community Corrections Advisory Board**  
Tanda Newland

**Community Health Advisory Committee**  
Ron Koehler  
Joseph Moore  
Norine Mulvihill

**Community Mental Health Authority Board**  
Charles Brown  
Thomas Dooley  
Helen Hillman  
Larry Oberst  
Felicia Shabazz  
William Ver Hulst

**County Building Authority**  
Daniel Koorndyk  
Steve Pestka

**Foreign Trade Zone Board (Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon)**  
Daryl Delabbio

**Friend of the Court Advisory Committee**  
Scott Nibbelink  
Judy Ostrander  
Lupe Ramos-Montigny
Motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Voorhees, that the Citizen Appointments to Boards, Commissions, and Committees be approved.

Motion carried by voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Chair Congratulations
Commissioner Voorhees congratulated Chair Parrish and looks forward to their working together. He complimented her leadership and said he is committed to working his best to address all of these issues for the residents of Kent County.

Commissioner Antor echoed Commissioner Voorhees’ comments. He stated that the Board needs to keep in mind in 2010 to do the work of the people. He is looking forward to making significant changes and doing the best for the taxpayers of Kent County.

Commissioner Morgan wished Chair Parrish good luck.

Chair Comments
Chair Parrish acknowledged her brothers and sister, Chad, Tom, and Stormy, in the audience as well as friends, and thanked them for their support.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:56 a.m., Commissioner Antor moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, January 14, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vaughn. Motion carried.
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Morgan introduced Doug Sporte, Deputy Drain Commissioner, who gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Steve Black, 2470 Omega Drive, NE, Plainfield Township – Recently retired, Mr. Black announced that he will run for county commission in 2010.

2. Kris Trick, 480 Hayes, Marne (Ottawa County) – Concerned about a proposed bike trail that will connect the White Pine and Musketawa Trails. Currently, the plan shows the trail running along her 80 year old family farm. Ottawa County ruled that this plan was not feasible. However, they have been told that Kent County will put the trail in anyway. She is worried that their cattle could be subject to harassment, weight loss, and/or cross contamination. She invited Commissioners to visit their farm. She said it makes no sense that the Michigan Department of Agricultural told them that it would be illegal for them to build a beef farm next to a bike path, however, it is allowable to run a bike path through their cattle.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of January 5, 2010 Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

APPOINTMENTS

2010 BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

Aeronautics Board
Richard Vander Molen
Agricultural Preservation Board
Tom Antor
Lucille Janowiak

Area Agency on Aging of Region VIII – Advisory Council
Jim Vaughn

Area Agency on Aging of Region VIII – Board of Directors
Carol Hennessy

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Dick Bulkowski

John Ball Zoo Advisory Board
Gary Rolls

Millennium Park Architectural Advisory Review Board
Art Tanis

Pension Board
Roger Morgan

Public Works Board
Richard Vander Molen

2010 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS BY CHAIR

A.C.S.E.T.
Keith Courtade
Sandi Parrish (by virtue of office)
James Vaughn

County Township Liaison
Bill Hirsch

Grand Rapids – Kent County Convention / Arena Authority Liaison Committee
Brandon Dillon
Gary Rolls
Harold Voorhees

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council Transportation Division Policy Committee
Dick Bulkowski

Greater Grand Rapids Convention Bureau
Tom Antor
Sandi Parrish

Housing Commission
Lawrence Bergen

Human Services Committee
Sandi Parrish (by virtue of office)

Officers’ Compensation Commission
John Buchan
Dave Powers
Pension Board
Roger Morgan

Senior Millage Review Committee
Art Tanis
Harold Voorhees

The Right Place Inc.
Daryl Delabbio

VEBA Trust Board
Michelle Balcom
Amy Klapko

2010 SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Bargaining / Benefits Sub-Committee
Commissioners Parrish (Chair), Agee, Vonk, Hennessy, Bulkowski, Tanis
Staff: Daryl Delabbio, Don Clack, Tom Drenth, Jim Day

PDR Funding Sustainability Sub-Committee
Commissioners Talen (Chair), Antor, Hirsch, Synk
Staff: Mary Swanson, Dan Ophoff

Government Cooperation and Consolidation of Services Sub-Committee
Commissioners Agee – Vonk (Co-Chairs), Dillon, Hennessy, Hickey, Rolls, Talen, Voorhees
Staff: Daryl Delabbio

Pension Sub-Committee (Finance Committee)
Commissioners Voorhees (Chair), Hennessy, Morgan, Vander Molen
Staff: Daryl Delabbio, Steve Duarte, Don Clack

Transparency Sub-Committee (Finance Committee)
Commissioners Voorhees (Chair), Bulkowski, Hennessy
Staff: Daryl Delabbio, Steve Duarte, Craig Paull

Septic Sub-Committee (Legislative Committee)
Commissioners Antor (Chair), Dillon, Hirsch
Staff: Wayman Britt, Matthew VanZetten

Parks Sub-Committee (Legislative Committee)
Commissioners Rolls (Chair), Antor, Courtade, Synk
Staff: Mary Swanson, Roger Sabine

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION BOARD

Conservation Representative – Agricultural Preservation Board
Sister Lucille Janowiak

Motion by Commissioner Vonk, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the
Commissioner Appointments to Boards, Commissioners, Committees; Annual
Chair Appointments to Various Committees; Sub-Committee Appointments; and,
the Conservation Representative to the Agricultural Preservation Board be
approved.
Motion carried by voice vote.
MISCELLANEOUS

DPW Award
Commissioner Tanis announced that the Department of Public Works won the 2009 Community Partner of the Year Award from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), for the landfill methane gas outreach program at the South Kent Landfill.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:41 a.m., Commissioner Morgan moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, January 28, 2009, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vaughn. Motion carried.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair          Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Antor, Dillon, Vonk – 3 (Excused).

Invocation: Commissioner Rolls introduced Bob King, Associate Teaching Pastor – Ada Bible Church, who gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Brenda Stringer, Executive Director - John Ball Zoo Society – Thanked everyone who helped augment the Zoo’s budget this year by supporting the Zoo Society’s efforts to raise funds to purchase animal food and medical supplies. She introduced Zoo Society Board President, Robert Bell Jr., for a special announcement.

   Mr. Bell, joined by Chair Parrish and Zoo Director Bert Vescolani, thanked the members of the Zoo Society, friends at the County, zoo members, and anonymous donors for reaching their goal, and he presented a ceremonial check to the County for $100,000.

2. Tom Postmus, 1725 Leonard, Grand Rapids – 1) Thanked Commissioners for their vote on farmland preservation. As a former Commissioner, he chaired the Urban Sprawl Committee and to see this is wonderful. It will benefit Kent County tremendously. 2) He would like Commissioners to look at the septic and well inspection issue. We need a program that controls any problems. 3) He would like Commissioners to consider a dedicated millage for parks and recreation covering all of Kent County.

3. Gabe Hudson, Chair of the Agricultural Preservation Board – He is thankful for the new board members: Carl Blough, Commissioner Antor, and Sister Lucille Janowiak. He thanked Commissioners for the funding which will be spent wisely. More funds will be raised over the next few years. They are looking forward to multi-year donations from foundations and federal grants.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Appointed Board – Citizens Recognition
Chair Parrish thanked the following citizens for their service on County boards:

Chip Hurley – Agriculture Preservation Board (Jan 2007 – Dec 2009)
Sharice Purman – Community Health Advisory Commission (Jan 2008 – August 2009)
CONSENT AGENDA

1) Approval of the Minutes of January 14, 2010 Meeting

b) January 19, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Resolutions:

1-28-10-01 – SPECIAL PROJECT FUND REMONUMENTATION GRANT
   – BUDGET AMENDMENT / BUREAU OF EQUALIZATION

   WHEREAS, pursuant to State Statute (PA 345 of 1990 as
   amended), the State offers an annual grant to counties for providing survey,
   monumentation, and remonumentation of public land survey corners consistent
   with the County’s plan; and
   WHEREAS, the FY 2010 budget, as adopted by the Board of
   Commissioners (Resolution #12-15-09-142), included a $140,000 appropriation
   for the Remonumentation Grant; and
   WHEREAS, the Bureau of Equalization has since been
   notified that the actual Remonumentation Grant is $189,176; and
   WHEREAS, no Unreserved, Undesignated, General Fund
   reserves are required.

   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent
   County Board of Commissioners approves an additional appropriation of $49,176
   to the Remonumentation Program budget in the Special Project Fund.

1-28-10-02 – ACCEPT AN ELECTRONIC CRASH CAPTURE AND
   SUBMISSION GRANT FROM THE MICHIGAN OFFICE OF
   HIGHWAY SAFETY PLANNING / SHERIFF

   WHEREAS, the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning
   has approved $85,650 in federal funds for the Highway Safety Project “Electronic
   Crash Capture & Submission” grant; and
   WHEREAS, funding is contingent upon the availability of
   U.S. Department of Transportation Highway Safety Funds; and
   WHEREAS, the grant funds will be used for an automated crash
   reporting system to report car accidents electronically to the State of Michigan as
   required; and
   WHEREAS, the grant period is December 8, 2009, to September
   30, 2010.

   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent
   County Board of Commissioners accepts an Electronic Crash Capture & Submission
   grant from the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator/Controller to sign all grant related documents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates $85,650 from the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning to the Sheriff’s Budget – Special Projects Fund, contingent upon award.

1-28-10-03 – ACCEPT A 2008 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 purpose of the 2008 Homeland Security Grant Program is to prevent, deter, respond to and recover from incidents of national significance, including but not limited to, threats and incidents of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, the fiduciary of the grant funds has been West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) “Region 6” group made up of 13 counties; and

WHEREAS, WMSRDC has agreed to continue as the fiduciary for the grant and a new agreement needs to be signed by each county; and

WHEREAS, as of this time, the only funding that has been approved and accepted by the State is $156,918 for regional planning activities; and

WHEREAS, this funding is to pay for the “Regional Planner Position” allocated to Kent County who works in the Emergency Management Office; and

WHEREAS, the final document of the WMSRDC agreement will be approved by Corporate Counsel; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is January 1, 2010, to May 31, 2011.

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 the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator/Controller to sign all grant related documents; 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 hereby appropriates $156,918 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.

(Comesioner Ponstein requested that Resolution 1-28-10-1 be removed from the Consent Agenda.)

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, that the remaining Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:


Nay: 0.
WHEREAS, pursuant to State Statute (PA 345 of 1990 as amended), the State offers an annual grant to counties for providing survey, monumentation, and remonumentation of public land survey corners consistent with the County’s plan; and
WHEREAS, the FY 2010 budget, as adopted by the Board of Commissioners (Resolution #12-15-09-142), included a $140,000 appropriation for the Remonumentation Grant; and
WHEREAS, the Bureau of Equalization has since been notified that the actual Remonumentation Grant is $189,176; and
WHEREAS, no Unreserved, Undesignated, General Fund reserves are required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves an additional appropriation of $49,176 to the Remonumentation Program budget in the Special Project Fund.

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, seconded by Commissioner Voorhees, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

1-28-10-04 – PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS – FARM BUREAU AND FREY FOUNDATION GRANT / KENT/MSU EXTENSION

WHEREAS, in 2006 the Kent County Farm Bureau pledged a $10,000 matching grant for the Purchase of Development Rights; and
WHEREAS, as a result of the County’s 2010 General Fund appropriation to the Purchase of Development Rights Program, the Farm Bureau awarded $10,000 to the County at its December 22, 2009, meeting; and
WHEREAS, the Frey Foundation has awarded a $7,500 grant as a match to the Farm Bureau grant and other private contributions for PDR in Alpine and Sparta Townships; and
WHEREAS, in order to be accepted, the funds need to be appropriated to the Agricultural Preservation budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners accept and appropriate a matching grant of $10,000 from the Kent County Farm Bureau and $7,500 from the Frey Foundation for Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) in Alpine and Sparta Townships.

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

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

1-28-10-05 – PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS SELECTION CRITERIA AND APPLICATION CYCLE FOR 2010 / ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE
WHEREAS, the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Ordinance adopted by the Board of Commissioners in November 2002 established procedures for the administration of the PDR program. By ordinance, the Kent County Agricultural Preservation Board is responsible for much of the program administration with certain items presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Preservation Board has prepared 2010 selection criteria to be used to rank and prioritize PDR applications. Per the ordinance, the Board of Commissioners must approve the criteria; and

WHEREAS, this year’s selection criteria continues to focus on preservation efforts in areas with large blocks of agricultural land and considers factors such as irrigation/tiling, proximity to water and sewer, designation by townships as a priority area for preservation, collaboration with neighboring or contiguous parcels, parcels located in an agricultural district in which the township has taken steps to help minimize the overall residential density in agricultural areas, and the criteria expands the definition of unique environmental or physical characteristics to include certified organic farms; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Preservation Board intends to seek funding to preserve qualifying applications to the Michigan Agricultural Preservation Fund and the USDA NRCS Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program in 2010. All applications need to proceed through the County process in order to be eligible for submittal to the Michigan Agricultural Preservation Fund and Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program. The deadlines for submittal to the state and federal program for 2011 have not yet been announced. It is recommended that the County application cycle be from March 1 – April 30, 2010 to allow sufficient time to score and appraise priority properties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve the Kent County Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) selection criteria and to authorize an application cycle of March 1 – April 30, 2010.

Motion by Commissioner Rolls, seconded by Commissioner Hirsch, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

MISCELLANEOUS

Airport
Commissioner Agee stated that the airport has received good news including: 1) air service upgrades from Delta Airlines; 2) an announcement this afternoon on an additional significant service upgrade; and, 3) the new parking ramp usage is ahead of projections.

Commissioner Voorhees said that the SMART (Southwest Michigan Alliance of Region Three) Group held their quarterly meeting at the airport. This is truly a regional airport and not funded by the taxpayers of Kent County, but by all user of the airport services.

Commissioner Ponstein referred to a Press article on efforts to bring a low cost carrier into Grand Rapids. Being the second highest in air fares in the country is unacceptable to our citizens and our businesses. He is disappointed that Legislative Sub-Committee decided not to expand the Aeronautics Board membership. We at least need people from the business community, like Dick
DeVos, who feel that high air fares are unacceptable. Maybe the solution would be to replace one of the commissioner seats with a member from the community.

Commissioner Rolls said, on behalf of Commissioners Vonk (Legislative Chair) and Synk, that they have not taken the idea of expansion of the Aeronautics Board completely off the table. It has just been set aside for the time, but it is something that can be worked on over the next few months.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:01 a.m., Commissioner Rolls moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, February 11, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vaughn. Motion carried.

____________________________                ______________________________
Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair       Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Rolls, Tanis, Vander Molen, Voorhees - 4 (Excused).

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Eagle Scout – Graham Agee
Chair Parrish read a proclamation from the Board of Commissioners acknowledging Graham Agee’s achievements as an Eagle Scout and proclaiming February 11, 2010, Graham Agee Day in Kent County.

Corrections Facility Update
Sheriff Stelma said that the project funded by millage renewal approved by the public to replace the deteriorating structure is underway. Construction will begin in May 2010. He introduced Eric Hackman from Tower Pinkster to review the project details. (A copy of the power point presentation is on file in the Office of the County Clerk.)

Mr. Hackman explained that the jail project will raze and replace the 1950’s and 1970’s facilities, whose infrastructure has reached the end of its useful life, and will improve the safety of inmates and staff. The design calls for the replacement of 536 beds, energy efficient systems, video visitation and enhanced technology (safety and security). The neighborhood impact was taken into consideration including traffic, areas of construction and projected construction schedule.

Construction Schedule:
- May 2010 – begin construction
  - small addition / interior renovations
- December 2010 – begin jail construction
  - partial demo / construct addition
- June 2012 – occupy new jail
- September 2012 – demolition complete

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of January 28, 2010 Meeting
b) January 28, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) 2010 Legislative Priorities Report – Receive and File

d) Resolutions:

2-11-10-06 – APPROVE INCREASED FUNDING AND BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT’S NSP GRANT / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners adopted the Substantial Amendment to the FY 2009 Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan in November 2008 (Resolution # 11-20-08-105 for $3,912,796) for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP); and

WHEREAS, the NSP Notice published in the Federal Register on October 6, 2008, imposes certain limitations and requirements with respect to NSP program income that are based on the eligible use category of Section 2301(c)(3) and the date income is received; and

WHEREAS, the projected program income must be used for the category under which the income was generated including the purchase and rehabilitation of homes and residential properties that have been abandoned or foreclosed upon; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Department projects the receipt of at least $1,070,000 in program income from the use of NSP funds and is based on the projected resale of the first sixteen single family housing units in the NSP program. Additional program income will be realized as funds are re-allocated to developers to produce additional units; and

WHEREAS, ten percent of the program income received can be used for NSP planning and administration costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves receiving and appropriates an additional $1,070,000 to the Community Development’s Neighborhood Stabilization Program budget due to eligible use category program income.

Motion by Commissioner Agee, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

2-11-10-07 – PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS GRANT APPLICATION – GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION / KENT / MSU EXTENSION

WHEREAS, in October 2009, Kent/MSU Extension and the Agricultural Preservation Board inquired and were subsequently invited to submit a grant application to the Grand Rapids Community Foundation for the Purchase of Development Rights Program (PDR), and

WHEREAS, the grant amount requested is $300,000 over three years and will be used to fund PDR.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners recommends approval of a funding application to the Grand Rapids Community Foundation for the Purchase of Development Rights Program.
Motion by Commissioner Vaughn, seconded by Commissioner Bulkowski, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried by voice vote.

2-11-10-08 – PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS OPTION AGREEMENTS / KENT / MSU EXTENSION

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners approved the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Ordinance in November 26, 2002. In January 2009, the Legislative and Human Resources Committee approved selection criteria for the purchase of development rights by the County, and authorized the Agricultural Preservation Board to accept applications from landowners to participate in the program; and

WHEREAS, the County Agricultural Preservation Board received 34 applications for more than 3,900 acres from 13 townships; all 34 applications met criteria of the USDA Farmland Preservation Program, which can provide up to 50 percent of the cost of the development rights through a competitive grant program. Grant applications to the federal program are due February 17, 2010; and

WHEREAS, as of January 22, 2010, the Agricultural Preservation Program has identified funds for PDR on these six farms. In addition, the Agricultural Preservation Program has funds available to pay the cost of appraisals and option fees; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Preservation Board is recommending that options for the purchase of development rights be extended to six properties totaling approximately 631.5 acres of which 363 are located in Vergennes Township (Vern and Gay Nauta Living Trust, 74.5 acres, $134,000; Marsha A. Wilcox Trust, 60 acres, $126,000; Jacqueline E. and Ronald C. Rittersdorf Trust, 228 acres, $319,000), 138 acres located in Sparta Township (Gerald Lynn Kingsbury and Paul Howard Bettes, 138 acres, $276,000; ), 116 acres in Courtland Township (Max Cole Trust, 116 acres, up to $228,000 pending final appraisal); 15 acres in Lowell Township (Joseph L. Merriman and Susan E. Merriman, 15 acres up to $45,000 pending final appraisal) based on their compliance with the federal criteria, the County criteria, and the availability of matching funds; and

WHEREAS, the option agreement has been reviewed by Corporate Counsel and approved as to form.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners recommends to 1) offer an option for the purchase of development rights on the six properties as recommended by the Agricultural Preservation Board; 2) authorizes submission of a grant application for a maximum of 50 percent of the cost of the development rights from the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program; 3) authorize the exercise of the option and purchase the development rights on any lands approved for funding by the USDA’s Farmland Preservation Program and for which local match has been secured; and, 4) appropriate any federal grant funds received to the Agricultural Preservation Program in the Special Projects Fund of the 2010 Budget.

Motion by Commissioner Talen, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

2-11-10-09 – LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON STATUTORY MANDATES / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WHEREAS, the electorate of the State of Michigan passed an amendment in November 1978 to the State’s Constitution that required the State to fund mandates imposed on local units of government (often referred to as the “Headlee Amendment”); and

WHEREAS, the Headlee Amendment (Article IX, Section 29) states:

"The state is hereby prohibited from reducing the state financed proportion of the necessary costs of any existing activity or service required of units of Local Government by state law. A new activity or service or an increase in the level of any activity or service beyond that required by existing law shall not be required by the Legislature or any state agency of units of Local Government, unless a state appropriation is made and disbursed to pay the unit of Local Government for any necessary increased costs. The provision of this section shall not apply to costs incurred pursuant to Article VI, Section 18."; and

WHEREAS, the Headlee Amendment became effective on December 23, 1978; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature established the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates (LCSM) through P.A. 98 of 2007, as amended by P.A. 356 of 2008 and assigned the LCSM to identify mandates (including those involving reports) and the related cost of the mandates to local units of government, along with recommendations to resolve the unfunded mandates; and

WHEREAS, the LCSM issued a report in June 2009 entitled “Interim Report of the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates” that indicated, among other matters, that the State had failed to enact legislation enabling the Headlee Amendment and has not complied with the Headlee Amendment since its adoption in 1978; and

WHEREAS, the LCSM has completed its report in December 2009 entitled “Final Report of the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates” that reaffirms the Interim Report results and provides recommendations, including but not limited to:

• Drafted legislation and court rules that would mitigate unfunded mandates imposed on local units of government in the future.
• Proposed procedures that will prevent new unfunded mandates from being imposed on local units of government.
• Proposed procedures that would be corrective should unfunded mandates be imposed that include, among other requirements:
  o A submission of an action before the Court of Appeals to be heard by a special master in order to rule on whether the matter is a mandate and if the mandate is underfunded.
  o Require the Court of Appeals to rule on the above within six months of the filing.
  o Should the Court of Appeals not rule on the above within six months, the local unit of government would have no obligation to continue to provide the services until such time as the State complies with the Headlee Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties adopted a resolution of support for the recommendations contained in the final LCSM report in December 2009.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners supports the findings and recommendations in the interim and final reports of the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates and encourages the Governor, Legislature and Supreme Court to adopt and enact the recommendations cited in the final report; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the release of this resolution to be distributed to the Governor, Legislators, Supreme Court and local units of government legislative boards and executives located within Kent County.

Motion by Commissioner Dillon, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried by voice vote.

CLOSED SESSION

At 9:04 a.m., Commissioner Agee, seconded by Commissioner Bulkowski, moved that the Board of Commissioners meet in closed session for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiation connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement, as allowed by section 8 (c) of the Open Meetings Act.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

(Commissioner Morgan left the meeting at 9:25 a.m.)

At 9:55 a.m., Commissioner Agee, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, moved to go back into open session.
Motion carried by voice vote.

REPORTS

Airport
Commissioner Vonk reported on the airport: 1) last year, receipts were down 2% and for the month of January, outbound flights are up 20%, Delta alone was up 10,000 seats; 2) parking ramp is getting maximum use.

Septic Sub-committee
Commissioner Antor said that the Septic Sub-committee is receiving a lot of good input and he appreciates the staff’s work. This will be a long process. There is no easy fix, but they are working on it diligently and looking forward to coming up with a resolution.

MISCELLANEOUS

Happy Birthday
Commissioner Hirsch wished Commissioner Hickey a Happy Birthday.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:58 a.m., Commissioner Agee moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, February 25, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vaughn. Motion carried.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair
Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Morgan, Vander Molen, Vonk – 3 (Excused).

INTRODUCTION

Chair Parrish explained that the work session will be in three parts:

1) Budget Information – Steve Duarte (Fiscal Services Director)
   - Projection for 2011
   - 2011 Timetable

2) Collaboration – Daryl Delabbio (Administrator)
   - 2010 Update on Collaboration Activities
   - CRC Report

3) Board Priorities Discussion – Chair Sandi Parrish will facilitate

BUDGET INFORMATION

Administrator Delabbio introduced Steve Duarte, Fiscal Services Director, to review preliminary 2011 numbers.

Projection for 2011

Mr. Duarte reviewed the revenue and expenditures forecasts for the General Fund by Category (copy of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk). He touched on main revenue generators - property tax and revenue sharing - and explained that the current 2011 and 2012 projections will be re-looked at soon and may very well change.

Expenditures:

- Personnel costs are more than 53% of the budget.
- Group insurance is increasing 9% annually
- Pension contribution by the County will increase in 2011 & in 2012 even more
- The state has not paid its jail reimbursement since October. (Chair Parrish encouraged Commissioners to contact legislators on this.)

Mr. Duarte and Administrator Delabbio will look at all budget assumptions in the next few months.

Positive News:
Pension Board recommends increasing pension amortization from 15 to 25 years.
Investment returns were slightly better than forecasted.
We may be able to reduce the base upon which healthcare assessments are predicated.

2011 Preliminary Budget Timeline
Mr. Duarte reviewed the 2011 Preliminary Budget Timeline (copy of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk). The Board will have upcoming work sessions on:

- March 25th – Priority Planning
- September 9 – Present Administrative Recommendation 10/1 Funds (State) to Board
- October 14 – Present Administrative Recommendation 1/1 Funds (general County) to Board

COLLABORATION

2010 Update on Collaboration Activities
Administrator Delabbio presented a report (copy of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk) listing 85 current Kent County collaborations. This report shows examples of how Kent County interacts with local units of government within its boundaries.

Issues related to regional collaboration/consolidation can be technical, operational, statutory, political or cultural.

He also distributed the October 2009 CRC Memorandum (publication of the Citizens Research Council of Michigan) on Intergovernmental Collaboration between Kent County and the cities of East Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids, Grandville, Kentwood, Walker and Wyoming. CRC identified existing patterns of collaboration and opportunities to expand.

BOARD PRIORITIES DISCUSSION

Chair Parrish stated that the goals of the priority setting sessions are:

A) Where do we see the County in 5-10 years?
B) Identify top 5 priorities

Chair Parrish asked for ideas of what Commissioners see as the vision of the County for 10 years from now?

10 Year Vision
- Bigger budget
- Consolidation of infrastructure
- High quality of life; sense of place
- Recognize the endemic rising costs and that “efficiency” is limited (“cost disease”)
- Increasing property values i.e., property tax

Decreasing brownfield development and tax free areas
develop useless properties and reduce tax give aways
- Be proactive solving community issues (problem solving)
- Healthy community
- Successful PDR Program – good land use – walk ability
In decision making, consider ramifications, connective effect (anticipate consequences)

- Local first
- Uniform collective bargaining - i.e., same period of contracts, same benefits
- 100% transparency (& communication)
- Increase citizen participation – direct involvement
- Less privatization
- Create growth & demand
- Consolidate public safety
- Tie subcommittees into vision

2010 Sub-Committee Appointments

**Bargaining/Benefits**
Commissioners Parrish (Chair), Agee, Vonk, Hennessy, Bulkowski, Tanis

**PDR Funding Sustainability**
Commissioners Talen (Chair), Antor, Hirsch, Synk

**Government Cooperation and Consolidation of Services**
Commissioners Agee-Vonk (Co-Chairs), Dillon, Hennessy, Hickey, Rolls, Talen, Voorhees

**Pension** (under Finance Committee)
Commissioners Voorhees (Chair), Hennessy, Morgan, Vander Molen

**Transparency** (under Finance Committee)
Commissioners Voorhees (Chair), Bulkowski, Hennessy

**Septic** (under Legislative Committee)
Commissioners Antor (Chair), Dillon, Hirsch

**Parks** (under Legislative Committee)
Commissioners Rolls (Chair), Antor, Courtade, Synk

To get where we want Kent to be in 5-10 years, are we working on the right things? We need to identify five things in the vision list which are most likely to get us to where we want to be.

Priorities

1. Government cooperation & consolidation
2. Containing costs and improving efficiencies
   - How to contain rising personnel costs
3. County proactive problem solving - ID problems & solutions
   - healthcare - access to it
   - declining school systems
4. Economic Development
   *(Commissioner Rolls entered work session at 9:45 am)*
5. Reinvent Metro Council
6. Legislative priorities to help us accomplish our vision
7. Make high level visioning a part of many decision making processes.

   - Commissioner Hennessy pointed out that better land use seems to be a priority, but we have been looking at it piece meal, as evidenced by the several subcommittees that touch upon the subject. We need a more consolidated approach. Decide what is essential; what are our priorities.
- Commissioner Antor – We need to get out of the crisis management mode. Reduce the budget and force us to re-look at how we do business. We need radical changes or we will continue with the same processes and end up with the same results. We need to break patterns. Don’t expand county government just to reduce other governments.

- Commissioner Ponstein – thinks we’ve always cooperated; departments are efficient, the problem is dollars not efficiency.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:15 a.m., Chair Parrish adjourned the Priority work session until Thursday, March 25, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 9:00 a.m.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair
Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Ponstein gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Henry Hondorp (Brewer Park Condo Assoc.) 78 Brewer Park Circle, Gaines Twp – He asked Board to help with public access to Brewer Park. Since the park is closed for the winter, visitors park on their streets and walk into the park. They leave trash behind. The condo association is going to mark the area with private property no trespassing signs, but that may not cure the problems.

2. Commissioner Art Tanis – Announced that he will not seek re-election to the 6th District County Commission seat.

3. Sally Borghese (Citizens for Parental Rights) 1425 Bridget St NW, Grand Rapids – She believes that children who are being removed from their homes by Child Protective Services (“CPS”) should be adopted by relatives, and not sent to foster care. (Her granddaughter was adopted without her having the chance to adopt her.) She alleges that the Kent County Circuit Court - Family Division is part of the “corrupt business of child protective services.”

4. Denise Bruns (Citizens for Parental Rights), 3442 Buchanan SW, Wyoming – She is a victim of the court process. Her children were removed from her and placed with a pedophile, with a long history of child abuse. She asked the Board to evaluate CPS and the Kent County Circuit Court - Family Division.

5. Clyde Sims, 574 Jefferson Street, Grand Rapids – His grandchildren were removed from their parent’s home by CPS. CPS was negligent and insensitive throughout the removal process. The grandchildren were signed over to Mr. Sims, but later that day they were removed from his home due to his prison record. He asked the Board to review the CPS system.

6. Adrian Lewis, 417 Prince Street SE, Grand Rapids – She claims her children were kidnapped by CPS. In 1999, she was going through a difficult time and asked CPS for help and guidance. At which time, her children were removed from her home, returned and taken from her again in 2006, due to illness. She left Grand Rapids in 2006, but returned in 2008 and wanted to get her children back. She had another child in 2009, and that child was removed also. She asked the Board to investigate CPS.
7. Steve Black, 2470 Omega Drive, Plainfield Township – (former Sheriff Dept employee) Read from the Bible (Lk 18:1-5). He also quoted Abraham Lincoln and said that the Board of Commission is not “of the people or for the people.” He claims that the Sheriff Department Administration was “pervasive and godless.” He will frequent the Board meetings until he gets what he wants. (He did not say what it is he wants.)

8. Greg Dean (Oakfield Township Supervisor) – He is upset that the Kent District Library posted a “closed session” regarding the KDL director’s pay raise on a January meeting agenda. When he inquired as to the legality of holding a closed session he was told that it was a clerical error. The pay raise was voted down at the January meeting and it was to be revisited in March. He intended to attend the March meeting. However, a board member brought the matter up at the February meeting and the KDL director received a raise. He believes that the 1.5% raise was totally underhanded.

9. Shirley Bruursema, 946 Brownell Street, Grand Rapids – As Chair of the Kent District Library Board, she rebutted by saying that there was an error on the January agenda. The motion in January was to increase the director’s pay by 2% - which failed. At the January meeting, one member suggested that the issue be brought back up at the March meeting. However, at the February meeting, a board member moved to revisit the raise issue, which passed on a 5/2 vote for a 1.5% wage increase. She said that nothing illegal occurred.

10. Pastor Idella Williams, 1119 Burton SE, Grand Rapids – She called for an investigation of the Child Protective Services, D.A. Blodgett and Catholic Social Services. She claims that the agencies remove children for petty reasons and then move removed children from home to home, which is terribly disruptive. Children’s claims of molestation are not investigated. Some children need to be removed, but not all. Bring the children home.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Certified Government Financial Manager Month Proclamation
Chair Parrish read a proclamation from the Board of Commissioners acknowledging March 2010 as Certified Government Financial Manager Month.

Millennium Park Update
Ambassador Peter Secchia announced that, through an $800,000 donation from the DeVos family, a boathouse will be built in Millennium Park. The 11,000-square foot facility, the latest addition to the park, will be built late this summer. The boathouse will include restrooms, and will have non-motorized watercraft such as kayaks, canoes, rowboats and paddle boats for rent.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of February 11 Meeting & February 25, 2010 Work Session

b) March 2, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Resolutions:
WHEREAS, the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III requires communities to develop off-site emergency response plans for facilities and farms that have Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS); and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of State Police – Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division provides federal pass-through funds for Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness planning grant programs; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this grant is to reimburse communities for maintaining and developing new site plans, as well as the updating of previously submitted plans; and

WHEREAS, Kent County, through its Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), currently maintains 241 of these off-site plans and continues to look for new sites that may need plans; and

WHEREAS, if approved, the LEPC will use these funds to develop an estimated 13 new off-site response plans;

WHEREAS, this grant requires a 20% in-kind match which is covered by a portion of the LEPC coordinator’s salary; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is October 1, 2009, to September 30, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approve the Sheriff’s request to accept a Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator/Controller to sign all grant documents.

Motion by Commissioner Ponstein, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas:    Synk, Dillon, Vaughn, Talen, Bulkowski, Hennessy, Vander Molen, 
           Hickey, Agee, Hirsch, Voorhees, Courtade, Ponstein, Tanis, Rolls, 
           Morgan, Antor, Vonk Chair Parrish - 19.

Nays:    0.

RESOLUTIONS

3-11-10-11 – ALLOCATION OF RECOVERY ZONE FACILITY BONDS VOLUME CAP FOR THE OLD POST OFFICE PROJECT / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115 (2009) (the “ARRA”), the County has, pursuant to Resolution 8-13-09-89 adopted by the Board of Commissioners on August 13, 2009, designated the entire County as a “recovery zone” for the purpose of the issuance of recovery zone facility bonds; and

WHEREAS, for a project, as described in the ARRA, to be eligible for financing through the issuance of recovery zone facility bonds, it must be located in a “recovery zone” and receive an allocation of volume cap allocated to the County by the United States Department of Treasury (“Treasury”) and the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) for such bonds; and

WHEREAS, Treasury and the IRS have, pursuant to Sections 1400U-1(a), 1400U-2 and 1400U-3 of the Internal Revenue Code of
1986, as amended, allocated a volume cap of $54,857,000 to the County for the issuance of recovery zone bonds; and

WHEREAS, Christman Capital Investment Group, LLC (“Christman”) intends to undertake the historic renovation of the former Federal Building located at 148 Ionia Avenue, N.W., in the City of Grand Rapids to be used by Ferris State University as classrooms, galleries, offices and related uses (“The Old Post Office Project”); and

WHEREAS, The Old Post Office Project will be located in the recovery zone designated by the County and Christman has requested that a portion of the volume cap allocated to the County for recovery zone facility bonds in an amount not to exceed $12,500,000 be allocated by the County to The Economic Development Corporation of the City of Grand Rapids (the “GREDC”) for The Old Post Office Project to enable the GREDC to issue recovery zone facility bonds to finance a portion of the costs of The Old Post Office Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kent, Michigan:

1. That the County hereby allocates an amount not to exceed $12,500,000 of the recovery zone facility bonds volume cap it has received from Treasury and the IRS to the GREDC for The Old Post Office Project.

2. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith shall be and same are hereby rescinded.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried by voice vote.

3-11-10-12 – PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS GRANT ACCEPTANCE – GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION / KENT / MSU

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2010, the Grand Rapids Community Foundation approved a $300,000 grant application to be paid in $100,000 installments over the course of 2010, 2011, and 2012, providing certain matching fund requirements are met; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the County’s contribution of $275,000 in FY2010, the Foundation has authorized payment of the initial $100,000 for 2010; and

WHEREAS, the remaining $200,000 in the grant award is contingent upon the County’s contribution of at least $350,000 in each 2011 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners may consider funding of the Agricultural Preservation Fund for Purchase of Development Rights in each subsequent year’s budget process; if the required match funding is appropriated through the budget process, the subsequent installments will be brought to the Board for appropriation; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement as to form.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners accept a $300,000 grant award from the Grand Rapids Community Foundation for the Purchase of Development Rights Program, and to appropriate the first $100,000 installment to the Agricultural Preservation Program.

Motion by Commissioner Bulkowski, seconded by Commissioner Hirsch, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:
3-11-10-13 - BARGAINING UNIT CONCESSIONS / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the United States and the State of Michigan are experiencing the most serious economic challenges since the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, because of these economic challenges, Kent County has seen reductions in its major sources of revenue, including property taxes and state shared revenues; and

WHEREAS, the County has used reserves from previously-accumulated budget surpluses to balance the General Fund operating budget since 2002; and

WHEREAS, as part of its efforts to contain costs, since 2003 the Board of Commissioners as maintained a moratorium on creating new positions requiring General Fund support unless such positions resulted in reduced costs or a net increase in revenues; and

WHEREAS, since that time the County has annually worked to prepare a budget in which expenditures were in line with revenue projections, culminating in the recent budget year in which the County reduced the 2010 General Fund operating budget through a combination of service reductions, reductions in appropriations to the Capital Improvement Program, reductions in non-personnel related costs, and the elimination of 83 full-time equivalent positions; and

WHEREAS, in order to minimize service cuts and preserve positions in the 2010 Budget, two bargaining units agreed to delayed wage increases or furlough days and the Management Pay Plan employees did not receive merit increases or adjustments in salary; and

WHEREAS, continuation of existing programs and service levels will result in a projected operating deficit of $8.3 million in the 2011 General Fund Budget if current revenue and expenditure forecasts are realized, if wage/salary increases scheduled to take place on January 1, 2011 are implemented, and if $2 million in General Fund reserves are used; and

WHEREAS, $8.3 million represents approximately 5 percent of the County’s General Fund budget; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that in 2012, the County’s General Fund Budget will realize an additional budget deficit of $8.2 million if revenue and expenditure forecasts are realized, if wage/salary increases scheduled to take place on January 1, 2012 are implemented, and if an additional $2 million in General Fund reserves are used.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners does hereby direct County Administration to approach the collective bargaining units representing employees in Kent County for the purpose of renegotiating agreements and seeking concessions for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners encourages collective bargaining units to enter into labor agreement renegotiations with County Administration to minimize the number of employee layoffs and service reductions that will result because of the reduction to the major sources of County revenue; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to each of the collective bargaining units representing employees of Kent County.
Motion by Commissioner Synk, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion to amend resolution by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Ponstein, to add: “negotiate 2010 wages.”  (Amendment withdrawn.)

Motion to amend by Commissioner Dillon, seconded by Commissioner Voorhees, to remove (from NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED paragraph): “for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2011.”  
Motion carried by voice vote.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners does hereby direct County Administration to approach the collective bargaining units representing employees in Kent County for the purpose of renegotiating agreements and seeking concessions; and

Motion by Commissioner Courtade, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, to add: “any savings from wage concessions will be used for the sole purpose of saving jobs.”  
(Attorney Ophoff indicated that the Board cannot bind future boards as to how dollars can be spent.)  
(Amendment withdrawn.)

3-11-10-13 – BARGAINING UNIT CONCESSIONS / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the United States and the State of Michigan are experiencing the most serious economic challenges since the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, because of these economic challenges, Kent County has seen reductions in its major sources of revenue, including property taxes and state shared revenues; and

WHEREAS, the County has used reserves from previously-accumulated budget surpluses to balance the General Fund operating budget since 2002; and

WHEREAS, as part of its efforts to contain costs, since 2003 the Board of Commissioners as maintained a moratorium on creating new positions requiring General Fund support unless such positions resulted in reduced costs or a net increase in revenues; and

WHEREAS, since that time the County has annually worked to prepare a budget in which expenditures were in line with revenue projections, culminating in the recent budget year in which the County reduced the 2010 General Fund operating budget through a combination of service reductions, reductions in appropriations to the Capital Improvement Program, reductions in non-personnel related costs, and the elimination of 83 full-time equivalent positions; and

WHEREAS, in order to minimize service cuts and preserve positions in the 2010 Budget, two bargaining units agreed to delayed wage increases or furlough days and the Management Pay Plan employees did not receive merit increases or adjustments in salary; and

WHEREAS, continuation of existing programs and service levels will result in a projected operating deficit of $8.3 million in the 2011 General Fund Budget if current revenue and expenditure forecasts are realized, if wage/salary increases scheduled to take place on January 1, 2011 are implemented, and if $2 million in General Fund reserves are used; and
WHEREAS, $8.3 million represents approximately 5 percent of the County’s General Fund budget; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that in 2012, the County’s General Fund Budget will realize an additional budget deficit of $8.2 million if revenue and expenditure forecasts are realized, if wage/salary increases scheduled to take place on January 1, 2012 are implemented, and if an additional $2 million in General Fund reserves are used.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners does hereby direct County Administration to approach the collective bargaining units representing employees in Kent County for the purpose of renegotiating agreements and seeking concessions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners encourages collective bargaining units to enter into labor agreement renegotiations with County Administration to minimize the number of employee layoffs and service reductions that will result because of the reduction to the major sources of County revenue; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to each of the collective bargaining units representing employees of Kent County.

Motion to adopt resolution carried by voice vote.

APPOINTMENTS

Land Bank Authority
Motion by Commissioner Courtade, seconded by Commissioner Vander Molen, to appoint the following individuals to the Land Bank Authority: County Treasurer Ken Parrish (Virtue of Office); County Commissioner Stan Ponstein, City of Grand Rapids Commissioner Rosalynn Bliss; City Commissioner (Kentwood) Sharon Brinks; and Township Supervisor (Plainfield) George Meek. Motion carried by voice vote.

REPORTS

Public Works
Commissioner Tanis announced that the single stream recycling facility dedication will be held on Friday, August 20, 2010.

Downtown Development Authority
Commissioner Talen reported on upcoming Downtown Development Authority projects: 1) help fund “restaurant week”; 2) contribute to the repair of the Pearl Street Bridge; 3) repair work in Ah-Nab-Awen Park to fix a floodwall and walkway damaged by ice floes and annual spring flooding; 3) repair work on Lyon Street area by DeVos Place parking ramp.

MISCELLANEOUS

Low Bids/Buy Local First
Commissioner Dillon questioned a recent low bid for purchasing vehicles for the Parks Department. The bid went to a Detroit firm over a Kent County firm because that firm’s bid was $226 lower. He is in favor of “buy local first,” and believes had the local auto dealer known how close it was, he would have met that bid.

Tanis Announcement
Commissioner Ponstein asked Commissioner Tanis to reconsider his decision to retire as he is a valuable asset and provides outstanding service to his citizenry.
Buy Local First
Commissioner Courtaude supports “buy local first,” and thanked Commissioner Tanis for his service.

50 Most Influential Women of West Michigan Recognition
Commissioner Hennessy congratulated Chair Parrish and Clerk Hollinrake for being honored as two of “The 50 Most Influential Women in West Michigan” by the Grand Rapids Business Journal.

Brewer Park
Commissioner Hirsch commented that he has received numerous messages from constituents complaining about Brewer Park parking when the park is closed and its impact on the local neighborhood. County parks should be an asset and some are now becoming a liability. Commissioner Hirsch asked for consideration to transferring dollars into the parks operation fund to open the park.

Commissioner Vander Molen suggested creative thinking with regard to getting the parks’ locked gates open such as using volunteers from the condo association.

Commissioner Voorhees suggested creating “park patron partners” to help with the park hours of operation.

Vacant Positions
Commissioner Vander Molen asked if the County is still reviewing the filling of vacant positions, and, if so, he would like a report on how many positions have been closed.

ADJOURNMENT
At 10:18 a.m., Commissioner Ponstein moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, March 25, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Molen. Motion carried.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair
Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Morgan – 1 (Excused).

Invocation: Commissioner Courtade gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Traci Kornak, 6821 Scott Lake Trail, Belmont (Plainfield Township) – Concerned about a Road Commission project expected to change speed limits and add a center lane to Belmont Avenue. She stated that the Road Commission is not open and transparent and believes the meetings are manipulated to be closed to the public. She asked the Board to investigate this project and allow for public to have input.

2. Tim Rau, 6464 Belmont Avenue, Belmont (Plainfield Township) – He co-wrote the petition asking the Road Commission for another hearing on the Belmont Avenue project. Citizens have repeatedly told him that “you can’t fight the Road Commission.” He claims misconduct by Road Commissioners. He fears that residents are being coerced into signing permits and that Road Commission notices are not clear and complete.

3. Tom Cable, 6076 Blythfield Avenue NE, Rockford (Plainfield Township) – The proposed Road Commission project in Belmont calls for creating a three lane road that’s not needed or necessary. Residents are being told that if they don’t sign the permit, that their driveways will not sync up with the road.

4. Mark Wells, 5820 Belmont Avenue NE, Belmont (Plainfield Township) – He believes that the proposed Road Commission project is ridiculous and is being rammed down residents’ throats. He also believes that the application sent to the feds was fraudulent (they exaggerated the number of cars on the road daily).

5. Christine Wernetta, 6041 Belmont Avenue NE, Belmont (Plainfield Township) – Asked the Board to consider the safety issues with the proposed Road Commission project on Belmont Avenue. There are two schools and a childcare center on this road, with children crossing the road daily. The White Pine Trail crosses this road. There is already a speed problem and widening and straightening the road would only encourage higher speeds.

6. Linda Gerlasch, 5922 Belmont Avenue NE, Belmont (Plainfield Township) - Only learned of the Road Commission project in Belmont after it was a done deal. The day she learned of the project, she asked about the hearing and was
told that it would occur, but she never saw the notice. Citizens were never invited to weigh in. This activity forced them to request information through FOIA.

7. Kay Abromaitis, 632 Russwood Street NE, Grand Rapids – She has family who live in Belmont and the residents have not been included in the process. They were told that there had been a hearing but no one knew about it so no one showed up. Jupiter Avenue was designed for heavy traffic. She asked the Board to meet with citizens and the Road Commission regarding this project.

8. Don Zerial, 7377 Cascade Terrace SE, Cascade – He supports the residents of Belmont and wants the Board to investigate the behavior of the Kent County Road Commission.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Annual Treasurer’s Investment Report
Treasurer Parrish reviewed the Annual Investment Report (copy of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk).

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of March 11, 2010 Meeting

b) March 16, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Treasurer – Unknown Legatee Account

d) Treasurer – Cemetery Trust Fund

e) Resolutions:

3-25-10-14 – FACILITY USE – APPROVAL OF USE BY OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION / ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Facility Use Policy, requests for use of County-owned properties by an outside organization are subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the County has received a request to use County-owned property located for the display of artwork during the ArtPrize competition; and

WHEREAS, Facilities Management staff has identified three potential County-owned properties that are within the ArtPrize boundaries that may be suitable for art work display. These potential properties include: the North Monroe property, the clock tower area outside the Courthouse, and the lobby area on the Plaza level of 300 Monroe; and

WHEREAS, use of County-owned property is contingent upon ArtPrize, a hosting agency, or the artist covering all costs and potential liabilities associated with the use of County property and provision of acceptable indemnification and/or insurance for the protection of the County. County operations will continue during set-up, display, and removal of any artwork. Placement of art and location will be subject to final approval by County Administration; and

WHEREAS, all documents will be reviewed and approved by Corporate Counsel prior to their execution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the use of County-owned facilities for the display of
artwork during the ArtPrize competition and to authorize the County Administrator/Controller to sign the necessary agreements.

3-25-10-15 – DELINQUENT 2009 REAL PROPERTY TAXES / AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF "GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX NOTES, SERIES 2010" / TREASURER’S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kent (the "County") has heretofore adopted a resolution establishing the Kent County Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund (the "Fund") pursuant to Section 87b of Act No. 206, Public Acts of Michigan, 1893, as amended ("Act 206"); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Fund is to allow the Kent County Treasurer (the "County Treasurer") to pay from the Fund any or all delinquent real property taxes that are due and payable to the County and any school district, intermediate school district, community college district, city, township, special assessment district, the State of Michigan or any other political unit for which delinquent tax payments are due; and

WHEREAS, it is hereby determined to be necessary for the County to borrow money and issue its notes for the purposes authorized by Act 206, particularly Sections 87c, 87d and 87g thereof; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the total amount of unpaid 2009 delinquent real property taxes (the "delinquent taxes") outstanding on March 1, 2010, will be approximately $42,000,000, exclusive of interest, fees and penalties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kent, State of Michigan, as follows:

Authorization of Borrowing

Pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of Act 206, Public Acts of Michigan, 1893, as amended, and especially Sections 87c, 87d and 87g thereof, the County shall borrow the sum of not to exceed Forty Two Million Dollars ($42,000,000) and issue its notes (the "notes") therefor for the purpose of continuing the Fund for the 2009 tax year. The exact amount to be borrowed shall not exceed the amount of delinquent taxes outstanding on March 1, 2010, exclusive of interest, fees and penalties. The County Treasurer shall designate the exact amount to be borrowed after the amount of the 2009 delinquent taxes outstanding on March 1, 2010, has been determined.

Note Details

Pursuant to provisions of applicable law and an order of the County Treasurer, which order is hereby authorized, the notes may be issued in one or more series; shall be known as "General Obligation Limited Tax Notes, Series 2010" with a letter designation added thereto if the notes are issued in more than one series; shall be in fully registered form in denominations not exceeding the aggregate principal amounts for each maturity of the notes; shall be sold for not less than 98% of the face amount of the notes; shall bear interest at fixed or variable rates not to exceed the maximum interest rate permitted by applicable law; shall be dated, payable as to interest and in principal amounts, be subject to redemption in whole or in part prior to maturity, including any redemption premiums, and be subject to renewal, at such times and in such amounts, all as shall be designated in the order of the County Treasurer. Notes or portions of notes called for redemption shall not bear interest after the redemption date, provided funds are on hand with the note registrar and paying agent to redeem the same. Notice of redemption shall be given in the manner prescribed by the County Treasurer, including the number of days’ notice of redemption and whether such notice shall be written or published, or both. If any notes of any series are to bear interest at a variable rate or rates, the County
Treasurer is hereby further authorized to establish by order, and in accordance with law, a means by which interest on such notes may be set, reset or calculated prior to maturity, provided that such rate or rates shall at no time be in excess of the maximum interest rate permitted by applicable law. Such rates may be established by reference to the minimum rate that would be necessary to sell the notes at par; by a formula that is determined with respect to an index or indices of municipal obligations, reported prices or yields on obligations of the United States or the prime rate or rates of a bank or banks selected by the County Treasurer; or by any other method selected by the County Treasurer.

Payment of Principal and Interest
The principal of and interest on the notes shall be payable in lawful money of the United States from such funds and accounts as provided herein. Principal shall be payable upon presentation and surrender of the notes to the note registrar and paying agent when and as the same shall become due, whether at maturity or earlier redemption. Interest shall be paid to the owner shown as the registered owner on the registration books at the close of business on such date prior to the date such interest payment is due, as is provided in the order of the County Treasurer. Interest on the notes shall be paid when due by check or draft drawn upon and mailed by the note registrar and paying agent to the registered owner at the registered address, or by such other method as determined by the County Treasurer.

Note Registrar and Paying Agent
The County Treasurer shall designate, and may enter into an agreement with, a note registrar and paying agent for each series of notes that shall be the County Treasurer or a bank or trust company that is qualified to act in such capacity under the laws of the United States of America or the State of Michigan. The County Treasurer may from time to time designate a similarly qualified successor note registrar and paying agent.

Disposition of Note Proceeds
The proceeds of the sale of the notes shall be deposited into a separate account in the Fund (the "2010 Account") and shall be used to continue the Fund. The County Treasurer shall pay therefrom and from unpledged funds in the Fund, uncommitted funds in the County General Fund and/or any other legally available funds, if the notes are sold at a discount, the full amount of the delinquent tax roll against which the County has borrowed, delivered as uncollected by any tax collector in the County and that is outstanding and unpaid on or after March 1, 2010, in accordance with the provisions of Act 206. If the notes are sold at a premium, the County Treasurer shall determine what portion of the premium, if any, shall be deposited in the 2010 Collection Account established in Section 6 hereof.

2010 Collection Account
There is hereby established as part of the Fund an account (hereby designated the "2010 Collection Account") into which account the County Treasurer shall place delinquent taxes against which the County has borrowed, and interest thereon, collected on and after March 1, 2010, all County property tax administration fees on such delinquent taxes, after expenses of issuance of the notes have been paid, any premium as determined pursuant to Section 5 hereof, and any amounts received by the County Treasurer from the County, the State of Michigan and any taxing unit within the County, because of the uncollectibility of such delinquent taxes. The foregoing are hereby established as funds pledged to note repayment. The County Treasurer shall designate the delinquent taxes against which the County shall borrow for each series of notes.
Note Reserve Fund

There is hereby authorized to be established by the County Treasurer a note reserve fund for the notes (the "2010 Note Reserve Fund") if the County Treasurer deems it to be reasonably required as a reserve and advisable in selling the notes at public or private sale. The County Treasurer is authorized to deposit in the 2010 Note Reserve Fund from proceeds of the sale of the notes, unpledged moneys in the Fund, uncommitted funds in the County General Fund and/or any other legally available funds, an amount not exceeding ten percent (10%) of the face amount of the notes.

Security for Payment of Notes

All of the moneys in the 2010 Collection Account and the 2010 Note Reserve Fund, if established, and all interest earned thereon, relating to a series of notes are hereby pledged equally and ratably as to such series to the payment of the principal of and interest on the notes and shall be used solely for that purpose until such principal and interest have been paid in full. When moneys in the 2010 Note Reserve Fund, if established, are sufficient to pay the outstanding principal of the notes and the interest accrued thereon, such moneys may be used to retire the notes. If more than one series of notes is issued, the County Treasurer by order shall establish the priority of the funds pledged for payment of each such series. In such case the County Treasurer may establish sub-accounts in the various funds and accounts established pursuant to the terms of this resolution as may be necessary or appropriate.

Additional Security

Each series of notes, in addition, shall be a general obligation of the County, secured by its full faith and credit, which shall include the County's limited tax obligation, within applicable constitutional and statutory limits, and its general funds. The County budget shall provide that if the pledged delinquent taxes and any other pledged amounts are not collected in sufficient amounts to meet the payments of principal and interest due on each series of notes, the County, before paying any other budgeted amounts, will promptly advance from its general funds sufficient moneys to pay that principal and interest. The County shall not have the power to impose taxes for payment of the notes in excess of constitutional or statutory limitations. If moneys in the 2010 Collection Account and the 2010 Note Reserve Fund, if established, are not sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the notes, when due, the County shall pay the same in accordance with this section, and may thereafter reimburse itself from the delinquent taxes collected.

Release of Pledge of 2010 Collection Account

Upon the investment of moneys in the 2010 Collection Account in direct non-callable obligations of the United States of America in amounts and with maturities that are sufficient to pay in full the principal of and interest on the notes when due, any moneys in the 2010 Collection Account thereafter remaining may be released from such pledge created pursuant to Section 8 hereof and may be used to pay any or all delinquent real property taxes that are due the County and any school district, intermediate school district, community college district, city, township, special assessment district, the State of Michigan or any other political unit to which delinquent tax payments are due for any year or for any other purpose permitted by law.

Sale of Notes

The County Treasurer is hereby authorized to offer the notes at public or private sale as determined by order of the County Treasurer and to do all things necessary to effectuate the sale, delivery, transfer and exchange of the notes in accordance with the provisions of this resolution. Notes of one series may be offered for sale and sold separately from notes of another series.
If the notes are to be sold publicly, sealed proposals for the purchase of the notes shall be received by the County Treasurer for such public sale to be held at such time as shall be determined by the County Treasurer and notice thereof shall be published in accordance with law, once in The Bond Buyer or the Detroit Legal News, both of which are hereby designated as being a publication printed in the English language and circulated in this State that carries as a part of its regular service, notices of sale of municipal bonds. Such notice shall be in the form prescribed by the County Treasurer.

The County Treasurer is hereby authorized to cause the preparation of an official statement for the notes for the purpose of enabling compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 (the "Rule") and to do all other things necessary to enable compliance with the Rule. After the award of the notes, the County will provide copies of a final official statement (as defined in paragraph (e)(3) of the Rule) on a timely basis and in reasonable quantity as requested by the successful bidder or bidders to enable such successful bidder or bidders to comply with paragraph (b)(4) of the Rule and the rules of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board.

Continuing Disclosure
The County Treasurer is hereby authorized to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of the County (i) a certificate of the County to comply with the requirements for a continuing disclosure undertaking of the County pursuant to subsection (b)(5) or (d)(2) of the Rule, as applicable, and (ii) amendments to such certificate from time to time in accordance with the terms of such certificate (the certificate and any amendments thereto are collectively referred to herein as the "Continuing Disclosure Certificate"). The County hereby covenants and agrees that it will comply with and carry out all of the provisions of the Continuing Disclosure Certificate. The remedies for any failure of the County to comply with and carry out the provisions of the Continuing Disclosure Certificate shall be as set forth therein.

Execution and Delivery of Notes
The County Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to execute the notes for the County by manual or facsimile signature and the County Treasurer shall cause the County seal or a facsimile thereof to be impressed or imprinted on the notes. Unless the County Treasurer shall specify otherwise in writing, fully registered notes shall be authenticated by the manual signature of the note registrar and paying agent. After the notes have been executed and authenticated, if applicable, for delivery to the original purchaser thereof, the County Treasurer shall deliver the notes to the purchaser or purchasers thereof upon receipt of the purchase price. Additional notes bearing the manual or facsimile signature of the County Treasurer and upon which the seal of the County or a facsimile thereof is impressed or imprinted may be delivered to the note registrar and paying agent for authentication, if applicable, and delivery in connection with the exchange or transfer of fully registered notes. The note registrar and paying agent shall indicate on each note that it authenticates the date of its authentication. The notes shall be delivered with the approving legal opinion of Dickinson Wright PLLC, attorneys of Detroit, Michigan.

Exchange and Transfer of Fully Registered Notes
Any fully registered note, upon surrender thereof to the note registrar and paying agent with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the note registrar and paying agent duly executed by the registered owner or his or her duly authorized attorney, at the option of the registered owner thereof, may be exchanged for notes of any other authorized denominations of the same aggregate principal amount and maturity date and bearing the same rate of interest as the surrendered note.
Each note shall be transferable only upon the books of the County, which shall be kept for that purpose by the note registrar and paying agent, upon surrender of such note together with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the note registrar and paying agent duly executed by the registered owner or his or her duly authorized attorney.

Upon the exchange or transfer of any note, the note registrar and paying agent on behalf of the County shall cancel the surrendered note and shall authenticate, if applicable, and deliver to the transferee a new note or notes of any authorized denomination of the same aggregate principal amount and maturity date and bearing the same rate of interest as the surrendered note. If, at the time the note registrar and paying agent authenticates, if applicable, and delivers a new note pursuant to this section, payment of interest on the notes is in default, the note registrar and paying agent shall endorse upon the new note the following: "Payment of interest on this note is in default. The last date to which interest has been paid is [place date]."

The County and the note registrar and paying agent may deem and treat the person in whose name any note shall be registered upon the books of the County as the absolute owner of such note, whether such note shall be overdue or not, for the purpose of receiving payment of the principal of and interest on such note and for all other purposes, and all payments made to any such registered owner, or upon his or her order, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 hereof shall be valid and effectual to satisfy and discharge the liability upon such note to the extent of the sum or sums so paid, and neither the County nor the note registrar and paying agent shall be affected by any notice to the contrary. The County agrees to indemnify and save the note registrar and paying agent harmless from and against any and all loss, cost, charge, expense, judgment or liability incurred by it, acting in good faith and without negligence hereunder, in so treating such registered owner.

For every exchange or transfer of notes, the County or the note registrar and paying agent may make a charge sufficient to reimburse it for any tax, fee or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to such exchange or transfer, which sum or sums shall be paid by the person requesting such exchange or transfer as a condition precedent to the exercise of the privilege of making such exchange or transfer.

The note registrar and paying agent shall not be required to transfer or exchange notes or portions of notes that have been selected for redemption.

**Book Entry System**

At the option of the County Treasurer and notwithstanding any provisions of this resolution to the contrary, the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with a custodian or trustee for the purpose of establishing a "book entry" system for registration of notes to be fully registered. Pursuant to the provisions of such agreement, the notes may be registered in the name of the custodian or trustee for the benefit of other persons or entities. Such agreement shall provide for the keeping of accurate records and prompt transfer of funds by the custodian or trustee on behalf of such persons or entities. The agreement may provide for the issuance by the custodian or trustee of certificates evidencing beneficial ownership of the notes by such persons or entities. For the purpose of payment of the principal of and interest on the notes, the County may deem payment of such principal and interest, whether overdue or not, to the custodian or trustee as payment to the absolute owner of such note. Pursuant to provisions of such agreement, the
book entry system for the notes may be used for registration of all or a portion of the notes and such system may be discontinued at any time by the County. The note registrar and paying agent for the notes may act as custodian or trustee for such purposes.

**Issuance Expenses**

Expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the notes, including without limitation any premiums for any insurance obtained for the notes, note rating agency fees, travel and printing expenses, fees for agreements for lines of credit, letters of credit, commitments to purchase the notes, remarketing agreements, reimbursement agreements, purchase or sales agreements or commitments, or agreements to provide security to assure timely payment of the notes, fees for the setting of interest rates on the notes and bond counsel, financial advisor, paying agent and registrar fees, all of which are hereby authorized, shall be paid by the County Treasurer from County property tax administration fees on the delinquent taxes, from any other moneys in the Fund not pledged to the repayment of notes and general funds of the County that are hereby authorized to be expended for that purpose.

**Replacement of Notes**

Upon receipt by the County Treasurer of satisfactory evidence that any outstanding note has been mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen, and of security or indemnity complying with applicable law and satisfactory to the County Treasurer, the County Treasurer may execute or authorize the imprinting of the County Treasurer's facsimile signature thereon and thereupon, and if applicable, a note registrar or paying agent shall authenticate and the County shall deliver a new note of like tenor as the note mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen. Such new note shall be issued and delivered in exchange and substitution for, and upon surrender and cancellation of, the mutilated note or in lieu of and in substitution for the note so destroyed, lost or stolen in compliance with applicable law. For the replacement of authenticated notes, the note registrar and paying agent shall, for each new note authenticated and delivered as provided above, require the payment of expenses, including counsel fees, which may be incurred by the note registrar and paying agent and the County in the premises. Any note issued under the provisions of this Section in lieu of any note alleged to be destroyed, lost or stolen shall be on an equal basis with the note in substitution for which such note was issued.

**Chargebacks**

For any principal payment date of the notes on or after January 1, 2013, the delinquent taxes on property foreclosed and sold pursuant to the provisions of Act 206 and against which the County has borrowed shall, if necessary to ensure full and timely payment of principal of and interest on the notes when due, be charged back to the taxing jurisdictions in such manner as determined by the County Treasurer. The proceeds of such chargebacks shall be deposited in the 2010 Collection Account as security for payment of the notes as described in Section 8 hereof. The provisions of this section shall not limit the authority of the County Treasurer under the laws of the State of Michigan to charge back delinquent taxes under other circumstances or at other times.

**Purchase of Notes by County**

All or any portion of the notes may be purchased or otherwise acquired by the County if the County Treasurer by order deems such purchase or acquisition to be in the best interest of the County. In such case, the County Treasurer is authorized to take such actions to effectuate the purchase or acquisition, including without limitation entering into an agreement to purchase or repurchase the notes. The purchase or other acquisition of notes by or on behalf of the County does not cancel, extinguish or otherwise affect the notes and the
notes shall be treated as outstanding notes for all purposes of this resolution until paid in full.

Issuance of Refunding Notes

The County shall refund all or part of the notes authorized hereunder and/or notes previously issued by the County to continue the Fund for prior tax years if and as authorized by order of the County Treasurer through the issuance of refunding notes (the "Refunding Notes") in an amount to be determined by order of the County Treasurer. Proceeds of the Refunding Notes may be used to redeem such notes and to pay issuance expenses of the Refunding Notes as authorized and described in Section 16 hereof. The County Treasurer shall have all the authority with respect to the Refunding Notes as is granted to the County Treasurer with respect to the notes by the other Sections hereof, including the authority to select a note registrar and paying agent, to apply to the Michigan Department of Treasury for approval to issue the Refunding Notes, if necessary, to cause the preparation of an official statement and to do all other things necessary to sell, execute and deliver the Refunding Notes. The Refunding Notes shall contain the provisions, shall be payable as to principal and interest and shall be secured as set forth herein and as further ordered by the County Treasurer. The Refunding Notes may be sold as a separate issue or may be combined in a single issue with other obligations of the County issued pursuant to the provisions of Act 206 as shall be determined by the County Treasurer. The County Treasurer is authorized to prescribe the form of Refunding Note and the form of notice of sale, if any, for the sale of Refunding Notes.

Form of Notes

The notes shall be in the form approved by the County Treasurer, which approval shall be evidenced by the County Treasurer's execution thereof.

Motion by Commissioner Courtade, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:


Nays:  0.

RESOLUTIONS

3-25-10-16 – APPROVE PSAP AGREEMENT WITH KENT COUNTY DISPATCH AUTHORITY / ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE

WHEREAS, in 2006, the County and the cities of Grandville, Grand Rapids, Walker, and Wyoming entered into an Agreement to establish the Kent County Dispatch Authority, and the Authority has since adopted a plan to consolidate the 911 call-taking function from five to two call-taking centers (Public Safety Answering Points); and

WHEREAS, the Authority has been working to prepare for the consolidation which has included: 1) purchase of a Computer Aided Dispatch System for installation at each PSAP; 2) purchase of a 911 Phone System which is capable of handling the increased call volume for both PSAPs and providing back-up call-taking ability; 3) expansion of the Kent County Communication Center; and 4) development of a three-party Agreement between the Authority, the City of Grand Rapids, and the County to reimburse each call-taking center for the costs of 911 call-taking from revenue generated from the local 911 surcharge; and
WHEREAS, pursuant to the Agreement, the County will be reimbursed a base rate of $967,500 for year one (July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011) of which the County will receive $577,750 in 2010 for the initial six months for training and administration; and
WHEREAS, on an annual basis, funding and staffing levels will be reviewed based on the agreed upon formula of base compensation and call-volume. In the event that the total cost of call-taking exceeds the funding from the Authority, these positions will be reduced according to the call-volume and staffing levels that are agreed to and fully reimbursed by the Authority; and
WHEREAS, the Agreement has been reviewed and approved by Corporate Counsel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the Agreement with the Kent County Dispatch Authority for Emergency 911 Call-Taking and authorizes the Board Chair to sign the Agreement; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that $562,750 be appropriated to the 2010 Sheriff General Fund Dispatch Budget, and accept $15,000 to the 2010 Dispatch Expansion CIP for reimbursement.

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, seconded by Commissioner Rolls, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

3-25-10-17 – ANIMAL SHELTER REORGANIZATION PLAN / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Kent County Animal Shelter's new facility opened to the public January 2009. The new facility is nearly three times the size of the former facility and can accommodate more animals. The demand for shelter services has increased with animal intake increasing by 16 percent and animal adoptions/reclaims increasing by 14 percent since the building's opening. The new facility includes a surgery suite designed for delivering spay/neuter services. State law requires that all animals adopted by the Animal Shelter be spayed/neutered and licensed before leaving the Shelter. The Animal Shelter currently contracts with local veterinarians for spay/neuter services along with a variety of other services including rabies vaccine administration and monitoring overall animal health; and
WHEREAS, many of the clients who adopt from the Animal Shelter must wait several days before their adopted pet can be scheduled for its spay/neuter surgery. This delay creates frustration for our clients who want to take their animal home after completion of the adoption paperwork. The addition of the 1 FTE Shelter Veterinarian (MPP C41) position will allow for the shelter to have animals spayed/neutered before they are placed up for adoption. By reducing the amount of time that an animal stays at the Shelter, additional animals can be processed and the amount of staff time and food costs per animal will also be reduced; and
WHEREAS, the Animal Shelter requests the Shelter Veterinarian (MPP C41) classification be created and that 1 FTE Shelter Veterinarian (MPP C41) and 2 FTEs Animal Specialists (UAW 14) positions be approved to accommodate spay/neuter services, provide rabies vaccines, monitor overall animal health and assist in cleaning and maintaining the Shelter. The Shelter also recommends that 1 FTE Kennel Supervisor (MPP B21) position (vacant) be deleted; and
WHEREAS, the Animal Shelter has established fees for spay/neuter services and rabies vaccinations. Based on 2008 service levels, which have been increased as a result of the new Shelter, the Shelter estimates it will generate an additional $71,693 in spay/neuter and rabies vaccination fees. Should the reorganization plan be approved, the Shelter will also reduce its current budgeted contractual veterinarian expense line item by $29,500 and salary and wage expenses by $67,360 for the elimination of the Kennel Supervisor position. Total revenue enhancements and cost savings under the proposed reorganization plan are $168,553. Additional staff costs for 1 FTE Shelter Veterinarian (MPP C41) position and 4 part-time (2 FTE) Animal Specialists (UAW 14) are $165,085. This change will result in a net annual additional savings of $3,468.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Animal Shelter’s reorganization plan, the creation and addition of 1 FTE Shelter Veterinarian (MPP C41) position, the addition of 4 part-time (2 FTEs) Animal Specialists (UAW 14) positions, and the deletion of 1 FTE Kennel Supervisor (MPP B21) position.

Motion by Commissioner Dillon, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried by voice vote.

3-25-10-18 – 911 EMERGENCY CALL – TAKING STAFFING PLAN RESTRUCTURE / SHERIFF

WHEREAS, in 2006, the County and the cities of Grandville, Grand Rapids, Walker, and Wyoming entered into an Agreement to establish the Kent County Dispatch Authority, and the Authority has since adopted a plan to consolidate the 911 call-taking function from five to two call-taking centers (Public Safety Answering Points); and

WHEREAS, the Authority has been working to prepare for the consolidation which has included: 1) purchase of a Computer Aided Dispatch System for installation at each PSAP; 2) purchase of a 911 Phone System which is capable of handling the increased call volume for both PSAPs and providing back-up call-taking ability; 3) expansion of the Kent County Communication Center; and 4) development of a three-party Agreement between the Authority, the City of Grand Rapids, and the County to reimburse each call-taking center for the costs of 911 call-taking from revenue generated from the local 911 surcharge; and

WHEREAS, the cost of salary and benefits for the new positions is estimated to be $390,039 in 2010. The Authority will reimburse the County $577,750 in 2010 pursuant to an Agreement approved by the Finance and Physical Resources Committee on March 16, 2010 which provides full funding for the staffing, administration, and training of the additional positions; and

WHEREAS, on an annual basis, funding and staffing levels will be adjusted based upon the agreed upon formula in the contract with KCDA.
In the event that the total cost of call-taking exceeds the funding from the Authority, these positions will be reduced according to the call-volume and staffing levels that are agreed to and fully reimbursed by the Authority.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners Board of Commissioners approves the staffing plan to perform 911 call-taking pursuant to an Agreement with the Kent County Dispatch Authority thereby 1) creating the job classification of Emergency Communication Supervisor II (ECSII) and adding one ECSII; 2) re-titling 4 existing Emergency Communication Supervisor (ECS) positions to Emergency Communication Supervisor I (ESCI) and adding two ECSI positions; 3) creating the job classification of Emergency Communication Officer I (ECOI) and adding 10.5 ECOI positions to perform 911 call-taking; and, 4) re-titling 24 existing Emergency Communication Officer positions to Emergency Communication Officer II (ECOII) to perform dispatching with all positions being a part of the Kent County Law Enforcement Association (KCLEA).

Motion by Commissioner Courtade, seconded by Commissioner Ponstein, that the resolution be adopted. Motion carried by voice vote.

REPORTS

Public Works
Commissioner Tanis announced that equipment is being installed at the single-stream recycling facility.

MISCELLANEOUS

Downtown Market
Commissioner Ponstein attended the press conference for the proposed downtown market. This is a long-term vision process but he believes it will be an asset.

Easter Egg Hunt
Commissioner Ponstein announced that the 20th Annual Grand Rapids Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 3rd at the John Ball Park. This event is sponsored by private contributions.

Road Commission
Commissioner Agee said that he would like to see the Road Commissioners & staff come to a Board of Commissioners meeting and tell their side of the story with regard to the Belmont project.

Commissioner Hirsch said that he is concerned about the Belmont/Road Commission issue. Wider roads cause increased speeds.

Commissioner Hickey said that he is bothered by the apparent lack of transparency with regard to the Belmont project.

Commissioner Vonk said that at the two meetings in January of the Road Commission, both had quorums.

Commissioner Courtade asked if counsel can look into the “openness,” or lack thereof, of the Road Commission’s Belmont project.

Chair Parrish said that she is gathering information on the Road Commission Belmont project. She thanked the Belmont residents for appearing today.
ADJOURNMENT

At 9:41 a.m., Commissioner Courtade moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, April 22, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Dillon. Motion carried.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 9:54 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Morgan – 1 (Excused).

INTRODUCTION

Chair Parrish explained that this work session is Part II of the visioning process. 19 Commissioners, each representing approximately 30,000 people, come to the table with different goals along with things the Board wants to accomplish collectively. There are more subcommittees operating now than ever. The Board owes it to the citizenry to communicate what its priorities are moving forward. A 10-year vision does not encumber future boards but, hopefully, as future boards look at it, they will retool it each year and make sure that they are on the path toward the goal.

OVERVIEW

At the February 25th work session, Chair Parrish asked Commissioners what direction they would like to see the County move in over the next 5-10 years and identify the top five priorities. As a result of that work session, a list was developed. Chair Parrish reviewed the list, met with staff and staff did some more work and this produced the “Kent County Vision for 2020” document (copy of which is on file in the County Clerk’s Office). Six priority areas came out of the work session:

1) Stable Revenues
2) Efficient Use of Resources
3) High Quality of Life
4) Proactive & Innovative Government
5) Citizen Participation
6) Safe Communities

BOARD PRIORITIES DISCUSSION

1. Stable Revenues
   - Bigger budget (higher costs)
   - Property taxes – get revenue back up to where it was
   - Brownfield Enterprise Zones (smart land use; fewer tax “giveaways”)
   - Statement: Kent County will have stable and predictable revenues to cover expenses.
2. Efficient Use of Resources
   – Containing costs and efficient government (Deal w/fixed personnel costs; develop innovative approaches; sell unneeded assets)
   – Workforce bargaining together
   – Unanticipated consequences to actions (Try to evaluate how actions will impact other initiatives or entities)
   – State takeover courts
     – Statement: Kent County will provide services through the most efficient means.

3. High Quality of Life
   – Create growth & demand
   – Healthy community
   – Local First
   – Successful PDR Program (Land Use Planning)
     – County as center (economic development & partnering w/business community)
     – Statement: Kent County will maintain a high quality of life that will be attractive to growth & development.

4. Proactive & Innovative Government
   – Regional cooperation (government cooperation & service consolidation - parks, courts, public safety/corrections, health)
   – Proactive problem solving (healthcare, health, access to healthcare)
     – Statement: Kent County will seek out innovative solutions and address issues systemically.

5. Citizen Participation
   – Greater voluntary citizen participation
   – 100% transparency – communications
     – Statement: Kent County will provide opportunities for citizens to be aware of, and involved in, County government.

6. Safe Communities
   – Statement: Kent County will be a safe community.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Chair Parrish asked Commissioners for additions to the above-listed six priorities or if there was anything else they would like added.

Com. Synk: Believes early childhood intervention is critical – prevention programs are important.

Com. Antor: Not a big fan of brownfield developments. He is not against development, but doesn’t want to give everything away just to get things moving.

Com. Tanis: Local governments give away too many tax abatements, and so it might behoove us to educate the locals as to tax abatements’ impact on the County.

Com. Talen: He is concerned with the funding of mental health services at the jail. How do we keep that going and enhance it? (Proactive & Innovative Government) This preventative program reaps cost savings in the future. We
are real short-sighted if we don't continue to address it. We have a model program at the jail now and we need to continue it.

The County has a history of having highly qualified and well-trained staff. He is concerned that with the financial situation some of those may get cut. He would like to see the County continue to have highly effective staff, since it is critical to how well county government runs. (Efficient Use of Resources)

Com. Bulkowski: Add partnerships under Citizen Participation. If “Kent County Vision for 2020” is to become a document on prioritizing, it would be beneficial to put in mandated and non-mandated services of government. He suggested that the Board break in groups of 3 and spend 10 minutes on each issue. Where do we go from here with the Vision for 2020?

Chair Parrish: Under Citizen Participation would be the Parks Department. We have a sub-committee looking at the establishment of a parks commission. We can do our best to list under Current Activities what are “mandated” and “non-mandated” services. This will be a document that, as Commissioners go out and talk with constituents, they would be able to say this is what the County is working on.

Com. Ponstein: Regarding “198s” and DDAs – he is all for 198s. In Grandville, 198s were never on existing buildings but on new additions to buildings. It is not a tax giveaway – the governmental entity gets 50% of the new money and that 50% level is reduced over 12 years. It is used as an economic tool in Grandville. He has a problem with DDAs because they are continually expanding.

Com. Voorhees: He hopes that the County is not looking to be the land use planners. There are so many independent organizations out there today with planning ideas. We should be looking at those entities as well as volunteer entities and not using any state or County dollars to bring about ideas on community growth. Parks – Can our Parks Department become the head of a regional parks area? That might produce some cost savings or revenue enhancement. Public Safety – we have three layers of the public safety officers - state, county and local. Do we need three layers? Could we better, as a county, serve the local communities by consolidation of public safety officers? Health Care – sees as more of a state obligation. Regarding state initiatives – no funds = no mandates. We can just say that without the funding, we can’t/won’t do it. Proactive/Innovative government – Do we have some obligations that we could spread out over several years (a way of lessening the impact on us)? In tough times, you take care of your present resources and you make investments in times when you can afford to.

Chair Parrish: On the regional parks and the consolidation pieces, we will be able to go as far as the citizens will be supportive. There is a lot of talk with regard to regional parks.

Com. Dillon: When we say “invest” it doesn’t necessarily mean additional dollars but may be investing additional staff time or redirecting resources from one area to another. The word “invest” doesn’t always mean dropping additional money into something.

Com. Talen: Under Citizen Participation, there is nothing new listed under “2010-2011 new initiatives” – have we come up with anything from these comments? At a NACO conference last summer, one session covered citizen participation in the budget process. We hold a public hearing but, in reality, it is pretty much completed by that time.
Chair Parrish: The main one is the creation of the parks commission. There is a sub-committee for that right now.

Com. Voorhees: Efficient Use of Resources – look to outsourcing. Kent County will maintain a performance management system. We can manage some of these services using local businesses or outsourcing where it is financially advantageous.

Com. Bulkowski: How do we have these conversations / what will the process be?

Chair Parrish: We need more input and take one more session where we can split into groups and have more discussion to build some consensus. There are a couple of issues that do split the Board but, for the most part, everyone is on the same page.

Com. Ponstein: It is good to look long term and to hear what fellow Commissioners think. We have to look forward but there are a lot of challenges in this year’s budget and he still doesn’t know where the other Commissioners are on it. There are a lot of tough decisions on that budget. It is great to look beyond and have a plan, but he is worried about this year and where we are as a Commission to tackle that problem.

Chair Parrish: The model that we are using is from the book Mastering the Rockefeller Habits, by Verne Harnish. It looks at not only where you want to be in 10 years, but what you're going to do in the next 90 days to get to where you want to be in 10 years. If we hold another session, we could easily do a nuts and bolts on what we are going to do right now and then talk about what does this look like for the future.

Com. Hennessy: Knowing what is mandated and what is not (discretionary) will become important to the 90-day outlook.

Chair Parrish: We will work with staff to develop another session out of which we can create a structure that can help us accomplish that. Last year was the first step towards thinking about how we are going to make decisions between competing interests with a shrinking budget.

Com. Hirsch: In 1977, the County got out of the planning business. Now, 6 cities and 21 townships all think inside their own borders without having a real vision for how they affect their neighbors or what the entire region is going to look like. One of his favorite quotes is: “If you fail to plan, you plan to fail.” At some point, the County ought to look at getting involved again in a regional plan. This isn’t to make government larger, it is to look at our infrastructure. Schools tug at his heart when Grand Rapids is facing their problems and we have rural schools that continually increase taxes to build out. It isn’t so much about spending money as where can we conserve it. Where do we not need to extend expensive services like sewer, water and roads. We need to look at the County as a region and how we are going to grow, where we are going to grow and what we are going to look like 10 – 20 years out.

Chair Parrish: Regional planning is another one of those issues which is getting a lot of conversation right now. When speaking on consolidation of services, Parrish is being asked what are you talking about?

Chair Parrish: Encouraged Commissioners to look at “Kent County Vision for 2020.” She will work with staff to create a process that allows for discussion on
those issues on which there is disagreement as it relates to the budget and to this document. She thanked Commissioners for their participation.

Com. Voorhees: Can the document be put on 2 pages instead of oversized as it is now?

Com. Tanis: We have issues coming up that could totally negate a lot of this discussion because we are at the mercy of the state, the federal government and local government. Our intentions may be good, but things can turn around real quick.

Com. Courtade: Could mandated services be identified along with some of the things that need to be looked at within the next 90 days?

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:35 a.m., Chair Parrish adjourned the Priority work session.

[Signatures]

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Hirsch gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Kim Ritz, YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids, 475 Lake Michigan Drive – Announced that the groundbreaking for the new Spartan Stores YMCA will be held on Tuesday, May 11, 2010. The new YMCA will be located in the Metro Health Village. The 96,000 square foot building will be LEED certified, and will serve southern Kent County. Construction is expected to be finished in the Summer of 2012.

2. Erika Childs, 3920 Egner Street, Cedar Springs – Read the following Disclosure Statement:

   I am taking this opportunity to speak to the citizens of Kent County regarding my intention to purchase property through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) administered by Kent County. Federal regulations state that there is a conflict of interest if a person with family ties to an employee who has any functions or responsibilities with respect to these activities receives a benefit from these activities. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) may grant an exception to the conflict of interest when two thresholds can be met. The first is that a disclosure of the nature of the conflict is made publicly and secondly an attorney’s opinion that the conflict of interest for which the exception is sought would not violate state or local law.

   First, the opinion from the County’s Corporation Counsel regarding violation of any state or local laws is as follows: It is the County’s opinion that, based on MCL 15.324, no state or local laws would be violated by my purchase of an NSP home.

   Second, in order to make this public disclosure, I will describe the nature of the conflict so that the public may fully understand. The Kent County Community Development Department implements the Kent County Neighborhood Stabilization Program. My mother is a Clerk III for the NSP program and is responsible for clerical duties, day-to-day payment of invoices to NSP developers, collection, organization and filing of property acquisition documentation. Additionally, she has been involved in program documentation, meeting with developers, analyzing pro formas, selecting houses for program inclusion and reviewing specifications that lead to contracts. I attended the Homebuyer
Training offered by Lighthouse Communities, Inc. which is one of the County's NSP developers.

The concern addressed in the federal regulations is that a person with functions with respect to program activities, like my mother, may not benefit from those activities nor may those with whom they have immediate family ties because of the possibility that such a person would take advantage of a circumstance not otherwise known by the public at large, or possibly come in to possession of inside information, again which is not known to the public at large, and would give an insider an undue advantage.

However, I qualify for the assistance through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program because my household income is less than 80% of the area median income. Because I fit the criteria for which an exception can be requested, the Kent County Community Development Department will request the exception to the conflict of interest regulation from HUD, as permitted by the federal regulations. HUD allows this exception, found at 24 CFR 570.611 (d) (2) (iii) in cases where the person affected is a member of a group or class of low-income persons intended to be the beneficiaries of the assisted activity, and the exception will permit such person to receive generally the same interests or benefits as are being made available or provided to the group or class. If approved, I will be able to purchase a home through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

3. John Weiss, Road Commission Chair – Updated the Board on the Belmont Project by saying that Plainfield Township has withdrawn its funding for the project. It is the Road Commission's intent to keep the $1 million of federal stimulus money in Kent County. He will keep the Board updated on the status of this project.

4. Commissioner James Vaughn – 1) Announced that he is running again for the 17th District County Commission seat; and, 2) Presented a check to Brenda Stringer, on behalf of the John Ball Zoological Society, in the amount of $3,200 (his pledge of 15% of his salary).

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Kent/MSU Cooperative Extension – Nutrition Update
Betty Blase said that the Cooperative Extension accepted a grant last summer from the Mississippi Food Network for a nutrition program called the Organwise Guys. The program was implemented this year in six elementary schools in the Grand Rapids Public School District. Students, Leah Dubbink and Elizabeth Buner, from East Leonard Elementary provided information on what they have learned about nutrition education.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of March 25, 2010 Meeting and Work Session

b) Resolutions:

4-22-10-19 – JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK GRANT / CIRCUIT COURT – FAMILY DIVISION

WHEREAS, since 1999, 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; and

WHEREAS, funding is determined according to a formula based on the governmental unit's justice expenditures and reported violent crime
data. According to 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. Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JBAG) 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; 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 approves the grant from the Michigan Department of Human Services for JABG and appropriates $58,925 to the 2010 JABG Special Project Budget including $3,871 from the Circuit Court.

4-22-10-20 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITIES, INC. AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners approved the acceptance of HOME Investment Partnership Program funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for Fiscal Years 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09; and

WHEREAS, the County’s Consolidated Housing and Community Development Strategic Plan, known as the Annual Action Plan, budgeted funds for FY 2006 through FY 2009 for the development of affordable rental units; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Agreement, if approved, will provide funding for the acquisition and rehabilitation of ten (10) rental units to benefit very low-income and low-income families earning less than 60% of Area Median Income (AMI); and

WHEREAS, the Agreement provides that the HOME funded rental units must remain as affordable housing, as defined by HUD, for a period of fifteen (15) years; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the grant of HOME Program funds to Lighthouse Communities, Inc., and authorizes the Board Chair and/or his or her designee to enter into an Agreement and execute all legal documents as may be necessary to consummate the transaction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby directs and authorizes the Community Development Director to administer the said contract, including making any minor amendments to the Agreement that may be deemed necessary from time to time, provided such amendments do not substantially alter the scope of the work, are in accordance with the Annual Action Plan as approved by the Board of Commissioners, and are approved as to form and content by the Corporate Counsel.
WHEREAS, the Health Department has received notice from the Nurse Family Partnership National Service Office that $63,754 in grant funds are available from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to assist in the implementation of the Michigan Nurse Family Partnership Program; and

WHEREAS, the Nurse Family Partnership Program provides intensive services to first time, low-income mothers to develop behaviors that enable them to have healthier pregnancies, be better parents, have emotionally and physically healthier children, and attain greater economic self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, funding must be used to provide direct services for the Nurse Family Partnership Program. Expenditures will include supplies, educational materials and staffing; and

WHEREAS, in the event grant funding is eliminated or decreased, the positions 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 hereby accepts $63,754 in funding from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation for the Nurse Family Partnership Program, and appropriates $63,754 to the FY2010 Health Department Budget.

WHEREAS, the Health Department has received notice from the Genesee County Health Department that $29,960 in mini-grant funds are available from a federal grant it received for the REACH project to expand and continue the Inter-conception Care (IC) program at the Kent County Health Department; and

WHEREAS, the Health Department’s IC program was implemented to address the infant health disparity and unacceptable poor birth outcomes in the African-American community. The IC program targets women whose most recent pregnancy resulted in an adverse outcome (fetal death, preterm birth, low-weight birth, or an infant death); and

WHEREAS, activities included in the IC program include recruitment of at-risk women, provision of dental care, encouragement through financial incentives for enrollment in a family planning program, and provision of medical and basic needs; and

WHEREAS, funding will be used to provide IC services at Cherry Street Health Services, including client incentives, supplies, travel and staffing; and

WHEREAS, in the event grant funding is eliminated or decreased, the services 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 hereby accepts $29,960 in funding from the Genesee County Health Department for the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Project and to appropriate $29,960 to the FY2010 Health Department Budget.
WHEREAS, the Health Department has received notice from MDCH that $171,930 in additional grant funds are available to the Health Department for two programs: $163,530 for the Women’s, Infant and Children’s (WIC) Program and $8,400 for Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) Peer to Peer program; and
WHEREAS, the additional $163,530 in WIC funding will be used to cover costs related to increased caseload and to increase the base rate per participant from $135 to $138 per year; and
WHEREAS, funding in the amount of $8,400 has been received to pilot the BCCCP Peer to Peer program. Peer educators are used to recruit women for screening services. With this funding, the Health Department will recruit and screen 60 women. Funding will be used to provide incentives to the peer educators and the clients who receive screening, and for other miscellaneous supplies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby accepts $171,930 in additional funding from the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), and appropriates $171,930 to the FY2010 Health Department Budget.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Human Services provides funding to counties to operate a Cooperative Reimbursement Program designed to establish paternity as well as to secure and enforce support orders; and
WHEREAS, the Prosecutor’s Cooperative Reimbursement Program will continue with 19 full-time positions; and
WHEREAS, the grant period is October 1, 2010, to September 30, 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approve the Prosecutor’s request to submit an application to the Michigan Department of Human Services for a FY 2011 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Grant; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event grant funding is eliminated or decreased, the positions 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 to sign all grant documents.

WHEREAS, the Drug Law Enforcement Fund accounts for assets seized from activities involved in the violation of controlled substances statues, Public Act 135 of 1985 (MCL 333.7523). Authorized expenditures include expenses of seizure, forfeiture and sale of property; and
WHEREAS, the FY 2010 budget, as adopted by the Board of Commissioners included a $168,803 appropriation for the Drug Law Enforcement Fund; and
WHEREAS, the Drug Law Enforcement Fund’s Federally Forfeited Property Program has reserves and any balance remaining must be
used to enhance law enforcement efforts. The Sheriff’s Department has two years to spend the seized funds; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff Department is requesting an additional $47,962 be appropriated to the Federally Forfeited Property Program budget in the Drug Law Enforcement Special Revenue Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the appropriation from the Sheriff’s Department Drug Law Enforcement reserves of an additional $47,962 to the Sheriff Department’s Drug Law Enforcement Fund budget.

(Commissioners Voorhees and Dillon, respectively, requested that Resolutions 4-22-10-20 and 4-22-10-21 be removed from the Consent Agenda.)

Motion by Commissioner Hirsch, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn, that the remaining Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:


Nays: 0.

4-22-10-20 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITIES, INC. AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners approved the acceptance of HOME Investment Partnership Program funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for Fiscal Years 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09; and

WHEREAS, the County’s Consolidated Housing and Community Development Strategic Plan, known as the Annual Action Plan, budgeted funds for FY 2006 through FY 2009 for the development of affordable rental units; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Agreement, if approved, will provide funding for the acquisition and rehabilitation of ten (10) rental units to benefit very low-income and low-income families earning less than 60% of Area Median Income (AMI); and

WHEREAS, the Agreement provides that the HOME funded rental units must remain as affordable housing, as defined by HUD, for a period of fifteen (15) years; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the grant of HOME Program funds to Lighthouse Communities, Inc., and authorizes the Board Chair and/or his or her designee to enter into an Agreement and execute all legal documents as may be necessary to consummate the transaction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby directs and authorizes the Community Development Director to administer the said contract, including making any minor amendments to the Agreement that may be deemed necessary from time to time, provided such amendments do not substantially alter the scope of the work, are in accordance with the Annual Action Plan as approved by the Board of Commissioners, and are approved as to form and content by the Corporate Counsel.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

4-22-10-21 – W.K. KELLOGG FOUNDATION GRANT TO SUPPORT THE NURSE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FOR FY 2010 / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Health Department has received notice from the Nurse Family Partnership National Service Office that $63,754 in grant funds are available from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to assist in the implementation of the Michigan Nurse Family Partnership Program; and
WHEREAS, the Nurse Family Partnership Program provides intensive services to first time, low-income mothers to develop behaviors that enable them to have healthier pregnancies, be better parents, have emotionally and physically healthier children, and attain greater economic self-sufficiency; and
WHEREAS, funding must be used to provide direct services for the Nurse Family Partnership Program. Expenditures will include supplies, educational materials and staffing; and
WHEREAS, in the event grant funding is eliminated or decreased, the positions 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 hereby accepts $63,754 in funding from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation for the Nurse Family Partnership Program, and appropriates $63,754 to the FY2010 Health Department Budget.

Motion by Commissioner Dillon, seconded by Commissioner Voorhees, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

4-22-10-26 – 2010 EQUALIZATION REPORT / EQUALIZATION

WHEREAS, the Kent County Bureau of Equalization has completed its review of the 2010 assessment rolls of the twenty-one (21) townships and nine (9) cities of Kent County; and
WHEREAS, the Director of the Kent County Bureau of Equalization recommends the adoption of the equalized value of real and personal property as follows:

Real Property:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>$313,882,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>4,749,084,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>1,545,245,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>14,114,465,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in compliance
with Section 211.34 M.C.I.A., 1984, as amended, the Kent County Board of
Commissioners does hereby approve the 2010 Kent County Equalization Report
attached to this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kent County Board of
Commissioners hereby appoints Matthew Woolford, Equalization Director, to
represent Kent County in matters of equalization before the State Tax
Commission pursuant to MCL 209.7.

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, that the
resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Yeas: Voorhees, Vonk, Vaughn, Vander Molen, Tanis, Talen, Synk, Rolls,
Ponstein, Morgan, Hirsch, Hickey, Hennessy, Dillon, Courtade,
Bulkowski, Antor, Agee, Chair Parrish - 19.
Nays: 0.

4-22-10-27 – COUNTY OF KENT – BUILDING AUTHORITY REFUNDING
BOND, SERIES 2010 CONTRACT OF LEASE

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the
County of Kent, Michigan (the "County"), has established the Kent County
Building Authority (the "Building Authority") pursuant to Act 31 of the Public Acts
of Michigan of 1948 (First Extra Session), as amended, MCL 123.951, et seq.
("Act 31"); and

WHEREAS, the Building Authority previously issued its
$10,325,000 Building Authority Bonds, Series 2001 (the "2001 Bonds") pursuant
to Act 31; and

WHEREAS, the Building Authority has determined to issue
bonds pursuant to Act 31 (the "Refunding Bonds") to refund a portion of the
outstanding principal of the 2001 Bonds because of a significant decline in
interest rates since such 2001 Bonds were issued; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of the
Refunding Bonds, it is necessary that the County and the Building Authority enter
into a certain contract of lease (the "Lease Contract") substantially in the form of
Exhibit A attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to pledge its limited full faith
and credit to meet its obligations under the Lease Contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of
Commissioners of the County of Kent, Michigan:

1. That the Lease Contract substantially in the form presented is hereby
approved and the Chair of the Board and County Clerk are hereby
authorized and directed to execute such Lease Contract for and on
behalf of the County in substantially the form approved with such
changes as may be necessary or desirable, are not materially adverse
to the County and as approved by bond counsel for the Refunding
Bonds, for and on behalf of the County.
2. That the County hereby expressly and irrevocably pledges its full faith and credit, subject to existing statutory and constitutional limitations, to meet its obligations in the Lease Contract to the extent and as provided therein.

3. That the Chair of the Board, Vice Chair of the Board, County Clerk, County Treasurer, County Administrator and County Fiscal Services Director, or any of them, are hereby authorized and directed to execute such additional certificates and other documents in a form approved by bond counsel for the Refunding Bonds in connection with the issuance of the Refunding Bonds.

4. That all resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be, and the same are, rescinded.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:


Nays: 0.

REPORTS

There were no reports.

MISCELLANEOUS

Earth Day
Commissioner Synk thanked Ken-o-sha Elementary School for inviting him to their Earth Day Cleanup activities.

Tipping Fees
Commissioner Ponstein commented on a letter received from Tommy Brann regarding waste tipping fees. Fees will decrease soon since the Waste-to-Energy Facility bonds will be paid off. He looks forward to the committee recommendation/report.

Local Preference Sub-Committee
Commissioner Dillon asked Commissioner Agee if there was an update on the Local Preference Sub-Committee yet. Commissioner Agee said that he will soon announce its members.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:10 a.m., Commissioner Hirsch moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, May 13, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Tanis. Motion carried.

[Signatures]
Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 9:17 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

OVERVIEW

Chair Parrish explained that this work session is Part III of the visioning process. Previous work sessions (February 25 & March 25) identified the direction the Board would like to see the County move in over the next 5-10 years and fine tuned that “direction.” The six priority areas are:

7) Stable Revenues
8) Efficient Use of Resources
9) High Quality of Life
10) Proactive & Innovative Government
11) Citizen Participation
12) Safe Communities

The purpose of this work session: 1) Determine if there is consensus on the six vision statements; and, 2) Affirm the identified Board Policies/Directives related to each.

BOARD PRIORITIES DISCUSSION

Chair Parrish asked Commissioners for their comments and/or concerns regarding any of the six vision priorities.

Changes/Comments

Com. Voorhees:
1. Stable Revenues
   Vision Statement: Kent County will have stable and predictable revenues to cover expenses.
   Comment: He is concerned that the emphasis is on establishing greater revenues rather than on dealing with expenses. Revenues may go up or down and we will have to deal with it.
   Suggested: Kent County will have budget expenses based on predicted revenues.

   Policy/Directive: Kent County will advocate for legislative solutions to address stable revenue.
   Comment: Add the word “state” since these are all state revenue funds i.e, Revenue Sharing, County Jail Reimbursement Program)
Suggested: Kent County will advocate for legislative solutions to address stable state revenue.

1. Efficient Use of Resources
   - Policy/Directive: Kent County will seek labor terms that preserve services.
   - Comment: Add the words “will reduce.” We need to look for the most efficient and effective way of providing services.
   - Suggested: Kent County will seek labor terms that will reduce service costs.

   - Policy/Directive: Kent County will maintain an annual budget whereby annual expenditures do not exceed annual revenues and available fund balance.
   - Suggested: Keep the same but move under Stable Revenues.

2. High Quality of Life
   - Policy/Directive: Kent County will invest in initiatives that promote economic growth and create demand.
   - Comment: Create demand for what?

3. Proactive & Innovative Government
   - Vision Statement: Kent County will seek out innovative solutions and address issues systematically.
   - Comment: Questioned the meaning of “systematically” as used in this statement.
   - Chair Parrish stated that “systematically” implies that we follow a process.

4. Citizen Participation
   - Vision Statement: Kent County will provide opportunities for citizens to be aware of, and involved in, County government.
   - Comment: Wants transparency added to this statement.
   - Suggested: Kent County will provide total transparency in all of its financial transactions and policy discussions.

5. 3. High Quality of Life
   - Comment: We need to invest in health and welfare of our community, but also for the health and welfare of future communities/generations. We want to have a happy and healthy life here.

   We might have conflicts within the different goals, i.e., if we want to invest in the health and welfare or something for economic growth, that could conflict with the Efficient Use of Resources. If we are limited to the income we have, we will never spend any of our savings, but spending our savings may promote economic growth. Sometimes we might have to choose between competing goals and we might need to hold off on accomplishing one goal in order to promote another goal.

   Com. Agee:
   - Comment: He would also like to see the transparency issue incorporated under the Citizen Participation, enabling citizen’s access to relevant information.

One of the strengths of Kent County has been that we’ve chosen carefully our “endeavors.” We try, where we can, not to compete with the private sector or other units of government. And so there is a little bit of restraint, but, when we do engage, we do so in a way that is meaningful and excellent. (Ex: Early Childhood Initiative – we’ve stayed out of getting into the education business, but the early childhood initiatives support the education initiatives. We’re thoughtful...
about where we get involved but when we do get involved we do a really good job.

Com. Hennessy:
Comment: Advocating for our legislative priorities is something we work on, on an annual basis, and we might want to put in under Stable Revenues or High Quality of Life.

She is wary of the word “total” transparency.

2. Efficient Use of Resources
   Policy/Directive: Kent County will seek labor terms that preserve services.
   Comment: This does not seem to say enough or be clear enough. The whole idea of cooperation with other units of government was not in here. (Chair Parrish clarified that it’s under Proactive and Innovative Government.

Com. Talen:
2. Efficient Use of Resources
   Policy/Directive: Kent County will maintain a performance management system.
   Suggested: Kent County will maintain a performance management system that focuses performance on measurable community outcomes.
   Comment: That is something he’s desired for this County a long time. We don’t do it right now, but that is where he would like to see the County go.

Administrator Delabbio:
Suggested: Using the words “measurable outcomes” is broader – we want to look at measurable outcomes in the community and also within the organization.

Com. Talen
4. Proactive & Innovative Government
   Policy/Directive: Kent County will advocate for legislative solutions to make consolidation of services efficient and desirable.
   Comment: This policy/directive talks about legislative solutions but he would also like to focus on non-legislative.
   Suggested: Seek opportunities to consolidate services with other local units not just look for legislative solutions but let’s do the consolidation of services.

Chair Parrish suggested just deleting the word “legislative” to read: Kent County will advocate for solutions to make consolidation of services efficient and desirable.

5. Citizen Participation
   Policy/Directive: Kent County will provide access and information related to governmental functions.
   Comment: He would like to replace the word “provide” with “improve.” We need to try constantly to improve the level of citizen access.

Suggested: Kent County will improve access and information related to governmental functions.

Com. Dillon:
Comment: He likes Com. Talen’s comment about tying all of this to measurable community outcomes. No matter what your opinion of the six priorities is,
measurable outcomes should be the ultimate goal. The reason we want to make county government effective and efficient is so that we can improve the quality of life, make the standard of living higher and, offering more reasons for people to want to move here, live here, and, stay here.

The structure of the document, the fact that we are doing these in silos, is symbolic of what we shouldn’t do because all of the priorities are intertwined and the top issue should be High Quality of Life. At the end of the day, we can have the most efficient county government possible, a lean organization, the lowest taxes, and can still be providing services but if the indicators in the community are low, how can we even say we are being successful or meeting some vision that we’re setting for 10 years from now.

Suggested: Think of the priorities in a more circular way (not silos)... the focus is the quality of life and everything else we do should build up into that.

Com. Antor:
2. Efficient Use of Resources
Comment: All for being efficient, however, sometimes you can efficiently deliver programs that you don’t need. He wants to make sure we separate the two.
1. Stable Revenues
Comment: Agrees with Commissioner Voorhees with regard to the stable revenues. We need to make sure that we have the revenue and not guarantee to have it. We need to make sure that our programs are needed and not worry about funding programs we don’t need.

Com. Hirsch:
3. High Quality of Life
Comment: The big issue for him is Quality of Life. He would like to consider adding two words in the last paragraph... “Kent County will invest in programs/services to promote the long-term health and welfare of our community.” (This goes back to Commissioner Synk’s comment on a long-term vision.) He also agrees with Commissioner Dillon - that we could do a really efficient job with a lot of things - at the end of the day, what makes West Michigan and Kent County a great place, is our quality of life here over other cities in our state. If we let that slip away, everything else that we’re doing is going to be marginal.

Com. Bulkowski:
3. High Quality of Life
Vision Statement: Kent County will invest in initiatives that promote economic growth and create demand.
Comment: The word “invest” means more than just dumping money into programs and services. In a lot of cases, we are partners with folks like the Convention & Visitor’s Bureau, Zoo Society, Network180, etc., to try to address these issues.

Chair Parrish Suggested: Kent County will partner and invest in initiatives that promote economic growth and create demand.

Chair Parrish asked if anyone had issues with anything said today. She stated that Administrator Delabbio has drawn an interactive chart which will be incorporated into the final document. Chair Parrish commented on Commissioners’ suggestions.
Com. Vander Molen said that with regard to Com. Hirsch’s suggestion to put long-term on Quality of Life … he believes we could put long-term on every one of the issues.
Chair Parrish said that this is a ten-year plan, but, in terms of that statement, it says that we are not looking just at the next ten years but further out. Com. Synk’s comment on present and future generations can also get wrapped into that particular part.

Com. Courtade said that the Efficient Use of Resources Policy/Directive: Kent County will seek labor terms that preserve services – should not be changed.

Chair Parrish said that the reduced service costs is probably a separate bullet than being connected with the labor piece but also we could add the word “core” services to it – Kent County will seek labor terms that preserve core services.

Com. Morgan asked that we incorporate our mission statement and keep that in the forefront as we go through this process.
Chair Parrish said the final piece will have the mission statement on the top followed by the interactive vision.

Com. Voorhees said we need to always look for the most effective delivery of services along with the financial efficiency of it and not close out any options in delivering services in the county.
Chair Parrish said that a statement will be worked out before the final document is voted on in May, which will enable some email conversation. All suggestions will be taken into consideration.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:42 a.m., Chair Parrish adjourned the Priority work session.
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Lori Wiersma, 2047 Jefferson Drive SE, Grand Rapids – She asked Commissioners to support her candidacy for the 29th State Senate. A resident of Grand Rapids for 25 years, she currently lives in the Garfield Park neighborhood.

2. Steve Besser, 7124 Belmont Avenue NE, Belmont – He believes that the Belmont Road project illustrated a problem with government - lack of transparency. He would like to see the Road Commission change its notice policy so that the public is truly notified and has a chance to weigh in. He wants the Board of Commissioners to hold the Road Commission accountable, wants to comment on the Road Commission board vacancy at the end of the year, and, hopes that in the future when he emails a public official that the official responds.

3. Donald Zerial, 7377 Cascade Terrace SE, Grand Rapids – He referred to three items: 1) a letter dated August 10, 2009, addressed to Commissioner Sandra Frost Parrish (Exhibit 1) asking questions on certain tax incentives and tax increases; 2) a letter dated April 10, 2010, addressed to Chairperson Sandra Frost Parrish (Exhibit 2) with regard to Plainfield Township and the Kent County Road Commission; and, 3) information on a video advocating a Mexican revolt in America (Exhibit 3). (Copies of Exhibits are on file in the County Clerk’s Office.)

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Right Place, Inc. Update

Birgit Klohs, President of The Right Place, in her annual update of accomplishments and new goals announced that Grand Rapids is featured in this month’s Fortune Magazine. Business retention, expansion and attraction projects and prospects grew by more than 25% in 2009. A total of 4,198 jobs were created/retained, 1,200 companies assisted, and a total of $213,440,908 in capital investment. The Right Place, Inc. is in its 25th year. The strategic priorities include business development, strategic growth and global competitiveness. The success of its five-year plan requires a fully funded economic development organization.
CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of April 22, 2010 Meeting and Work Session

b) April 20, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Appointment to Veterans’ Affairs Committee – Leonard Stickney Jr.

Motion by Commissioner Agee, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

5-13-10-28 – AUTHORIZATION OF A SUMMER 2010 (JULY 1, 2010) GENERAL OPERATING PROPERTY TAX LEVY / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS / FISCAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCLA 141.412 and 141.413 notice of a public hearing concerning the 2010 County Budget was published in a newspaper of general circulation on November 9, 2009, and a public hearing concerning the budget was held on November 19, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners adopted a Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriation on December 10, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the budget as adopted requires the levy of 4.2803 mills for general operating purposes to be authorized for the 2010 summer tax billing which has a tax levy date of July 1, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby certifies a July 1, 2010, levy of taxation of 4.2803 mills for general operating purposes for the County of Kent and the County Clerk is directed to provide City/Township Treasurers with a certified copy of this resolution.

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

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

5-13-10-29 - KENT COUNTY EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT PLAN – AMORTIZATION PERIOD / HUMAN RESOURCES / PENSION BOARD

WHEREAS, the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan has been amortizing the unfunded actuarial accrued liability over a 15 year period; and

WHEREAS, County pension statute provides for amortization periods for the unfunded actuarial accrued liability to range from 1 to 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the amortization period for the unfunded actuarial accrued liability has an impact on the employer contribution rate as
determined each year by the actuary based on the plan's investment performance, benefits, demographics and actuarial probabilities; and
WHEREAS, a longer amortization period in a plan that is less than fully funded will stabilize the employer contribution rate over time; and
WHEREAS, in order to smooth the annual changes to the employer contribution rate for the plan, a longer amortization period has been discussed between the actuary, Gabriel Roeder Smith & Company, and the Pension Board of Trustees; and
WHEREAS, at their most recent meeting, the Pension Board of Trustees voted unanimously to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to increase the amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability to 25 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves increasing the amortization period of the Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability of the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan from 15 to 25 years.

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

Motion carried:
Nays: Antor – 1.

5-13-10-30 – KENT COUNTY EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT PLAN
AMENDMENT / HUMAN RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan has been amended from time to time since its adoption in 1948. The Plan was restated effective January 1, 2008; and
WHEREAS, the purpose of the amendment is to incorporate agreements made with the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Command Association, UAW - General and Courts, POLC-Captains and Lieutenants, Kent County Deputy Sheriff Association, Police Officers Association of Michigan and the POLC-Court Reporters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves Amendment 2010-1 (attached) of the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan to incorporate changes as the result of collective bargaining.

Motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
5-13-10-31 – RUEHS PARK LAND ACQUISITION – PATTISON PARCEL / PARKS

WHEREAS, Ruehs Park, located in Caledonia Township, is a popular County Park providing public access to the Thornapple River as well as picnic and playground facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Department has been in negotiations with the property owner for several years regarding this parcel, which is surrounded on three sides by county parkland. A small home on the property sits just 10-15 feet from the park border on the west side of the parcel. On its east side, the home is less than 40 feet from the Park’s parking lot; and

WHEREAS, purchase and acquisition of the parcel will make the park more functional for users and easier to manage for park staff; and

WHEREAS, the total purchase price of $60,000 is less than two times the State Equalized Value of the property and includes a life lease. No significant increases in maintenance or operating expenses are expected as a result of the acquisition; and

WHEREAS, the purchase is consistent with the County's Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in the Parks Acquisition and Development Project in the Capital Improvement Program Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the purchase of one 0.15-acre parcel with a house at 7564 68th St SE in Caledonia Township (PPN 41-23-10-129-011) from Richard and Mary Pattison for $60,000 plus closing costs up to $700; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Chair or her appointed designee are authorized to sign all documents required to complete this transaction in a form approved by Corporate Counsel.

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

Motion carried:


5-13-10-32 – TOWNSEND PARK SHELTER FEE ADJUSTMENT / PARKS

WHEREAS, in November 2009, the Board approved certain fee increases for the use of certain county park facilities, specifically Beach and Splash pad admissions, and campground and enclosed shelter rentals.

WHEREAS, since that time, the Parks Department was able to complete improvements to the historic open shelter at Townsend Park. This open shelter has traditionally been rented at a lower rate than other open shelters within the park system due to the lack of available electricity and water. The recently completed improvements included providing electricity and water to the site; and

WHEREAS, now that the amenities at the shelter are comparable to open shelters at other parks, the Parks Department recommends adjusting the fee to reserve the Townsend Open Shelter to be consistent with the fee charged for other similar facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves increasing the rental rate for the Open Shelter at Townsend Park from $90 to $130, effective with reservations made after May 13, 2010.
Motion by Commissioner Vaughn, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: Hennessy, Dillon, Synk - 3.

5-13-10-33 – KENT COUNTY VISION FOR 2020 / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WHEREAS, in February, March and April 2010, Kent County Board Chair Sandi Frost Parrish convened three work sessions of the Board of Commissioners to identify a Vision for the County of Kent in 2020; and

WHEREAS, in articulating a Vision for the County, the Board of Commissioners identified six key areas and six vision statements that can assist in developing policies, making budgetary decisions, and in providing programs and services for citizens of Kent County; and

WHEREAS, during the work sessions, the Board of Commissioners identified the following six key areas and six vision statements that define the Vision for Kent County in 2020:

- Stable Revenues: Kent County will have stable and predictable revenues to cover expenses; and
- Efficient Use of Resources: Kent County will provide services through the most efficient means; and
- High Quality of Life: Kent County will maintain a high quality of life that will be attractive to growth and development; and
- Proactive and Innovative Government: Kent County will seek-out innovative solutions and address issues systemically; and
- Citizen Participation: Kent County will provide opportunities for citizens to be aware of and involved in County government; and
- Safe Community: Kent County will be a safe community; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners asserts that these six vision statements are interrelated and support the County’s Mission; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners will seek to achieve the Vision for Kent County in 2020 by incorporating these statements into the annual budget process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby affirms the Kent County Vision for 2020, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners affirms the associated statements, policies and directives included in each of the six areas as outlined in the attachment hereto, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners directs the County Administrator to prepare the annual budget to achieve this Vision.

Motion by Commissioner Agee, seconded by Commissioner Voorhees, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Agee, to amend the resolution by changing the first key area and vision statement as follows:
• Stable Revenues: Kent County will have a budget that is stable and predicated upon available resources to meet expenditures; and

5-13-10-33 – KENT COUNTY VISION FOR 2020 / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, in February, March and April 2010, Kent County Board Chair Sandi Frost Parrish convened three work sessions of the Board of Commissioners to identify a Vision for the County of Kent in 2020; and
WHEREAS, in articulating a Vision for the County, the Board of Commissioners identified six key areas and six vision statements that can assist in developing policies, making budgetary decisions, and in providing programs and services for citizens of Kent County; and
WHEREAS, during the work sessions, the Board of Commissioners identified the following six key areas and six vision statements that define the Vision for Kent County in 2020:

• Stable Revenues: Kent County will have a budget that is stable and predicated upon available resources to meet expenditures; and
• Efficient Use of Resources: Kent County will provide services through the most efficient means; and
• High Quality of Life: Kent County will maintain a high quality of life that will be attractive to growth and development; and
• Proactive and Innovative Government: Kent County will seek-out innovative solutions and address issues systemically; and
• Citizen Participation: Kent County will provide opportunities for citizens to be aware of and involved in County government; and
• Safe Community: Kent County will be a safe community; and
WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners asserts that these six vision statements are interrelated and support the County’s Mission; and
WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners will seek to achieve the Vision for Kent County in 2020 by incorporating these statements into the annual budget process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby affirms the Kent County Vision for 2020, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners affirms the associated statements, policies and directives included in each of the six areas as outlined in the attachment hereto, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners directs the County Administrator to prepare the annual budget to achieve this Vision.

Motion to amend Resolution 5-13-10-33 carried by voice vote.
Amended Resolution 5-13-10-33 carried by voice vote.

REPORTS

Downtown Development Authority
Commissioner Talen reported on the following projects: 1) Lyons Square refurbishing (in front of the Welsh Auditorium) is postponed until 2011; 2) Caulkins Law Building will be re-furbished; 3) West Side - extension of sewer south to Butterworth; and, 4) creating on a vision plan for DDA.
John Ball Park
Commissioner Hennessy announced that the John Ball Park Arts and Crafts Fair is Saturday, May 15, 2010.

Aeronautics Board
Commissioner Vander Molen stated that Frontier Airlines’ inaugural flight is this weekend.
Commissioner Vonk announced that a bi-weekly newsletter recently began.

Single Stream Recycling Facility – DPW
Commissioner Tanis said that the recycling facility will begin testing in June.

Grand Valley Metro Council
Commissioner Bulkowski said that the Council had a strategic planning session on Tuesday. The final plan regarding its new direction will come out in July.

MISCELLANEOUS

Kelloggsville High School
Commissioner Hirsch spoke to a class at Kelloggsville High School recently and was inspired by their desire to help their community.

Bond Rating
Chair Parrish recently returned from the bond agencies’ meetings in New York and is proud to announce that the County will maintain its AAA rating.

Financial Overview
Administrator Delabbio said that Finance Director Steve Duarte will present the financial overview at the May 18, 2010, Finance Committee meeting.

Vision 2020
Chair Parrish thanked Commissioners for passing Kent County’s Vision for 2020. It will serve as an important guide in the months ahead.

Plainfield Township & Road Commission
Chair Parrish acknowledged that the proposed Belmont Project was frustrating for citizens. She closely monitored the situation and apologizes to any citizen who felt marginalized. She did not respond to individuals because of the desire not to triangulate.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:48 a.m., Commissioner Agee moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, May 27, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vaughn. Motion carried.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair   Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Hickey gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Chair Parrish indicated that Denny Heffron has been hospitalized and thoughts and prayers go out to Denny and his family at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Cindy Stek, 1274 White Pine Drive, Walker – Currently a Walker City Commissioner, she announced that she is a candidate for County Commission District 6.

2. Donald Zerial, 7377 Cascade Terrace SE, Grand Rapids – He referred to two items: 1) a letter dated May 27, 2010, addressed to Chair Sandi Frost Parrish (Exhibit 1) asking questions on the Plainfield Township/Road Commission/Belmont Avenue construction project; and, 2) an article on electric cars dated May 26, 2007 (Exhibit 2). (Copies of Exhibits are on file in the County Clerk’s Office.)

3. Mike Guswiler, 6880 Rex Drive, Plainfield - Executive Director of the West Michigan Sports Commission, announced the Meijer State Games of Michigan will be held in West Michigan during June 25-27, 2010. The opening ceremonies on Friday, June 25 at the Van Andel Arena will kick off the three-day, Olympic-style competition, which will attract 3,500 athletes from across the state for 15 different sporting events at more than two dozen West Michigan venues. Each year, nearly 500,000 athletes take part in nearly 40 state games competitions nationwide, drawing 1.2 million spectators and utilizing 100,000 volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Drain Commissioner Annual Report

Drain Commissioner Bill Byl presented the 2009 Annual Drain Commissioner Report (copy on file in the Office of the County Clerk). He highlighted the Waters Drain Improvement Project as a good example of intergovernmental cooperation. The Drain Commission office, along with the City of Grand Rapids, worked together to upgrade a portion of the city’s sewer/water system (photos before/after are shown on the 2009 report cover page). Presently, the Drain Commission is working on the Warner Drain Project in Byron Township, which will be concluded in early summer.
2010 Financial Overview
Steve Duarte, Fiscal Services Director, presented highlights from the 2010 Financial Overview (copy on file in the Office of the County Clerk.) In April, Kent County again received its AAA rating from bond agencies. The county’s taxable property value declined in 2010 by $800,000 and Kent County will likely see a drop in 2011 of at least 1%.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of May 13, 2010 Meeting

b) May 4 & 18, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Drain Commissioner Annual Report – Receive and File

d) Resolutions:

5-27-10-34 – INLAND LAKE LEVEL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR – PINE LAKE / DRAIN COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, an inland lake level has been established for Pine Lake pursuant to the Inland Lake Level Act, MCL 324.30701 et seq., Part 307 of the Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Drain Commissioner, as the delegated authority under Part 307, caused an inspection of the water control structure on Pine Lake to be performed by a licensed professional engineer on November 5, 2009 pursuant to the requirements of MCL 324.307822(1); and

WHEREAS, the inspection revealed the need for maintenance and repair of the water control structure in excess of $10,000.00; and

WHEREAS, MCL 324.30722(4) requires that an expenditure of more than $10,000.00 for the maintenance and repair of a water control structure requires the approval by resolution of the Kent County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners finds the maintenance and repair of the water control structure on Pine Lake necessary in order to maintain the established lake level, and for the protection of the natural resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Drain Commissioner shall take all necessary steps to maintain and repair the water control structure consistent with the requirements of the Inland Lake Level Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Drain Commissioner shall prepare a computation of the cost of the project and prepare a special assessment roll consistent with the special assessment district boundaries approved by the Kent County Circuit Court.

5-27-10-35 – MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMPANION ANIMAL WELFARE GRANT FOR FY 2010 / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Health Department has received notice from the Michigan Department of Agriculture that $9,820 in grant funds are available to support the Animal Shelter in its efforts relating to the spaying and neutering of animals, and protecting and caring for animals that have been subjected to cruelty or neglect; and
WHEREAS, the Animal Shelter will use grant funds to outfit its surgery suite with two (2) Surgivet Pulse Oximeters ($2,050), two (2) Pro Tec Anesthesia Machines ($3,560), two (2) Surgivet Anesthesia Vaporizers ($2,044), and six (6) Spay and Neuter surgery packs ($2,166).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves acceptance of $9,820 in funding from the Michigan Department of Agriculture for the Kent County Animal Shelter’s Companion Animal Welfare program, and appropriates $9,820 to the FY2010 Health Department Budget.

5-27-10-36 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT POOL – CITY OF WALKER / TREASURER

WHEREAS, the Treasurer of Kent County ("County Treasurer") is authorized, upon resolution of the County Board of Commissioners, to establish a local government investment pool ("investment pool") pursuant to Section 3 of the Local Governmental Investment Pool Act, and to contract with various local units of government ("local units") within the County for the deposit of money in the investment pool; and

WHEREAS, the treasurer or other chief fiscal officer of the local unit, upon resolution of the governing body of the local unit, is authorized to enter into a contract with the County Treasurer for deposit of money in the investment pool pursuant to Section 3 of the Local Governmental Investment Pool act; and

WHEREAS, Section 5 of the Local Governmental Investment Pool Act requires the parties to set forth the terms and conditions regarding the deposit of money in the investment pool in a written contract; and

WHEREAS, the City of Walker has approved the contract for participation in the Local Government Investment Pool; and

WHEREAS, the Finance and Physical Resources Committee recommends the County Treasurer be authorized to contract with the City of Walker for purposes of participating in the Local Government Investment Pool.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Treasurer to enter into a contract with the City of Walker to participate in the Local Government Investment Pool.

(Commisioner Vonk requested that Resolution 5-27-10-34 be removed from the Consent Agenda.)

Motion by Commissioner Hickey, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn, that the remaining Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:


Nays:   0.

5-27-10-34 – INLAND LAKE LEVEL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR – PINE LAKE / DRAIN COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, an inland lake level has been established for Pine Lake pursuant to the Inland Lake Level Act, MCL 324.30701 et seq., Part 307 of the Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Drain Commissioner, as the delegated authority under Part 307, caused an inspection of the water control structure on Pine Lake to be performed by a licensed professional engineer on November 5, 2009 pursuant to the requirements of MCL 324.307822(1); and
WHEREAS, the inspection revealed the need for maintenance and repair of the water control structure in excess of $10,000.00; and

WHEREAS, MCL 324.30722(4) requires that an expenditure of more than $10,000.00 for the maintenance and repair of a water control structure requires the approval by resolution of the Kent County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners finds the maintenance and repair of the water control structure on Pine Lake necessary in order to maintain the established lake level, and for the protection of the natural resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Drain Commissioner shall take all necessary steps to maintain and repair the water control structure consistent with the requirements of the Inland Lake Level Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Drain Commissioner shall prepare a computation of the cost of the project and prepare a special assessment roll consistent with the special assessment district boundaries approved by the Kent County Circuit Court.

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

Motion by Commissioner Agee, seconded by Commissioner Vonk, to amend the resolution by changing the last paragraph by replacing the word shall to may:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Drain Commissioner may prepare a computation of the cost of the project and prepare a special assessment roll consistent with the special assessment district boundaries approved by the Kent County Circuit Court.

Motion to amend resolution carried by voice vote.

5-27-10-34 – INLAND LAKE LEVEL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR – PINE LAKE / DRAIN COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, an inland lake level has been established for Pine Lake pursuant to the Inland Lake Level Act, MCL 324.30701 et seq., Part 307 of the Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Drain Commissioner, as the delegated authority under Part 307, caused an inspection of the water control structure on Pine Lake to be performed by a licensed professional engineer on November 5, 2009 pursuant to the requirements of MCL 324.307822(1); and

WHEREAS, the inspection revealed the need for maintenance and repair of the water control structure in excess of $10,000.00; and

WHEREAS, MCL 324.30722(4) requires that an expenditure of more than $10,000.00 for the maintenance and repair of a water control structure requires the approval by resolution of the Kent County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners finds the maintenance and repair of the water control structure on Pine Lake necessary in order to maintain the established lake level, and for the protection of the natural resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Drain Commissioner shall take all necessary steps to maintain and repair the water control structure consistent with the requirements of the Inland Lake Level Act.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Drain Commissioner may prepare a computation of the cost of the project and prepare a special assessment roll consistent with the special assessment district boundaries approved by the Kent County Circuit Court.

Motion to adopt Resolution 5-27-10-34 as amended carried:
Nays: 0.
Abstain: Vonk -1.

RESOLUTIONS

5-27-10-37 – DISPATCH AGREEMENTS WITH CITIES OF WALKER, LOWELL, KENTWOOD AND GRANDVILLE / ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE / SHERIFF

WHEREAS, the cities of Walker, Lowell, Kentwood and Grandville have negotiated agreements to consolidate the 911 police and/or fire dispatching services with the Sheriff’s Department. If approved, the Sheriff’s Department will provide all 911 call-taking and dispatching services for these jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Agreement, the County will be paid by the municipalities based upon a formula which takes into account the number dispatched calls for service and population served. These funds will fully reimburse the Sheriff’s Department for the costs of 911 dispatch services for these communities. On an annual basis, the funding and staffing levels to perform this service will be reviewed based on the agreed-upon formula; and

WHEREAS, the transition to the dispatching services by the Sheriff’s Department is expected to begin in October but will not be complete until 2011. The partial cost for service in 2010 is estimated to be $78,577; and

WHEREAS, the terms of these agreements are similar to those previously agreed to for police and/or fire dispatch services for Byron and Gaines Townships and the Village of Caledonia; and

WHEREAS, the agreements have been reviewed and approved by Corporate Counsel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the agreements with the cities of Walker, Lowell, Kentwood, and Grandville to provide 911 police and/or fire dispatching services; accepts and appropriates $78,577 for dispatch services in 2010; and authorizes the Administrator/Controller or the Board Chair to sign the Agreements.

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, seconded by Commissioner Vander Molen, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.
WHEREAS, the County of Kent, acting through its Building Authority, constructed the new Human Services Complex at 121 Franklin SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan; and
WHEREAS, property in the vicinity of the new Human Services Complex is desirable for use as additional parking for patrons and employees of the Human Services Complex; and
WHEREAS, following the County’s practice of offering property owners twice the established State Equalized Value for property that is desired by the County, an offer of $51,800 has been recommended by staff to acquire the real property bearing permanent parcel numbers 41-14-31-302-006 and 41-14-31-302-007, which are collectively known as 811 Major Place SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan; and
WHEREAS, funds for this acquisition are available in the Human Services Complex CIP account; and
WHEREAS, the current owners of the Property have indicated a willingness to sell the Property to the County for $51,800.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes:

1. County staff to make an offer to purchase the Property from the current owners for $51,800; and
2. Complete the purchase of the Property using $51,800 from the Human Services Complex CIP fund; and
3. Transfer the property to the Kent County Building Authority after acquiring it from the current owners; and
4. The Board Chair and/or the County Administrator/Controller are authorized and directed to sign the purchase agreement associated documents for and on behalf of the County.

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

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

WHEREAS, the County of Kent will construct a replacement communication tower at the John Ball Zoological Garden on which emergency communications equipment for the County and the City of Grand Rapids will be located; and
WHEREAS, Metro PCS Michigan, Inc. ("Metro PCS") has requested to lease a portion of replacement tower for the location and operation of the wireless communications equipment and Metro PCS and the County have negotiated a lease for such property, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A; and
WHEREAS, all costs of construction of the replacement tower, removal of the existing tower, and the installation and operation of Metro PCS’ antennae will be paid by Metro PCS; and
WHEREAS, Metro PCS will be reimbursed for the cost of construction of the replacement tower and removal of the existing tower through rent abatements for approximately the first ten years of the proposed lease; and
WHEREAS, Metro PCS shall pay rent at an initial annual rate of $20,000, with rent escalators for each renewal term thereafter.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that

1. The Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Administrator/Controller to enter into a lease with Metro PCS for a portion of the replacement communications tower to be located at the John Ball Zoological Garden in accordance a lease substantially similar to that attached as Exhibit A. The lease is contingent upon the actual costs of construction and the final site plan being confirmed and acceptable to the County Administrator/Controller. The County Administrator/Controller is authorized to renegotiate the provisions of the lease if the actual construction costs or the site plan varies from the estimate and the proposed site plan previously received. If an acceptable agreement on the site plan or the construction costs cannot be reached, the County Administrator/Controller is authorized to cancel this proposed lease.

2. The Board Chair and/or the County Administrator/Controller are authorized and directed to finalize and sign the lease agreement and associated documents for and on behalf of the County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates $200,000 to the CIP Fund from proceeds.

Motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:
Nays:   0.

5-27-10-40 – LEASE OF SPACE ON TOWER TO CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS FOR INSTALLATION OF COMMUNICATIONS ANTENNAE / JOHN BALL ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

WHEREAS, the County and the City of Grand Rapids are parties to a lease concerning wireless communications tower located within the John Ball Zoological Garden, which lease expires in 2086; and
WHEREAS, the County desires to replace the existing tower and demolish the existing tower; and
WHEREAS, the City has indicated its willingness to terminate the lease for the existing tower, move its equipment to the replacement tower, and enter into a new lease for space on the replacement tower; and
WHEREAS, the new lease will have a term equal to the anticipated life of the replacement tower, 40 years, and all other terms, including rent, are substantially the same as the existing lease; and
WHEREAS, the County will have the ability to add additional antennae to the tower and receive additional rental income from other communications providers; and
WHEREAS, the entire transaction is contingent upon the actual costs of construction and the final site plan being confirmed and acceptable to the County Administrator/Controller.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that

1. The Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Administrator/Controller to enter into a lease with the City of Grand Rapids for a portion of the replacement communications tower to be located at the John Ball Zoological Garden in accordance with a lease substantially similar to that attached as Exhibit A. The lease is contingent upon the actual costs of construction and the final site plan being confirmed and acceptable to the County Administrator/Controller. The County Administrator/Controller is authorized to renegotiate the provisions of the lease if the actual construction costs or the site plan varies from the estimate and the proposed site plan previously received. If an acceptable agreement on the site plan or the construction costs cannot be reached, the County Administrator/Controller is authorized to cancel this proposed lease.

2. The Board Chair and/or the County Administrator/Controller are authorized and directed to finalize and sign the termination of the existing lease and finalize execute new lease agreement and associated documents for and on behalf of the County.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, that the resolution be adopted.


Nays: 0.

5-27-10-41 – 911 DISPATCH SERVICES – STAFFING ADDITION FOR DISPATCH AGREEMENTS WITH WALKER, LOWELL, KENTWOOD AND GRANDVILLE / SHERIFF

WHEREAS, the cities of Walker, Lowell, Kentwood and Grandville have negotiated agreements to consolidate the 911 police and/or fire dispatching services with the Sheriff’s Department; and

WHEREAS, to provide dispatch services, the Sheriff’s Department is requesting the addition of eight Emergency Call Operator II positions. All positions are part of the Kent County Law Enforcement Association (KCLEA); and

WHEREAS, the transition to the dispatching services by the Sheriff’s Department is expected to begin in October but will not be complete until 2011. The cost for these positions in 2010 is estimated to be $78,577 and the annual cost of salary and benefits is estimated to be $534,301 which will be fully reimbursed pursuant to the terms of the agreements; and

WHEREAS, on an annual basis, funding and staffing levels will be reviewed based upon the agreed formula for funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves addition of eight Emergency Call Operator II positions to perform 911 dispatch services pursuant to agreements with the cities of Walker, Lowell, Kentwood, and Grandville.
Motion by Commissioner Courtade, seconded by Commissioner Vonk, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

REPORTS

There were no reports.

MISCELLANEOUS

Financial Overview
Commissioner Ponstein thanked the Chair and Vice Chair for pulling the Financial Overview presentation from Finance Committee and bringing it to the full board.

Local First
Commissioner Courtade stated that the County is working to keep business local but, regrettably, page 35 of the Financial Overview shows the downward trend in the number of jobs in the 3-County area.

Emergency Fund
Commissioner Dillon asked for a future discussion on the definition of “emergency,” i.e., for what can dollars in the emergency fund be spent.

Denny Heffron
Commissioner Antor said that his thoughts are with Denny Heffron during his illness.

Commissioner Hirsch reminded everyone of all of the time that Denny Heffron has given to farmland preservation and the family’s recent losses.

Millennium Park
Commissioner Talen reminded everyone of the great deal offered to families with the annual Millennium Park pass.

Commissioner Hennessy asked if the school children were once again offered a pass to the park. Parks Director Roger Sabine indicated “yes.”

Emergency Fund
Commissioner Agee stated that the recent Gulf Coast disasters (Hurricane Katrina and the BP Oil spill) are examples of the need for the County to maintain an Emergency Fund.

Commissioner Tanis commented that communities need matching funds to receive federal disaster relief funds.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:38 a.m., Commissioner Hickey moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, June 10, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vaughn. Motion carried.
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Agee - 1 (Excused).

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

PUBLIC COMMENT
1. Michael Wawee, Jr., 3747 Bradwood Court NW, Walker – A candidate for County Commission - District 6. He worked for Kent County for 7 years in the juvenile court system and presently works for the Catholic Diocese in charge of Catholic cemeteries.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Annual Report
Deborah Alderink, Chair, Kent County LEPC, gave the 2009 Annual Report (copy of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk and online at www.accesskent.com/lepc). The 2010 Work Plan consists of identifying new plans and updating 241 existing plans. A disaster exercise was held on May 24th at Sysco Food Services. This year’s Industry Outreach Seminar will be held on October 7th on “Combustible Dust, Workplace Violence.” They will continue to inform community about LEPC.

CONSENT AGENDA
a) Approval of the Minutes of May 27, 2010, meeting
b) June 1, 2010, Finance Committee Meeting
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Resolutions:

6-10-10-42 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH AREA COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

   WHEREAS, this is the fifth year Community Development is proposing to use Area Community Service Employment and Training (ACSET) for the provision of weatherization services, emergency home repair, and related services; and
WHEREAS, the contract, if approved, will provide for a home weatherization program, as well as minor home repair services to very-low income homeowners. Only homes located within Kent County, but outside the cities of Grand Rapids and Wyoming, are eligible for services under this agreement; and

WHEREAS, ACSET has agreed to transparency and full disclosure relating to the uses of the public funds, and has approved a link to its website on accessKent; and

WHEREAS, the contract period is July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development contract with ACSET; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the agreement.

6-10-10-43 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH ARBOR CIRCLE CORPORATION AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Kent County Community Development has used the services of Arbor Circle Corporation for the past 17 years; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Circle Corporation desires to provide pregnant and parenting teens and their children in northern Kent County consisting of Algoma Township, Alpine Township, Nelson Township, Solon township, Sparta Township, Village of Sparta and Tyrone Township, a weekly group experience which will: 1) develop a healthy and positive relationship with their child; 2) learn about and promote their child's development; 3) develop a support network with their peers; 4) learn about and practice healthy behaviors that reduce stress; 5) reduce repeat pregnancies; and 6) increase high school completion; and

WHEREAS, as full compensation for Arbor Circle Corporation’s performance under the contract, Community Development has agreed to pay the amount of $11,500; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Circle Corporation has agreed to transparency and full disclosure relating to the uses of the public funds, and has approved a link to its website on accessKent; and

WHEREAS, the contract period is July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development contract with Arbor Circle Corporation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair and/or her designee to sign the agreement.

6-10-10-44 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH KENT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, HUD requires entities seeking funds for homelessness activities to prepare a Continuum of Care strategy detailing the
needs and proposed responses to those needs as the basis of any funding application; and

WHEREAS, since December 1, 1999, a staff position at The Salvation Army has been responsible for providing the coordination and consultation needed to develop and write the Continuum of Care strategy; and

WHEREAS, this process involves more than seventy (70) support service agencies, shelter providers and interested local government agencies; and

WHEREAS, because the problems associated with homelessness would most likely increase in severity if funding from HUD was curtailed or lost, the Kent County Department of Human Services (DHS) agreed to act in a fiduciary capacity to collect the funds needed to cost-share a staff position at The Salvation Army to develop and write the Continuum of Care strategy; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has annually approved funding for this position since December 1, 1999; and

WHEREAS, DHS has agreed to transparency and full disclosure relating to the uses of the public funds, and has approved a link to its website on accessKent; and

WHEREAS, the contract period is July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development contract with the Kent County Department of Human Services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the agreement.

6-10-10-45 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH DISABILITY ADVOCATES OF KENT COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, this is the seventeenth year that the Community Development Department has utilized the services of Disability Advocates of Kent County; and

WHEREAS, Disability Advocates of Kent County will develop and maintain a list of handicap-accessible properties, provide accessibility modification designs to participating residential properties, assist participants in obtaining resources to fund accessibility, and collaborate with community partners such as Home Repair Services, Inc. to perform the necessary construction and modifications; and

WHEREAS, Disability Advocates has agreed to transparency and full disclosure relating to the uses of the public funds, and has approved a link to its website on accessKent; and

WHEREAS, the contract period is July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development contract with Disability Advocates of Kent County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the agreement.
WHEREAS, as a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, the County is committed to fair housing opportunities in its service area; and
WHEREAS, the mission of the Fair Housing Center of West Michigan (FHCWM) is to promote equal housing opportunity throughout the Grand Rapids metropolitan area; and
WHEREAS, FHCWM is the sole provider of fair housing services in Kent County, and this is the twenty-seventh year that the Community Development Department will use the services of FHCWM; and
WHEREAS, FHCWM has agreed to transparency and full disclosure relating to the uses of the public funds, and has approved a link to its website on accessKent; and
WHEREAS, the contract period is July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011; and
WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development contract with the Fair Housing Center of West Michigan; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair and/or her designee to sign the agreement.

WHEREAS, the Community Development Department has used the services of Home Repair Services of Kent County, Inc. (HRS) for the provision of Home Repair Services for 24 years; and
WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has recognized HRS, a not-for-profit agency, as a sole provider of these services; and
WHEREAS, the new contract, if approved, will continue the Minor Home Repair ($58,000.00), Accessibility Modifications ($30,000.00), Builder’s Abundance ($25,000.00), and Foreclosure Intervention ($43,088.00) programs; and
WHEREAS, Disability Advocates has agreed to transparency and full disclosure relating to the uses of the public funds, and has approved a link to its website on accessKent; and
WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement; and
WHEREAS, the contract period is July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development contract with Home Repair Services of Kent County, Inc., and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the agreement.
WHEREAS, Kent County Community Development has used the services of Hope Network West Michigan (Agency) for the past 17 years; and
WHEREAS, the Agency operates North Kent Transit Service (NKTS) within the NKTS primary service area, and has agreed to provide door-to-door special transportation service to eligible senior citizens and individuals with disabilities for trips originating in the Algoma Township, Cannon Township, Grattan Township, Courtland Township, City of Lowell, Lowell Charter Township, Plainfield Charter Township, City of Rockford, Solon Township, Village of Sparta, Spencer Township, Tyrone Township, and Vergennes Township during the period of the agreement. The terms and conditions for service are stated in separate agreements with the Agency and Community Development for each of these political subdivisions; and
WHEREAS, the total compensation and reimbursement to the Agency under the agreements for service to the Algoma Township will be $2,146, Cannon Township will be $5,723, Grattan Township will be $5,365, Courtland Township will be $4,158, City of Lowell will be $4,292, Lowell Charter Township will be $2,146, Plainfield Charter Township will be $15,738, City of Rockford will be $7,154, Solon Township will be $715, Village of Sparta will be $4,435, Spencer Township will be $715, Tyrone Township will be $2,000, and Vergennes Township will be $3,577; and
WHEREAS, Hope Network West Michigan has agreed to transparency and full disclosure relating to the uses of the public funds, and has approved a link to its website on accessKent; and
WHEREAS, the contract period is July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011; and
WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development contract with Hope Network West Michigan; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair and/or her designee to sign the agreement.

WHEREAS, Community Development has used the services of The Interurban Transit Partnership (Authority) for the past 17 years; and
WHEREAS, this year again, Community Development is proposing to enter into five separate agreements with the Authority for GO! Bus Services within the Authority’s member jurisdiction to provide door-to-door special transportation service to senior citizens and individuals with disabilities for trips originating in the Townships of Ada, Alpine, Byron, Cascade, and Gaines; and
WHEREAS, the total compensation and reimbursement to the Authority under the agreements for service to the Township of Ada is $6,966, Township of Alpine is $12,876, the Township of Byron is $17,884, the Township of Cascade is $8,614, and the Township of Gaines is $11,446; and
WHEREAS, the Authority has agreed to transparency and full disclosure relating to the uses of the public funds, and has approved a link to its website on accessKent; and
WHEREAS, the contract period is July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011; and
WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development contract with The Interurban Transit Partnership; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair and/or her designee to sign the agreement.

6-10-10-50 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH SENIOR MEALS PROGRAM, INC. AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Community Development Department has used the services of Senior Meals Program, Inc. since 1993; and
WHEREAS, Community Development proposes to enter into two contracts with SMP: 1) To provide home-delivered meals to diabetic senior citizens and severely disabled persons residing in the 33 CDBG participating communities within Kent County. Approximately 7,900 meals would be provided under this proposed contract at a budget not to exceed $20,030; and 2) To develop and/or extend the Grattan Township congregate/home-delivered meals program site at 12050 Old Belding Road, NE, at a budget not to exceed $5,007; and
WHEREAS, SMP has agreed to transparency and full disclosure relating to the uses of the public funds, and has approved a link to its website on accessKent; and
WHEREAS, the contract period is July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011; and
WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development contract with Senior Meals Program, Inc.; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair and/or her designee to sign the agreement.

6-10-10-51 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH SENIOR NEIGHBORS, INC. AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Community Development has used the services of Senior Neighbors, Inc. for the past 17 years; and
WHEREAS, Senior Neighbors, Inc. desires to provide Township of Algoma, Village of Kent City, Township of Lowell, Township of Sparta, Village of Sparta, Township of Tyrone, and Township of Vergennes area seniors with enhanced senior center services (hereinafter called the "Services"). The primary goals for the Services are increased information and referral services to older adults; reduced isolation of older adults through programming, including coordination of the Lowell site’s senior meals program; and increased coordination of older adult voluntarism; and
WHEREAS, Community Development has agreed to pay Senior Neighbors, Inc. a total compensation and reimbursement of $38,428 for the said Services; and
WHEREAS, Senior Neighbors, Inc. has agreed to transparency and full disclosure relating to the uses of the public funds, and has provided the County with its website to connect the public; and
WHEREAS, the contract period is July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011; and
WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the Agreement.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development contract with Senior Neighbors, Inc.; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair and/or her designee to sign the agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Vander Molen, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.
Abstain: Chair Parrish – 1.

RESOLUTIONS

6-10-10-52 – AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND CONTRACT APPROVAL – COMPREHENSIVE PLAN / COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

WHEREAS, Public Act 511 of 1988 provides funding for Community Corrections Advisory Boards to administer and operate programs to provide alternatives to incarceration for offenders; and
WHEREAS, the administrative amount requested represents the full amount of funds available to Kent County. Since administration costs exceed the cap imposed by the grantor, an allocation of general fund dollars will be included in the County’s 2011 budget to support the full cost of the program; and
WHEREAS, if approved, funding will be provided to the following local programs: Alternative Directions, GRCC Learning Corner, Jubilee Jobs, Family Outreach Center, Homeward Bound, Berghuis Psychological Services, Arbor Circle, Pine Rest Mental Health Services, network 180, and the 61st District Court; and
WHEREAS, funds will be appropriated from the Office of Community Corrections (OCC) in the 2011 budget for the Kent County Court Services Department (Pretrial Programs, Work Crew and Community Service Programs, Case Management and Risk Assessment), and the Kent County Sheriff’s Department - Correctional Facility (OUIL III Housing); and
WHEREAS, the anticipated grant period is October 1, 2010, to September 30, 2011. It is expected that the grant will be renewable.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the annual Community Corrections’ Comprehensive Plan and application for funding under PA 511 of 1988, and authorizes the Board Chair to sign contracts with the proposed vendors not-to-exceed the recommended funding amount.

Motion by Commissioner Hennessy, seconded by Commissioner Rolls, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:

Nays: 0.

6-10-10-53 – APPROVE THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND BUDGET AMENDMENT / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Kent County has qualified as an Urban County, which makes it eligible to receive funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for its 29th year as an entitlement community; and

WHEREAS, the five-year Consolidated Plan for July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2011 (extended through June 30, 2011), consists of a needs assessment, market analysis and related goals and objectives, and is a prerequisite of obtaining Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funding from HUD; and

WHEREAS, the grant application, referred to as the Annual Action Plan, contains a description and budget for CDBG and HOME-funded activities proposed to be undertaken between July 1, 2010, and June 30, 2011, including CDBG projects requested by 33 local units of government as well as one project requested by the Kent County Parks Department for the expansion of Gordon Park ($30,000); and

WHEREAS, the application seeks $2,419,228 in funding that includes CDBG $1,683,256 and HOME $660,972 and recognizes an additional $75,000 anticipated as income from the CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approve the Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan for July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Board Chair to sign all documents related to the plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates $2,419,228 in estimated revenues to the 2010-11 CDBG and HOME programs contingent upon award and execution of a contract.

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

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

6-10-10-54 – APPROVE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING KENT HOME CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the City of Wyoming has expressed an interest in forming a HOME Consortium. It is also agreed that the County, as the lead entity, would assume overall responsibility for the Kent HOME Consortium; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that in order to form a HOME Consortium, the County, as the lead entity, must submit an executed consortium agreement and all necessary documentation to the HUD field office by June 30, 2010; and

WHEREAS, if HUD designates consortium status, the Kent HOME Consortium allocation will be up to $943,000 for the year 2011, based on
population and need estimates between the City of Wyoming and the remainder of the Kent County as estimated by HUD. A portion of the total HOME allocation (approximately $241,551) would be targeted to Wyoming for the year 2011; and

WHEREAS, this project is consistent with the County’s Consolidated Housing and Community Development Five-Year Strategic Plan and County Commissioner priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Agreement will be filed with the County Clerk and the Secretary of State; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the Consortium Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Community Development Kent Home Consortium Agreement with the City of Wyoming; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair and/or her designee to sign the Agreement, and all necessary ancillary legal documents for submission to the HUD.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Vonk, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

6-10-10-55 – GENERAL FUND ADVANCE TO THE DRAIN COMMISSION
REVOLVING FUND – TROY WITH MOSHER & FARNHAM DRAIN / DRAIN COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner has undertaken a maintenance project for the Troy with Mosher & Farnham County Drain at a cost of $89,000; and

WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner has levied a special assessment on the benefiting properties/governmental units the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes equal to the cost of the maintenance project with installments to be spread over four years and nine months beginning April 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner is requesting an advance from the Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance of the County’s General Fund to finance the cash flow requirements of this project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes an advance of up to $89,000 from the General Fund - Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance to the Drain Commission Revolving Fund for the purpose of providing financing assistance for the Mosher & Farnham County Drain District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioner authorize the County Administrator/Controller or Board Chair to sign all related documents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such advance is to be amortized over a four-year nine month time period, including interest on the outstanding balance at a rate of 2.30% per annum, with the first installment due April 1, 2011.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Vamder Molen, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Yeas: Antor, Bulkowski, Courtade, Hennessy, Hickey, Hirsch, Morgan,
6-10-10-56 – GENERAL FUND ADVANCE TO THE DRAIN COMMISSION REVOLVING FUND – WARNER DRAIN / DRAIN COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner has undertaken a maintenance project for the Warner County Drain at a cost of $257,600; and
WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner has levied a special assessment on the benefiting properties/governmental units, the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes equal to the cost of the maintenance project with installments to be spread over five years beginning with the July 1, 2011, property tax bills; and
WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner is requesting an advance from the Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance of the County’s General Fund to finance the cash flow requirements of this project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes an advance of up to $257,600 from the General Fund - Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance to the Drain Commission Revolving Fund for the purpose of providing financing assistance for the Warner County Drain District; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioner authorize the County Administrator/Controller or Board Chair to sign all related documents; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such advance is to be amortized over a five-year time period, including interest on the outstanding balance at a rate of 2.30% per annum, with the first installment due July 1, 2011.

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

Motion carried:
Nays: Dillon - 1.

6-10-10-57 – MILLENIUM PARK BOATING CENTER – ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE GIFT / PARKS

WHEREAS, earlier this year, members of the DeVos family - the Dick and Betsy DeVos Family Foundation, the Daniel and Pamella DeVos Foundation, the Douglas and Maria DeVos Foundation; and the VanderWeide Family Foundation - generously contributed a total of $800,000 to the Kent County Parks Foundation to cover the costs of developing a boating center in Millennium Park; and
WHEREAS, the boating center will be constructed this year, with operations commencing in spring 2011; and
WHEREAS, revenues from boat rentals are expected to meet the cost of operations, based on research into comparable boating facilities at public parks, and resulting projections for Millennium Park; and
WHEREAS, construction of the facility is consistent with the Millennium Park Master Plan Update.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the creation of a Millennium Park Boathouse Project in the 2010 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board accepts and appropriates $800,000 in donations to the 2010 CIP budget.

Motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:


Nays:   0.

REPORTS

Recycling Facility
Commissioner Tanis stated that the equipment at the new recycling facility will be tested on Monday. The following Monday, they will begin processing recyclables starting with 30 tons and building up to 110 tons a day.

Community Corrections
Commissioner Rolls stated that the staff of the Office of Community Corrections have done a phenomenal job and he thanked the Board for the approval of the grant application. The office is a model for the State of Michigan, stretching their dollars and doing some remarkable things with the local non-profits.

S.M.A.R.T.
Commissioner Voorhees reported that the Southwest Michigan Alliance of Region Three (SMART) met last week in Eaton County and toured the new youth correctional facility. The officer who gave the tour complimented Kent County for its input, advice and help in establishing the policies and procedures in Eaton County.

Farmland Preservation
Commissioner Hirsch received a report that Cascade Township unanimously voted to financially support Kent’s Farmland Preservation program.

Downtown Development Authority
Commissioner Talen reported that every year the DDA approves a 5-year plan. Yesterday, the DDA approved $500,000 for city services in downtown Grand Rapids (police, fire and parks).

West Michigan Sports Commission
Commissioner Vander Molen reminded commissioners that the Meijer State Games of Michigan will be held in West Michigan June 25-27, 2010. The opening ceremonies on Friday, June 25, at the Van Andel Arena will kick off the three-day, Olympic-style competition.

Commissioner Voorhees went to Lansing with Katie Tiggelar (intern with WMSC) to meet with state legislators regarding the Meijer State Games and received resolutions of support for the games. All were excited about the West Michigan Sports Commission.

Agricultural Preservation
Commissioner Antor announced that, at the June 9th Agricultural Preservation Board meeting, it was announced that the Frey Foundation has offered $250,000 pending full board approval for matching PDR funds.

MISCELLANEOUS
Emergency Fund
Commissioner Synk referred to last meeting’s discussion on the “emergency fund” to which he has the following questions: 1) What is an emergency? 2) Has County ever spent any dollars from the fund? 3) Why is 10% of the budget dedicated to this fund? 4) Do other counties have such a fund? 5) Do we need emergency procedures in place? 6) Do we just need a line of credit? He suggested instead of the emergency fund, that Kent have a budget stabilization fund.

Chair Parrish responded by saying that staff is drafting the definition of “emergency.”

Recycling
Commissioner Ponstein received a candidate questionnaire on recycling and he commented that one of the greatest benefits of that is the opportunity to educate people on recycling.

Denny Heffron Update
Commissioner Hirsch reported that Denny is home and recovering.

Transit Study Overview
Chair Parrish announced that on Tuesday, June 15, prior to the Finance Committee meeting, the Grand Valley Metro Council consultants will be here to provide an overview of the transit needs assessment.

Kudos
Chair Parrish said that she is impressed with how hard the Commission works and also how much Commissioners are out in the community. Everyone appreciates how hardworking they are and thanked them.

ADJOURNMENT
At 9:19 a.m., Commissioner Vander Molen moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, June 24, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Voorhees. Motion carried.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair
Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Hennessy gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Steve Black, 2470 Omega Drive, Plainfield Township – Received a letter from the Sheriff inviting him to join the Michigan Sheriff’s Association, which he finds ludicrous since he was laid off from the Sheriff’s Department in December of 2009.

2. Don Zerial, Cascade – Quoted from the book Judgment Day at the White House (Exhibit A on file in the Office of the County Clerk).

3. Mike Guswiler, West Michigan Sports Commission – Encouraged all to attend the Meijer State Games being held this weekend in West Michigan. The opening ceremonies will be Friday, June 25, at the Van Andel Arena.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Kent/MSU Extension – Redesign Update

Betty Biase, Director, reviewed the statewide Program redesign for MSU Extension (copy on file in the Office of the County Clerk). The redesign was implemented to better maximize resources. The Extension will focus on: 1) Greening Michigan: Leveraging Natural and Human Assets for Prosperity; 2) Enhancing Michigan’s First Green Industry: Agriculture and Agribusiness; 3) Preparing Michigan’s Children & Youth for the Future; 4) Improving Health and Nutrition for Michigan Residents.

The Rapid

Peter Varga, Executive Director, gave the annual update on The Rapid. The Rapid currently has 26 routes, a budget in excess of $32 million, and a 2030 Transit Master Plan. Projects include: the renovation of Wealthy Street Operations Center; Amtrak Station Relocation; and, Kentwood Hub Center. The Master Plan calls for expansion of service times, frequency improvements, corridor extensions. The Rapid will revisit going to the public again for a vote on increase in millage for bus rapid transit.
CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of June 10, 2010, meeting

b) June 15, 2010, Finance Committee Meeting
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

Motion by Commissioner Vander Molen, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

6-24-10-58 – AREA AGENCY ON AGING ACCESS EASEMENTS AND PARKING LICENSURE / ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE

WHEREAS, Kent County and the Kent County Building Authority have agreements with the Area Agency on Aging of West Michigan (AAAWM) under which the agency’s office building was constructed and is now occupied by AAAWM and the Senior Meals on Wheels program. The property is owned by the Building Authority and leased to the County, which subleases it to the agency. AAAWM reimburses the County and the Building Authority for the cost of construction and property acquisition; and

WHEREAS, AAAWM wishes to enlarge its parking area and has negotiated the purchase property from an adjoining land owner. To access the new parking area (and to allow the seller to use the new parking area on Sundays), the agency needs the County and the Building Authority to grant access easements and a parking license; and

WHEREAS, the easements and the parking license are limited to use by the AAAWM and the current neighbor, thereby protecting the County and the Building Authority from any unanticipated uses; and

WHEREAS, topography and the terms of the parking license prohibit vehicle traffic from crossing between the new parking area and the neighbor’s parcel. Individuals using the new parking area on Sundays under the parking license will use a set of stairs to be installed by the neighbor to move between the new parking area and the neighbor's parcel; and

WHEREAS, the easements and the parking license have been reviewed by the Facilities Director and Assistant Corporate Counsel; and

WHEREAS, the County Administrator/Controller or his designee is authorized to execute the easements and parking license and associated documents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves access easements and a parking license with the Area Agency on Agency of West Michigan.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried by voice vote.
WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners approved the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Ordinance in November 26, 2002; and

WHEREAS, in January 2009, the Legislative and Human Resources Committee approved selection criteria for the purchase of development rights by the County, and authorized the Agricultural Preservation Board to accept applications from landowners to participate in the program; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Preservation Board received 34 applications for more than 3,900 acres from 13 townships; all 34 applications met criteria of the USDA Farmland Preservation Program, which can provide up to 50 percent of the cost of the development rights through a competitive grant program; and

WHEREAS, in February 2010, the Board authorized the issuance of six Option Agreements and an application for funding of the purchase of development rights on those farms was submitted to the USDA and is still pending; and

WHEREAS, in late May, the County was notified of additional federal funding dedicated for PDR for which applications are due July 1, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Preservation Board is recommending that options for the purchase of development rights be extended to five additional properties totaling approximately 500 acres of which 231 acres are located in Tyrone Township (Rose Kruithoff Trust and Wilson Kruithoff, $370,000, PPN: 41-01-19-400-021, 41-01-19-400-023, 41-01-20-300-024, 41-01-29-100-016); 134 acres located in Sparta Township (James A. Bradford Family LLC, $214,000, PPN: 41-05-11-100-006, 41-05-11-300-003, 41-05-11-300-005, 41-05-11-100-08, 41-05-10-300-001, 41-05-10-300-004); 76.5 acres in Nelson Township (Donald A. Wollander, $76,500, PPN: 41-03-24-400-006); and, 58.5 acres in Grattan Township (Mary Lou Heffron, $88,000, PPN: 41-12-10-226-003, 41-12-11-100-024) based on compliance with federal criteria, County criteria, and available funding, and

WHEREAS, the option agreement has been reviewed by Corporate Counsel and approved as to form.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the following: 1) offer an option for the purchase of permanent agricultural conservation agreements on the five additional properties recommended by the Agricultural Preservation Board; 2) submission of a grant application for a maximum of 50 percent of the cost of the development rights from the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program; 3) exercise of the option and purchase of a permanent agricultural conservation easement on lands approved for funding by the USDA’s Farmland Preservation Program and for which local match has been secured; and, 4) appropriation of any federal grant funds received to the Agricultural Preservation Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator / Controller, or his designee, is authorized to sign all documents required by this resolution in a form approved by Corporate Counsel.

Motion by Commissioner Bulkowski, seconded by Commissioner Talen, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.
CLOSED SESSION

At 9:15 a.m., Commissioner Agee, seconded by Commissioner Vonk, moved that the Board of Commissioners meet in closed session, as allowed under the Michigan Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiation connected with collective bargaining agreements as requested by the employer, Kent County.

Motion carried:


Nays: 0.

At 10:10 a.m., Commissioner Agee, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, moved to go back into open session.

Motion carried by voice vote.

REPORTS

Recycling Facility

Commissioner Tanis stated that the new recycling facility will begin testing and recycling 30 tons today.

MISCELLANEOUS

Wayland High School Salutatorian

Commissioner Morgan congratulated Joanne (Jim) Day's daughter, Kellan, on being this year's Wayland High School's salutatorian.

Purchasing Subcommittee

Commissioner Dillon would like the report from the Purchasing Subcommittee.

BioSolid Application

Commissioner Voorhees referred to a Grand Rapids Press article on biosolid application and asked if there were requirements regarding discharges, etc.

Commissioner Rolls responded that there are restrictions (i.e., time of year, location, soil, etc).

Commissioner Courtade asked if the Drain Commissioner could talk to the Board on biosolids.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:15 a.m., Commissioner Hennessy moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, July 22, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Tanis. Motion carried.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Agee – 1 (Excused).

Invocation: Commissioner Talen gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Scott Atchison, 2251 South Saulk Trail – In his continuing effort to get the Board to fund an information booth in downtown Grand Rapids, he showed a three-dimensional model of what the booth would look like. Also, his hand out contained examples of what information (copy of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk) could be obtained from the booth and explained that the booth would be shared by specific event “coordinators” i.e., ArtPrize, Riverbank Run, etc.

2. Erica Hooser - Read the following Disclosure Statement:

   I am taking this opportunity to speak to the citizens of Kent County regarding my intention to purchase a home through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program administered by Kent County. Because I am an employee with Lighthouse Communities, Inc., an NSP developer, the HUD conflict of interest policy applies. However, HUD allows an exception to be made when a public disclosure is made of the nature of the conflict of interest, and when an attorney determines that the conflict of interest for which the exception is sought would not violate state or local law.

   The nature of the conflict is that I, Erica Hooser, am an employee of Lighthouse Communities, Inc. which is an NSP developer through Kent County. My job functions are not related to the Housing Department at Lighthouse Communities, and I have neither direct nor indirect influence on the Housing Department or decisions of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP).

   I qualify for the program and I have completed all the necessary requirements of purchasing an NSP home. I have not received any advantageous treatment because of my employment with Lighthouse Communities and have been on their waiting list to purchase a home since June 13, 2009. If HUD approves my request for exception I will be able to purchase a home through the Kent County NSP. Thank you.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
Kent County Family & Children's Coordinating Council Update
Sue Broman, Chair of the Kent County Family & Children’s Coordinating Council, gave the annual update. She reviewed the progress of the Healthy Start, Bright Beginnings, and First Steps programs. One collaboration, Kent Schools Services Network, is positively impacting chronic absenteeism in the participating schools.

2009 Audit Report
Steven Blann from Rehmann Robson reviewed the 2009 Audit Report (copies of which are on file in the Office of the County Clerk). Mr. Blann commented that Kent County was well prepared and organized for the audit. Again, Kent had a clean audit.

CONSENT AGENDA
a) Approval of the Minutes of June 24, 2010, meeting
b) June 29, 2010, Finance Committee Meeting
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)
d) Resolutions:

7-22-10-60 – AMENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL – WITHDRAW JAMESTOWN TOWNSHIP / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the members of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (Metro Council) have by majority vote approved Amendment No. 35 in the Articles of Incorporation of Metro Council; and
WHEREAS, the amendments have now been submitted for approval by the legislative bodies of the local governmental units that belong to Metro Council; and
WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kent have considered Amendment No. 35 in the Articles of Incorporation of Metro Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Amendment No. 35 in the Articles of Incorporation of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council, approving to withdraw Jamestown Township from membership of the Metro Council, is hereby approved.

7-22-10-61 – APPROVE AWARD OF SHELTER PLUS CARE PROGRAM FUNDS AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN AGREEMENTS / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, as part of the Shelter Plus Care Program, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded funds to Kent County for tenant-based rental assistance (TRA) and sponsor-based rental assistance (SRA) for homeless persons; and
WHEREAS, the Shelter Plus Care Program is designed to link rental assistance to supportive services for hard-to-serve homeless persons with disabilities (primarily those who are seriously mentally ill); have chronic problems with alcohol, drugs, or both; or have acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and related diseases and their families; and
WHEREAS, the Community Development Department recommends entering into contracts: two with Community Rebuilders, Inc. and one with Dwelling Place of Grand Rapids to administer the TRA and SRA components of the Program. TRA assistance permits participants to choose
housing of an appropriate size in which to reside. SRA assistance provides participants with housing units owned or leased by the sponsor; and

WHEREAS, these contracts, if approved, commit to Community Rebuilders, Inc. $799,968 in TRA funds necessary to subsidize ninety-three (93) tenant-based units for eligible participants needing rental assistance, and $393,612 in SRA funds necessary to subsidize fifty-eight (58) sponsor-based units for eligible participants needing rental assistance; and

commits to Dwelling Place of Grand Rapids $149,280 in TRA funds necessary to subsidize twenty (20) sponsor-based units for eligible participants needing rental assistance. Up to 8% of the Shelter Plus Care grant may be paid for eligible incurred administrative costs associated with the administration of housing assistance; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved all three agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners enter into three contracts: two with Community Rebuilders, Inc. and one with Dwelling Place of Grand Rapids; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign all three agreements and all ancillary legal documents.

7-22-10-62 – APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO SUBLEASE WITH THE STATE OF MICHIGAN FOR THE HUMAN SERVICES COMPLEX SPACE / HUMAN SERVICES / FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2006, the Board approved a sublease agreement with the State of Michigan allowing for use of space, including parking, at the Human Services Complex; and

WHEREAS, because the lease was developed and executed prior to the construction and occupation of the building, certain terms relating to the final usable square footage, utility metering, and adjusting the rental rate require updates to reflect the completed project and actual debt service schedule; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to the execution of the lease and the start of the project, changes in the number of State staff assigned to the building, and the increased demand for services resulted in the need for additional parking at the site. The County has acquired the additional land required for the parking, and will be able to construct the additional parking within the original project budget; and

WHEREAS, a proposed amendment to the sublease has been negotiated with staff representatives of the State and the County, and requires approval of the County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Assistant Corporate Counsel has reviewed the agreement and approved it as to form.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the amendment to the sublease with the State of Michigan for space within the Human Service Complex; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Board Chair, Sandi Frost Parrish, is authorized to execute the document on behalf of the County.

7-22-10-63 – MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (MCACA) GRANT / JOHN BALL ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

WHEREAS, the John Ball Zoological Garden receives funding annually from Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA); and
WHEREAS, for FY 2010, MCACA awarded the John Ball Zoological Garden $11,200; grant period runs from April 1, 2010, through September 30, 2010; and
WHEREAS, the grant funding will be used for ongoing programs to enhance the visitor experiences and visitor education programs, expansion of promotional and marketing efforts, providing permanent and seasonal zoo graphics, and use of Michigan artists in zoo programs.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the appropriation of an additional $11,200 from the Michigan Department of Labor to the FY 2010 John Ball Zoological Garden budget in the General Fund.

Motion by Commissioner Talen, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.
Abstain: Chair Parrish (from Resolution 7-22-10-61) – 1.

CLOSED SESSION
At 9:20 a.m., Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Vonk, moved that the Board of Commissioners meet in closed session, as allowed under the Michigan Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiations connected with collective bargaining agreements as requested by the employer, Kent County.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.
Absent from room: Rolls – 1.
At 10:21 a.m., Commissioner Vander Molen, seconded by Commissioner Antor, moved to go back into open session.
Motion carried by voice vote.

RESOLUTION
7-22-10-64 – PENSION SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WHEREAS, Finance & Physical Resources Committee Chair Dean Agee appointed a Subcommittee consisting of Commissioners Harold Voorhees (Subcommittee Chair), Carol Hennessy, Roger Morgan, and Dick VanderMolen to review the County’s current pension plan (Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan) and make recommendations related to containing costs; and
WHEREAS, the Subcommittee met from March to July 2010 to review the existing Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan; and
WHEREAS, the Subcommittee has recommended certain changes to the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan, recognizing that changes to said plan will require the County to negotiate with the various collective bargaining groups; and
WHEREAS, if the collective bargaining groups agree to the County’s economic concession offer, including the proposed changes in the
Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan, members of said respective collective bargaining units and the Management Pay Plan will be eligible to participate in a Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program that has been recommended by the Pension Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners adopted the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan effective December 8, 1948. The Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan has been amended from time to time thereafter; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan is necessary to provide for the additional benefits in the proposed Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program, to adopt a provision required by the Internal Revenue Service, and to clarify a provision regarding included compensation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program dated July 22, 2010 in the form attached hereto is adopted and effective as stated therein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan and Trust be amended to incorporate the attached program.

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

Motion carried.


Nays: 0.

REPORTS

Purchasing Subcommittee
Commissioner Vander Molen reported that the Purchasing Subcommittee met last Tuesday and is scheduling future meetings.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ingham County Agriculture Preservation Board
Commissioner Ponstein attended the Ingham County Agriculture Preservation Board meeting.

Amateur PGA
Commissioner Vander Molen encouraged all to attend the Amateur Golf Championship being held at Egypt Valley. The event is co-sponsored by the West Michigan Sports Commission and is free to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:31 a.m., Commissioner Talen moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, August 12, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Morgan. Motion carried.
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Synk – 1 (Excused).

Invocation: Commissioner Vaughn introduced Pastor Hardy, Madison Square Christian Reformed Church, who gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mark C. Lewis, Executive Director, Neighborhood Ventures, 949 Wealthy SE, Grand Rapids – Urges County to not opt out of the tax increment /corridor improvement districts (Resolutions 67 & 68) or to consider opting in later. Hopefully, these corridor improvement districts will spur economic development reinvestment within the neighborhoods.

2. Baird Hawkins, 1418 Byron Street, Grand Rapids, Chairman – Corridor Improvement Authority Board – Asked Commissioners to not opt out of the two corridor improvement districts (Resolutions 67 & 68) since this development is crucial in the city right now.

3. Don Zerial, 7377 Cascade Terrace SE, Grand Rapids – He wants directors of local non-profits and entities, those getting tax abatements, to reveal salaries and benefits. He also referred to several articles on electric cars (copies of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk).

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

West Michigan Sports Commission Annual Update

Mike Gusweiler, Executive Director of the West Michigan Sports Commission (WMSC), gave the annual update. Three years ago, the WMSC was created to produce positive economic impact and benefit the community through sports tourism. They have seen additional impact to the area’s quality of life and image.

The U.S. Golf Association held its 42nd Annual Junior Amateur Championship at Egypt Valley Country Club in 2010. This successful tournament brought in over 1,000 visitors July 19-24 from 32 states and 6 countries. Rental cars were sold out at the Gerald R. Ford Airport during this event. The Meijer State Games, held June 24-26, included 3,500 athletes and 500 volunteers. All of the events held this summer have been very successful.

He gave an update of the proposed baseball/softball complex in Plainfield Township. The master site plan work should be completed by the end of August at which time a master plan report and overview, and a construction cost estimate will go to the WMSC Board and to the Baseball Task Force to determine the feasibility of moving forward.
CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of July 22, 2010, meeting

b) July 20 & August 3, 2010, Finance Committee Meetings
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Resolutions:

8-12-10-65 – CONSENT TO EASEMENT – CITY OF KENTWOOD –
FOREST HILL AVENUE / ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE

   WHEREAS, the City of Kentwood is preparing to improve
   Forest Hill Avenue corridor between Hall Street and Burton Street during the
   2011 construction season. The construction will include a two-lane asphalt
   roadway, by-pass lanes, a non-motorized bike path, and public utility extensions.
   To accomplish these improvements, Kentwood requires easements along Forest
   Hill Avenue; and

   WHEREAS, since the County holds property interests over a
   portion of land bearing parcel number 41-18-01-451-025 within which Kentwood
   is proposing work, the County’s consent to a temporary grading easement is
   necessary. The County holds an easement on the said land for storm water
   detention, floodway, and drainage purposes; and

   WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner has reviewed
   Kentwood’s request for an easement and has determined that the easement
   would not in any way impair the drain infrastructure, and has no objection to the
   County granting consent to Kentwood; and

   WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed all relevant
   documentation pertaining to the easement including the grant of easement, and
   has opined that consent to the easement is in order.

   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent
   County Board of Commissioners approves the County consenting to the City of
   Kentwood’s request for a temporary grading permit/easement over parcel
   bearing number 41-18-01-451-025; and

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of
   Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the grant of
   easement to City of Kentwood.

8-12-10-66 – AUTHORIZATION FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE / 17TH CIRCUIT
COURT

   WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Human Services –
   Bureau of Juvenile Justice provides federal pass-through funds for juvenile
   delinquency programs. Kent County is eligible to receive grant funding for the
   continuation of a diversion project and the collection of data to reduce
   disproportionate minority contacts (DMC) in the juvenile justice system. Kent
   County’s first year in the program was FY 2008. This grant will be the fourth year
   of available funding; and

   WHEREAS, the Circuit Court – Family Division will use the
   funding to contract with School-to-Career Progressions to create a program to
   divert up to 60 police-referred youth (ages 13-16) per year to the Juvenile
   Success Center as an early intervention strategy and alternative to formal court
   involvement; parents/guardians will also participate in the program; and
WHEREAS, the grant program is designed to reduce the disproportionate minority representation, the diversion program will be available to all eligible referrals within the geographic target area; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is October 1, 2010, through September 30, 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the grant from the Michigan Department of Human Services - Bureau of Juvenile Justice to the Circuit Court – DMC Intervention and Reduction Program in the Special Project Fund.

Motion by Commissioner Vaughn, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:

Nays: 0.

RESOLUTION
8-12-10-67 – CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS MADISON SQUARE CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS / FISCAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Rapids has proposed to adopt a Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Madison Square Corridor Improvement Authority-Tax Increment Financing District; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed plan was held by the City of Grand Rapids on July 27, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Kent County annually contributes approximately $6.4 million of its tax levy in the form of either tax abatement or tax capture by Tax Increment Authority Districts in the various units of local government within the County; and

WHEREAS, adoption and implementation of the proposed plan will result in a portion of the County’s tax levy being captured by the City of Grand Rapids Madison Square Corridor Improvement Authority; and

WHEREAS, the County of Kent is required to assess the impact on the County’s financial condition, which would result from adoption of this Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan; and

WHEREAS, Act 280, P.A. of 2005, as amended, provides that not more than sixty days after a public hearing on the plan, the governing body of the jurisdiction levying property taxes that would otherwise be subject to capture, may exempt its taxes from capture by adoption of a resolution to that effect; and

WHEREAS, this action is consistent with the County’s Economic Development Policy.

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 280, P.A. of 2005, as amended, to exempt its property taxes from capture in the area to be established as the City of Grand Rapids Madison Square Corridor Improvement Authority-Tax Increment Financing District by the proposed plan, which was the subject of the public hearing held on July 27, 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Clerk of City of Grand Rapids, as required by Act 280, P.A. of 2005, as amended.

(Commissioner Voorhees requested a Roll Call vote.)
Motion by Commissioner Vander Molen, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

8-12-10-68 – CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS UPTOWN CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS / FISCAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Rapids has proposed to adopt a Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Uptown Corridor Improvement Authority-Tax Increment Financing District; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed plan was held by the City of Grand Rapids on July 27, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Kent County annually contributes approximately $6.4 million of its tax levy in the form of either tax abatement or tax capture by Tax Increment Authority Districts in the various units of local government within the County; and

WHEREAS, adoption and implementation of the proposed plan will result in a portion of the County’s tax levy being captured by the City of Grand Rapids Uptown Corridor Improvement Authority; and

WHEREAS, the County of Kent is required to assess the impact on the County’s financial condition, which would result from adoption of this Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan; and

WHEREAS, Act 280, P.A. of 2005, as amended, provides that not more than sixty days after a public hearing on the plan, the governing body of the jurisdiction levying property taxes that would otherwise be subject to capture, may exempt its taxes from capture by adoption of a resolution to that effect; and

WHEREAS, this action is consistent with the County’s Economic Development Policy.

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 280, P.A. of 2005, as amended, to exempt its property taxes from capture in the area to be established as the City of Grand Rapids Uptown Corridor Improvement Authority-Tax Increment Financing District by the proposed plan, which was the subject of the public hearing held on July 27, 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Clerk of City of Grand Rapids, as required by Act 280, P.A. of 2005, as amended.

(Commissioner Voorhees requested a Roll Call vote.)

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

Motion carried:

REPORTS

Land Bank Authority
Commissioner Ponstein: The Land Bank Authority met in June to establish guidelines which are now available if Commissioners would like a copy.
Legislative Committee
Commissioner Vonk: The Department of Veterans’ Affairs recently presented to
the Legislative and Human Resources Committee and Carrie Roy, the new
Director, is doing a great job.

Recycling Facility
Commissioner Tanis: The dedication of the new single-stream recycling facility
will be Friday, August 20th at 11 a.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

MAC Conference
Commissioner Ponstein: The Michigan Association of Counties (MAC)
Conference will be held at the Amway this coming week.

4-H Youth Fair
Commissioner Ponstein: The County 4-H Youth Fair is being held this week in
Lowell and encouraged all to attend.

Citizen Appointments
Chair Parrish: The citizen appointment process will begin soon. She
encouraged Commissioners to communicate with constituents regarding these
appointments.

MPP Subcommittee
Chair Parrish: She has appointed a Management Pay Plan (MPP)
Subcommittee to look at the MPP Plan. The subcommittee will consist of Chair
Parrish (Chair), Commissioners Vander Molen, Bulkowski, Hickey, and Antor and
will meet immediately following this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:32 a.m., Commissioner Vaughn moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the
Chair, and to Thursday, August 26, 2010, Room 310, County Administration
Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Dillon.
Motion carried.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair
Mary Hollintake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Bulkowski – 1 (Excused).

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Don Zerial, 7377 Cascade Terrace SE, Grand Rapids – He clarified, after receiving questions regarding what his point is during Public Comment at Board of Commissioner meetings, that it is always the “economic tsunamis” from the past, present and future. He referred to exhibits: 1) an article from the Wall Street Journal on wind power dated, August 24, 2010; 2) letter he sent to Cascade Charter Township, dated August 20, 2010; 3) letter he sent to Ken Sikkema at Public Sector Consultants, dated March 8, 2008; and, 4) letter he mailed to William Rustem, President & CEO of Public Sector Consultants, dated April 17, 2008 (copies of exhibits on file in the Office of the County Clerk).

2. Commissioner Tanis presented an award to Dennis Kmiecik, Director of Solid Waste at the Department of Public Works, from the Solid Waste Association of North America for Kent County’s management of solid waste.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of August 12, 2010, meeting

b) August 17, 2010, Finance Committee Meeting (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Appointment: Kent District Library Board (Region 3) – Sarah Weller

d) Resolutions:

8-26-10-69 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITIES AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners approved acceptance of HOME Investment Partnership Program funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as part of the Annual Action Plan for FY 2010-2011; and
WHEREAS, up to five percent of the annual HOME allocation may be awarded within five years of the award to a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) for use on “reasonable administrative and necessary planning costs for the operation of the HOME program”; and

WHEREAS, Lighthouse Communities, Inc. (Lighthouse), a non-profit housing corporation is a Kent County CHDO. The HOME operating funds will assist Lighthouse in continuing to provide affordable housing to eligible very-low income and low-income households within Kent County; and

WHEREAS, the proposed agreement provides $33,380 to Lighthouse for non-project administrative and capacity-building costs. The agreement also obligates Lighthouse to enter into a project agreement to carry out the development of eligible HOME assisted housing activities in Kent County within twelve (12) months of this agreement; and

WHEREAS, the contract period commences upon execution of this agreement and shall remain in effect for a period of one year; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners contract with Lighthouse Communities, Inc. for the said HOME funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the agreement and other related ancillary legal documents.

8-26-10-70 – AUTHORIZATION FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE AND BUDGET AMENDMENT – BLACK CREEK / LINCOLN LAKE PROJECT / DRAIN COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Water Bureau, provides federal pass-through funds from the EPA for non-point source implementation to improve water quality and address severe erosion; and

WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner will use the funds for tracking, monitoring and implementing a plan to reduce E. coli contamination in the Black Creek watershed and for developing a restoration design that will address severe erosion and sedimentation problems between 19 Mile Road and Lincoln Lake; and

WHEREAS, the project will be a cooperative effort between the Kent County Drain Commissioner, Montcalm County Drain Commissioner, and Black Creek Intercounty Drainage Board; and

WHEREAS, the Section 319 grant will require a 26.65% match by the grantee. Since the project will benefit the Black Creek Intercounty Drainage District, the matching funds will be provided by apportioning the costs to the benefiting communities ($21,017) and in-kind staff support provided by Kent County ($6,900), Montcalm County ($1,600), and indirect costs ($1,380); and

WHEREAS, the grant period is July 9, 2010 to September 30, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners accept the grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for $85,050 and the local unit match; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates $115,947 from the MDNR and apportioned costs to the Special Projects Fund - Black Creek/Lincoln Lake Project.
WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Community Health has made $115,671 in funding available to the Kent County Health Department for the HIV Expanded Testing Program; and
WHEREAS, initially this funding was made available for FY2010 only; and MDCH has now indicated that this funding is available through September 30, 2012; and
WHEREAS, due to the temporary nature of the initial funding, the Health Department originally requested approval to hire a contractual position to perform outreach and testing activities. Now that the funding is more long-term, a request is being made to change this temporary contractual position to a regular part-time position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approve converting an existing contractual position to a regular part-time position in the Health Department’s Personal Health Service Program; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event grant funding is eliminated, the position will be eliminated unless continuation funding is approved pursuant to the Fiscal Policy on Grants.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of State Police – Emergency Management Division provides federal pass-through funds for homeland security programs; and
WHEREAS, the Office of Emergency Management and appointment of the Emergency Management Coordinator was delegated (resolution 1-28-93-12) to the Sheriff’s Office in 1993; and
WHEREAS, the Office of Emergency Management is responsible for coordinating countywide disaster preparedness and provides the means to discharge the responsibilities vested in the Board by Public Act 390 of 1976; and
WHEREAS, the purpose of this grant is to provide funds to defray a portion of the salary and benefits of the existing Emergency Management Coordinator; and
WHEREAS, the funds support the development and maintenance of an emergency management program capable of protecting life, property, and vital infrastructure in times of disaster or emergency; and
WHEREAS, for FY 2010, the allocation for Kent County was determined to be almost 38 percent of its emergency program manager’s salary and benefits or $43,100; and
WHEREAS, the grant period is October 1, 2009, to September 30, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners accept a FY 2010 State Homeland Security – Emergency Management Performance Grant; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair to sign all grant related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Dillon, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the remaining Consent Agenda items be approved.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

8-26-10-69 – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITIES AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners approved acceptance of HOME Investment Partnership Program funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as part of the Annual Action Plan for FY 2010-2011; and
WHEREAS, up to five percent of the annual HOME allocation may be awarded within five years of the award to a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) for use on "reasonable administrative and necessary planning costs for the operation of the HOME program"; and
WHEREAS, Lighthouse Communities, Inc. (Lighthouse), a non-profit housing corporation is a Kent County CHDO. The HOME operating funds will assist Lighthouse in continuing to provide affordable housing to eligible very-low income and low-income households within Kent County; and
WHEREAS, the proposed agreement provides $33,380 to Lighthouse for non-project administrative and capacity-building costs. The agreement also obligates Lighthouse to enter into a project agreement to carry out the development of eligible HOME assisted housing activities in Kent County within twelve (12) months of this agreement; and
WHEREAS, the contract period commences upon execution of this agreement and shall remain in effect for a period of one year; and
WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners contract with Lighthouse Communities, Inc. for the said Home funds; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the agreement and other related ancillary legal documents.

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

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

RESOLUTION

8-26-10-73 – MICHIGAN WOMEN, INFANT AND CHILDREN (WIC) PEER COUNSELING PROGRAM GRANT / HEALTH DEPARTMENT
WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Community Health has made $260,000 in funding available to the Kent County Health Department for the Michigan Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Peer Counseling program for FY 2010-2011 with the program funded by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Loving Support funds earmarked for Breastfeeding peer counseling services offered in WIC clinics; and

WHEREAS, the Peer Counselor program will provide additional support for pregnant and breastfeeding WIC clients with the goal of increasing breastfeeding initiation and duration; and routine, periodic counseling for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers will occur by telephone or in the WIC clinic; and counselors will be available for client calls outside of normal business hours.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners accept $260,000 in funding from the Michigan Department of Community Health for the WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counseling program for FY 2010-2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners support the work required by the program, to create three full-time and two part-time Outreach Worker positions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event grant funding is eliminated, the positions will be eliminated unless continuation funding is approved pursuant to the Fiscal Policy on Grants.

Motion by Commissioner Hennessy, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays:   0.

8-26-10-74 – UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (U.S. EPA) ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GRANT FOR FY 2010 / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Health Department has received notice from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) that $25,000 in grant funds are available for the Children’s Environmental Health Initiative to expand on the Integrated Pest Management and Radon program at the Kent County Health Department; and

WHEREAS, through this funding, the Children’s Environmental Health Initiative’s Integrated Pest Management program will train ten community members to perform radon testing and teach Integrated Pest Management assessment and remediation techniques to these individuals who will then assist their neighbors with pest issues in their homes, provide families with education on proper home cleaning and maintenance for avoidance of pests, and assist the family in developing an individualized Integrated Pest Management plan; and

WHEREAS, the project will concentrate Integrated Pest Management and radon marketing in nine neighborhood associations located in the southeast quadrant of Grand Rapids.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners accept and appropriate $25,000 in funding from the U.S. EPA Environmental Justice Small Grant Program for a Children’s Environmental Health Initiative Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Radon program for FY 2010.
Motion by Commissioner Hennessy, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays:  0.

REPORTS

There were no reports.

MISCELLANEOUS

Germane comments
Commissioner Agee suggested that the Chair consider a “policy” that individuals keep their comments germane when addressing the Board during Public Comment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:49 a.m., Commissioner Dillon moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, September 9, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Voorhees. Motion carried.

____________________________                ______________________________
Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair       Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Synk gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Sister Lucille Janowiak, 2025 E. Fulton, Grand Rapids (Agricultural Preservation Board member) - She encouraged Commissioners to vote for the Purchase of Development Rights funding. Providing food is an essential service and a health issue. A good economic and business investment, it is an essential service for all of us. Preserving farmland provides an infrastructure for the business of farming. It provides reasons for young people who have an interest in the business of farming to pursue the difficult but necessary service industry that benefits the whole community.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Kent District Library Annual Update

Shirley Bruursema, Chair of the Kent District Library Board, thanked the Board for time to share the 2009 KDL Annual Report (copy on file in the Office of the County Clerk). This has been a busy time for KDL; former Director Martha Esch retired in June and a search for her replacement is ongoing. A KDL Board vacancy was recently filled by Sarah Weller (Region 3). The annual budget hearing for FY 2011 will be held on September 16th. The libraries are busier than ever with an increase in usage but a decline in revenue. She thanked Commissioners Tanis, Dillon, Agee and Vaughn, who are leaving at the end of the year, for their interest and continued support of KDL. She introduced Assistant Director, and, currently, Interim Director, Cheryl Garrison.

Ms. Garrison reported that 3 out of 4 county residents have library cards and last year they served enough visitors to fill the Van Andel Arena 300 times over. During these difficult economic times, people turn to the library more than ever. KDL is a top-ten library in terms of the number of items checked out, visitors served, computer users, and program attendees. In the past year, usage is up in almost every measurable area: a 10% increase in the number of items checked out, an 11% increase in card holders, and, a 4% increase in visitors. Over 21,000 children participated in the summer reading club. Studies show that children who read over the summer go back to school without the summer reading loss and better prepared to learn. Funding levels continue to decrease. Over 88% of the budget is derived from property taxes, but
from 2009-2010 that funding source dropped by $600,000. The other two sources of funding are state aid down by $168,000, and penal fines (traffic tickets) which are down by $127,000. That is about $1-million decrease out of a $16-million dollar budget. To meet funding challenges, KDL has streamlined internal processes that do not effect customers (eliminated 11 management positions, centralized their phone system). 2009 Strategic Plan contains five major areas: 1) the very best & newest materials for adults, teens & children; 2) continue efforts for early literacy; 3) important that library is a place where families can come and have experiences that promote cross-cultural growth and awareness; 4) the internet is important, and, 5) recognition that the library has a responsibility to help people navigate the information. They could not do this without the partnerships with the County, the cities and townships that KDL serves.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of August 26, 2010, meeting

b) Resolutions:

9-9-10-75 – RELEASE OF CONSTRUCTION AND FILL EASEMENT, & ASSIGNMENT OF EASEMENT TO ESBAUGH DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT / DRAIN COMMISSION

WHEREAS, Brockton Group LLC owns property at 4120 Brockton Drive, Kentwood; and

WHEREAS, a temporary construction and fill easement was granted to the County in 1974 to support the construction of a drain; and

WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner has received a request from Brockton Group LLC for release of 200-foot construction and fill easement; and

WHEREAS, the Drain Commission has determined that the purpose for which the construction easement was established has ceased to exist, and therefore, a release terminating the construction easement is in order; and

WHEREAS, the easement also provides for a 50-foot drainage easement, which will not be terminated and will remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner has indicated that the drainage easement is currently part of the existing Esbaugh Drain Drainage District, and that it is appropriate for the County assign the drainage easement to Esbaugh Drain Drainage District; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the release of the construction easement and the assignment of the 50-foot drainage easement to Esbaugh Drain Drainage District for execution. Both of these documents will be recorded with Kent County Register of Deeds office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the release of 200-foot construction easement, and the execution of the assignment of 50-foot drainage easement to Esbaugh Drain Drainage District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the release and the assignment of easement.
9-9-10-76 – ACCEPT A FY 2011 ACCESS AND VISITATION GRANT 
AND BUDGET AMENDMENT / FRIEND OF THE COURT

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) provides funding to counties to facilitate parental access and visitation including but not limited to improving relationships between children and noncustodial parents; and

WHEREAS, the FOC will contract with Journies, LLC to supervise the parenting time visits where the court feels there is a need for supervision; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Journies will also monitor parenting time exchanges for a safe transfer of children between the non custodial parent and the custodial parent; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated grant period is October 1, 2010, to September 30, 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Friend of the Court’s request to accept an Access and Visitation Grant from the Michigan State Court Administrative Office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriate $13,550 to the Friend of the Court’s – Special Projects budget; and

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

(Commissioner Agee requested that Item A – Approval of Minutes of August 26, 2010 Meeting be removed from the Consent Agenda.)

Motion by Commissioner Synk, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, that the remaining Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

a) Approval of the Minutes of August 26, 2010, meeting

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve the Minutes of August 26, 2010, meeting.

Commissioner Agee asked that his “Miscellaneous” comments of August 26, 2010, be corrected to show that he had suggested that the Chair enforce or consider enforcing the relevance clause in our public comment standing rules policy … the minutes as written imply that he was requesting that we adopt a relevance policy, we already have a relevance policy.

Germane comments
Commissioner Agee suggested that the Chair consider enforcing the relevance clause in the “public comment standing rules policy” that individuals keep their comments germane when addressing the Board during Public Comment.
RESOLUTION

9-9-10-77 – EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATOR / CONTROLLER / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners, on February 25, 1999, appointed Daryl Delabbio as County Administrator/Controller; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative and Human Resources Committee, pursuant to Resolution 2-25-99-20, developed and recommended approval of the Employment Agreement by and between the Board of Commissioners and Mr. Delabbio; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative and Human Resources Committee has developed proposed changes to said Employment Agreement and is recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve those changes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Employment Agreement by and between the Kent County Board of Commissioners and Daryl Delabbio effective for the period January 1, 2011, through December 31, 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Kent County Board of Commissioners, or Vice-Chair in her absence, is authorized to sign the Employment Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the agreement need not be included in the minutes as a copy is on file with the County Clerk.

Motion by Commissioner Ponstein, seconded by Commissioner Vonk, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

9-9-10-78 – ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY – REPLACING PERSONNEL VACANCIES REVISION / HUMAN RESOURCES

WHEREAS, on May 28, 2009, the Board adopted a Replacing Personnel Vacancies Policy which suspended the replacement of vacancies created through voluntary or involuntary termination, in order to conduct a thorough analysis of the alternatives to hiring a replacement and the impact of not filling the position. The policy created a Personnel Review Committee (PRC) and established a process for reviewing the need for the position and providing a recommendation to the County Administrator/Controller; and
WHEREAS, the PRC meets monthly to review requests for hiring exceptions for positions that have been vacant for sixty days. In a few situations, waiting sixty days to present a proposal to the PRC, and subsequently beginning the recruitment and selection process has led to significant operational ineffectiveness and inefficiency; and

WHEREAS, a pre-emption option is needed in the policy to effectively manage this type of situation. The recommended change is as follows:

Section 5.c. When the inability to replace a vacancy demonstrates clearly identifiable operational ineffectiveness, financial inefficiency, and/or the immediate failure to provide a mandated service, the Human Resources Director may recommend to the Administrator/Controller pre-empting further review by the PRC and the Administrator/Controller may authorize recruitment and hiring of the position.

The Personnel Review Committee shall be advised of such recommendation at such time that it is made to the Administrator/Controller.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby adopt a change to the Administrative Policy - Replacing Personnel Vacancies.

Motion by Commissioner Dillon, seconded by Commissioner Bulkowski, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion by Commissioner Dillon, seconded by Commissioner Talen, that the resolution be amended to add the words and shall review as follows:

The Personnel Review Committee shall be advised of and shall review such recommendation at such time that it is made to the Administrator/Controller.

Motion to amend carried:
Nays: Ponstein, Morgan, Agee, Chair Parrish – 4.

Motion by Commissioner Voorhees, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, to refer the resolution back to the Legislative & Human Resources Committee for review. Motion failed.
Yes: Voorhees, Tanis – 2.

9-9-10-78 – ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY – REPLACING PERSONNEL VACANCIES REVISION / HUMAN RESOURCES

WHEREAS, on May 28, 2009, the Board adopted a Replacing Personnel Vacancies Policy which suspended the replacement of vacancies created through voluntary or involuntary termination, in order to conduct a thorough analysis of the alternatives to hiring a replacement and the impact of not filling the position. The policy created a Personnel Review Committee (PRC) and established a process for reviewing the need for the position and providing a recommendation to the County Administrator/Controller; and
WHEREAS, the PRC meets monthly to review requests for hiring exceptions for positions that have been vacant for sixty days. In a few situations, waiting sixty days to present a proposal to the PRC, and subsequently beginning the recruitment and selection process has led to significant operational ineffectiveness and inefficiency; and

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The Personnel Review Committee shall be advised of and shall review such recommendation at such time that it is made to the Administrator/Controller.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby adopt a change to the Administrative Policy - Replacing Personnel Vacancies.

Motion to adopt amended resolution carried:
Nays: Ponstein – 1.

9-9-10-79 – PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENTAL RIGHTS – LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND / KENT / MSU EXTENSION

WHEREAS, in April 2010, the Kent County Agricultural Preservation Board submitted a grant application to the Lowell Area Community Fund and was subsequently awarded $50,000 for farmland preservation through the PDR program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the agreement, the funds will be utilized for the purchase of development rights in Lowell and Vergennes Townships. There are no matching fund requirements in this agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby accept and appropriate a $50,000 grant from the Lowell Area Community Fund to the Farmland Preservation Budget for the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) and authorize the Board Chair to sign the agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Talen, seconded by Commissioner Rolls, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

REPORTS

Department of Public Works
Commissioner Tanis: The DPW’s exciting year will continue on November 10th when the DPW holds a mortgage burning at the waste-to-energy facility along with a news conference.
Sports Commission Annual Luncheon
Commissioner Voorhees: The West Michigan Sports Commission will hold its annual luncheon in September.

Assistant Administrator Wayman Britt: The luncheon will be held Monday, September 20 at 12:00 pm at the JW Marriott with guests, Coaches George Perles (MSU) and Lloyd Carr (U of M).

Downtown Development Authority
Commissioner Talen: The DDA met yesterday at which the group that is behind the statue commemorating Rosa Parks announced that their fundraising drive went over their goal and later this month the installation of the statue will occur.

MISCELLANEOUS

Reports for Information
Commissioner Ponstein: Requested information on new trash fees. Also, with regard to recruiting new employees, he would like information on what the county does to recruit people.

Commissioner Tanis: The fees at the waste-to-energy facility are $74 a ton and will go down to $47-$48 on January 1st. The press conference will let the people know about the reduced fare.

Emergency Fund
Commissioner Synk: Commented on today’s earlier budget discussion where Administrator Delabbio reported that there are approximately $70 million in savings of which $22 million is designated as emergency. Since many of his constituents are suffering from an economic emergency right now and when the County lay’s off people to balance the budget we make the situation worse for the rest of the residents of Kent County, he suggested that other Commissioners think about the idea of reducing the emergency designation by $3 million. These monies could be used for our budget to lay off fewer people.

Recruitment Report
Commissioner Courtade: Asked if Commissioners could get a report on what the County is doing as far as recruiting displaced workers. Could displaced workers move into retirees’ positions? (Chair Parrish said that this information would be included in Commissioner Ponstein’s request for the recruitment process.)

Administrator/Controller Praise
Commissioner Hirsch: When times are difficult, and people face troubling situations, one thing people look for is a stable environment. He thinks the County is very fortunate to have Daryl Delabbio as Administrator/Controller. He wishes the contract was a six-year term instead of a three, because everyone who sits on the board realizes how difficult this job truly is and the decisions that need to be made. He thanked Administrator Delabbio for doing an outstanding job.

Agriculture Preservation Board
Commissioner Hirsch: Thanked the entire Board for accepting the Lowell Grant to the Agriculture Preservation Board and thanked Sister Lucille for her public comment this morning. This issue was pulled a couple of months ago from a Finance Committee agenda and is still waiting on a Frey Foundation grant which he encouraged the Finance Committee to take action on. One problem that the Agriculture Preservation Board has had to deal with is not knowing from one year to the next what they will have to work with as far as funds. He was of the
understanding that the sub-committee recommended $1 million in funding over three years. He encouraged the Finance Committee to find a way to put $350,000 in the PDR budget.

Appointment Process
Commissioner Talen: He has people asking about the appointment process for boards and committees. He would like to encourage whoever appoints the committee to announce the members and when they will be meeting.

Chair Parrish: The application process goes through September 17th. Due to the number of applicants, the Legislative Committee will most likely have two committees reviewing the applications. This should be announced within the next couple of weeks and the process will be transparent.

Administrator/Controller Service Pin
Chair Parrish: Thanked Administrator/Controller Delabbio for his service and presented him with his 15-year service pin. She said that he has done an outstanding job again. She knows that he is working around the clock on the Board’s behalf and behest and couldn’t be more thankful that the County has this stability at the helm.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:34 a.m., Commissioner Synk moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, September 23, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Dillon. Motion carried.
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Vonk gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Black, 2470 Omega Drive, Plainfield Township - He cannot say the Pledge of Allegiance with the Board of Commission because there is “no justice for all.” Stated the dictionary definitions of “threat” and “warning” referring to his public comments given at the November 19, 2009, Board meeting. He stated that something was taken from him on January 1, 2010. Until that something is restored to him, he will be at future Board meetings, that is not a threat, it is a promise.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Land Bank Authority Update
Ken Parrish, Treasurer, gave a brief update on the Land Bank Authority (LBA). In March, 2010, board members were appointed to the Land Bank Authority and since that time, the LBA has been working with the Center for Community Progress (f/k/a Genesee Institute) to establish the Authority’s mission statement and policies. The Authority will approve governing documents at its October meeting and will soon look at actual properties to bring into the “Bank.”

Strong Beginnings Update
Peggy Vander Meulen, Program Director of Strong Beginnings, updated the Board on Progress in Infant Mortality in Kent County (copy of PowerPoint presentation on file in the Office of the County Clerk). In 2001-2003, Grand Rapids had the highest black infant mortality rate of any city in Michigan. Healthy Kent 2010 created the Infant Health Implementation Team (IHIT) to: 1) reduce overall infant mortality in Kent County; 2) eliminate racial disparities; 3) improve health care system. Strong Beginnings began as part of this process with three key issues: 1) access to quality care; 2) preventing unintended pregnancies; 3) racism. With funding from Healthy Start beginning in 2004, Strong Beginnings partnered with Arbor Circle, Cherry Street Health Services, Metro Health, The Salvation Army and others, to work with high risk pregnant women. This group has been instrumental in the declining infant mortality rates in Kent County.
CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of September 9, 2010, meeting and work session

b) September 7, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

Motion by Commissioner Vonk, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

RESOLUTION

9-23-10-80 – FISCAL YEAR BUDGETS FOR FY 2011 / FISCAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Finance and Physical Resources Committee will begin to review the Recommended FY 2011 Budget in detail on October 5, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the resolution for the FY 2011 General Appropriation Act resolution will be presented to the Kent County Board for adoption on November 18, 2010; and

WHEREAS, estimated total sources and appropriations for the October 1, 2010, through September 30, 2011, fiscal year Budgets are recommended as follows:

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<th>General Fund</th>
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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates $72,513,422 from estimated sources and Special Projects Fund reserves to Special Revenue Funds for the October 1, 2010, through September 30, 2011, budgets for FY 2011.

Motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.
WHEREAS, the County has, pursuant to Resolution 3-11-10-11 on March 11, 2010, allocated $12,500,000 of the national allocation it received pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115 (2009) (the "ARRA"), for the issuance pursuant to the ARRA of recovery zone facility bonds ("RZFBs") by The Economic Development Corporation of the City of Grand Rapids (the "GREDC") for the Old Post Office Project, a/k/a the Ferris State University Project (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, Public Act 153 of 2010 requires the County to adopt a resolution describing the Project and the intent for RZFBs to be issued by the GREDC; otherwise the County is deemed to have waived all or a part of its allocation for the Project after October 8, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kent, Michigan:

1. That the Project for which the RZFBs allocation has been made is described as the historic rehabilitation and renovation of the former Federal Building and United States Courthouse located at 135-137 Ionia Avenue, N.W., in the City of Grand Rapids, Michigan, for use by Ferris State University and its Kendall College of Art and Design as classrooms, faculty and administrative offices, galleries, and related uses.

2. That the County is advised that RZFBs will be issued for the Project in the amount of the allocation by the GREDC.

3. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith shall be and same are hereby rescinded.

Motion by Commissioner Bulkowski, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, that the resolution be adopted.


Nays: 0.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115 (2009) (the "ARRA"), the County has, pursuant to Resolution 8-13-09-89 adopted by the Board of Commissioners on August 13, 2009, designated the entire County as a "recovery zone" for the purpose of the issuance of recovery zone facility bonds; and

WHEREAS, for a project, as described in the ARRA, to be eligible for financing through the issuance of recovery zone facility bonds, it must be located in a "recovery zone" and receive an allocation of volume cap allocated to the County by the United States Department of Treasury ("Treasury") and the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") for such bonds; and
WHEREAS, Treasury and the IRS have, pursuant to Sections 1400U-1(a), 1400U-2 and 1400U-3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, allocated a volume cap of $54,857,000 to the County for the issuance of recovery zone bonds; and

WHEREAS, SHM Partners and Fifty-Fifty Entertainment (collectively, the “Developers”) intend to undertake the acquisition, construction and installation of a music and film complex to be located at 2150 Alpine Avenue, N.W., in the City of Walker (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Project will be located in the recovery zone designated by the County and the Developers have requested that a portion of the volume cap allocated to the County for recovery zone facility bonds in an amount not to exceed $28,500,000 be allocated by the County to the Michigan Strategic Fund and/or The Economic Development Corporation of the City of Walker (the “Issuer”) for the Project to enable the Issuer to issue recovery zone facility bonds to finance all or a portion of the costs of the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kent, Michigan:

1. That the County hereby allocates an amount not to exceed $28,500,000 of the recovery zone facility bonds volume cap it has received from Treasury and the IRS to the Issuer for the Project.

2. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith shall be and the same are hereby rescinded.

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


Nays: 0.

9-23-10-83 – AMEND NETWORK180 AGREEMENT – TEMPORARY FUNDING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AT THE JAIL / SHERIFF / NETWORK180

WHEREAS, for many years, the Sheriff’s Department has partnered with network180 to provide mental health services for inmates at the Kent County Correctional Facility. However, as a result of a recent opinion from the Attorney General, the State Department of Community Health has made an administrative decision to prohibit local community mental health authorities (network180) from using State General Fund dollars to partner with counties to provide mental health services for inmates; and

WHEREAS, network180 notified the Sheriff’s Department that a portion of the mental health services at the jail which are funded by network180 will no longer be provided beginning October 1, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the service through the end of the year is approximately $51,000. In order to maintain the current service level through December 31 to allow for a longer-term resolution to the problem to be worked out, the Sheriff’s Department has identified $17,000 in their 2010 budget available for the service, and network180 has made available $17,000 in non-State General Fund dollars. network180 has also been able to secure Medicaid and other funding for the Family Engagement Program, which is part of the annual appropriation for the County’s Prevention Initiative. As a result, network180 will be unable to spend its entire appropriation and is expected to lapse funds in 2010 which will be returned to the County if they are unused; and
WHEREAS, this amendment will enable network180 to use a portion of the funds which would lapse to fund the continuation of jail mental health services without requiring an additional appropriation from the County; and
WHEREAS, staff continues to work with the State legislature to secure a legislative solution that will not allow the Department of Community Health to prohibit local community mental health authorities from partnering with counties to fund mental health services for inmates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approve an amendment to the Agreement with network180 - Family Engagement Program to allow up to $17,000 in unexpended funds to be utilized to fund mental health services to inmates at the Kent County Correctional Facility through December 31, 2010.

Motion by Commissioner Bulkowski, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried by voice vote.

9-23-10-84 – 2011 MANAGEMENT PAY PLAN (MPP) COMPENSATION PLAN
/ HUMAN RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the Management Pay Plan (MPP) Compensation Program, as authorized by the Board of Commissioners, provides for periodic review and adjustment of the pay structure for MPP positions. An MPP Subcommittee was established to work with Human Resources to develop a recommendation; and
WHEREAS, the Subcommittee recommends that MPP employees in the lowest pay ranges (Bands A, B, and employees paid below the midpoint of band C) receive merit increases effective January 1, 2011. Performance increases will be based on employee’s current position in the pay range and performance evaluation score and are estimated at 0.73% of MPP payroll reducing some of the compression issues caused by no 2010 MPP increases; and
WHEREAS, the recommendation additionally provides for a 1.25% general increase for all MPP employees, which is consistent with union increases provided in the County’s Concession/Retirement Incentive proposal to all bargaining units; and
WHEREAS, it is further recommended that the salary ranges be increased by 2% in 2011. The ranges were not increased on 2010 and an increase is necessary in 2011 to maintain a competitive compensation structure; there are no increases associated with the 2% range adjustment; and
WHEREAS, the recommendation includes increasing the Dental Insurance Annual Family Maximum from $2200 to $2300 consistent with prior bargaining unit contract settlements; and
WHEREAS, consistent with the County’s Concession/Retirement Incentive proposal, MPP staff hired on or after January 1, 2011 will be subject to the new minimum age requirements for retirement under the County Pension Plan and effective January 1, 2012, the employee contribution cap for the Pension Plan will increase to 7.5 percent; and
WHEREAS, the recommendations are consistent with the budget parameters set by the Finance and Physical Resources Committee for budget year 2011; and
WHEREAS, the Legislative and Human Resources Committee reviewed and recommends approval of the MPP Subcommittee recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Kent County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the recommendations of the MPP Subcommittee.
Motion by Commissioner Rolls, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion by Commissioner Courtade to amend the resolution to state that any increases are capped at 2.5% and are split over the next two years (2011-2012). Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by Commissioner Synk, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, to postpone. Motion failed:
Yeas: Courtade, Hickey, Bulkowski, Dillon, Synk – 5.

Motion to adopt resolution carried:
Nays: Courtade, Dillon, Synk - 3.

REPORTS

Land Bank Authority
Commissioner Ponstein: Thanked Treasurer Parrish for bringing the Land Bank to Kent County. Kent County’s Land Bank will be very unique to Kent County, very optimistic and open minded on the different things we can do and parties we can bring to the table.

MISCELLANEOUS

Agenda
Commissioner Agee: Today’s agenda encompassed a spirited debate on the fiscal health of the County, great work on a creative solution for mental health, took several economic development actions including one that is leading the state in terms of its creativeness and did spectacular long-term work on reducing infant mortality rates. He is proud to work with this group (Board of Commissioners).

Daughters of the American Revolution
Commissioner Ponstein: Announced that the Daughters of the American Revolution are holding its state convention in Kent County this weekend.

POWs/MIAs Commemoration
Commissioner Antor: He appreciated the opportunity to attend a commemoration of the POWs/MIAs at the veterans’ facility. There are a lot of people unaccounted for (as a result of America’s wars) and their families live with it daily. He encouraged everyone to attend this commemoration next year.

Strong Beginnings & Land Bank Authority
Commissioner Courtade: Expressed his appreciation for the good work being done at Strong Beginnings and on the Land Bank Authority.

Dedications & Citizen Appointments
Chair Parrish: Over the last few weeks, proclamations have been given for Dr. Melinda Sapp Day and Joe Sypniewski Day at the Zoo.

A number of applications for the citizen appointment openings have been received. The process will begin next week and will include members of both standing committees under Legislative Chair Vonk’s leadership.
ADJOURNMENT

At 9:45 a.m., Commissioner Vonk moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, October 14, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 6:00 p.m., for the Annual Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Hirsch. Motion carried.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Ponstein, Vonk (Excused) - 2.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Black, 2470 Omega Drive, Plainfield Township – Complained about political ads bashing each other, the tension in the jail kitchen last year, the Sheriff and Undersheriff and, the fact that he didn’t get a retirement incentive when he retired.

Brenda Stringer, Executive Director of the John Ball Zoological Society - Thanked the Board for its support of the Zoo. She announced that the Zoo was just awarded its 5-year accreditation by the American Zoological and Aquarium Association (AZA) and thanked Zoo staff for their hard work all year long.

Gabe Hudson, 8269 Kalamazoo Avenue – As Chair of the Agricultural Preservation Board, he asked the Board to provide the recommended monetary resources the Ag Board needs for land preservation.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) Update
Jim Maddy explained the recent accreditation for the John Ball Zoo. The Zoo was noted “outstanding” for the health and welfare of the animals. Its education programs are considered excellent and the zoo is recognized nationally as a leader in that area. Kent County should be proud of its zoo and zoo staff. He read and presented Bert Vescolani, Zoo Director, with the accreditation plaque.

Foreign Trade Zone Update
Ken Rizzio, Chair – Kent-Ottawa-Muskegon Foreign Trade Zone Authority (KOM-FTZ) - was joined by Sonja Johnson (Van Andel Global Trade Center) and John Zevalkink (Columbian Logistics Network). Mr. Rizzio explained that the Foreign Trade Zone, a federal program which was set up in the 1930s, is a tool to help businesses compete on a global platform. KOM-FTZ established its General Purpose Zone in 1993 which provides space for multiple users to conduct their trade related activities often at substantial cost savings. The key objective is to keep manufacturing jobs local where the zones are located. Grand Valley State University provides the staff and administrative support. In 2009, the first sub-zone was activated when Wolverine World Wide had three of their distribution centers designated sub-zones.
Ms. Johnson said that trade zones are an effective tool. Back in 1993, counties working collaboratively combining their resources had the vision of what zones could become. There are nine sites that have been designated across the tri-county area, of which Kent County has five. In 2008, a total of 11,173 jobs were located in the trade zones throughout the state.

Mr. Zevalkink’s company (Columbian Logistics Network) is a provider of warehousing and transportation services to the commercial industry. A sub-zone, a tool used by a major manufacturer, is expensive and takes a lot of time to create. As a general purpose zone operator, Columbian Logistics Network provides the facilities for those wishing to utilize a foreign trade zone. They give a company of any size the ability to take advantage of the same principles that a large company can.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of September 23, 2010, meeting

b) September 21 & October 5, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Establish Public Hearing Date and Time – November 4, 2010, 8:30 a.m.

1) Proposed 2011 Budget

d) Appointment – Department of Human Services (DHS) Board – Jerry Kooiman

e) Resolutions:

10-14-10-85 - 2010 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.

10-14-10-86 – AMEND FY 2010 BUDGET FOR A 2008 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT / SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners adopted the Sheriff’s 2008 State Homeland Security Grant in January 2010 (Resolution 1-28-10-03 for $156,918); and

WHEREAS, starting with grant year 2006, the Homeland Security Grant funding allotments were allocated on a regional basis. Kent
County was placed into Region 6 of the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC), which is part of a 13 county region; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2010, the City of Kentwood announced their intention to withdraw as an Emergency Management Program Grant recipient and relinquish Emergency Management responsibilities to Kent County. Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board approved the transfer of contracted funds of $2,000 in planning incidentals from Kentwood’s allotment to Kent County’s allotment on January 25, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the additional allocation will increase the total grant amount by $2,000 from $156,918 to $158,918. Planner wages and benefits are $154,918 (no change) and Planner incidentals will be $4,000 (up from $2,000); and

WHEREAS, the additional funds will help to enhance the County’s abilities to mitigate, prepare, respond and recover in times of disaster or emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners accepts $2,000 in additional funding for a State Homeland Security Grant from the Michigan Department of State Police; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates an additional $2,000 from the Michigan Department of State Police – Emergency Management Division to the FY 2010 Sheriff’s Emergency Management Budget – Special Projects Fund.

10-14-10-87 – FY 2010 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT / SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) supports local activities that prevent and control crime, including law enforcement programs, prosecution and court programs, prevention and education programs, corrections and community corrections programs, drug treatment programs, and planning, evaluation, and technology programs; and

WHEREAS, Kent County and the City of Grand Rapids have been jointly allocated $260,420; and

WHEREAS, Kent County will receive $117,189 and the City of Grand Rapids will receive $143,231. The City of Grand Rapids’ Community Development Department will be responsible for the administration of the grant; and each local unit will be responsible for their respective sub-allocations of the grant; and

WHEREAS, the funds will be used by the Sheriff’s Department to fund upgrades to in-car video system technology. These upgrades will include video retention and uploading servers and software. The video improvements will supplement and replace components of the existing in-car video evidence system. The current system is nearing the end of its life expectancy and has become less reliable. The upgrade will allow the department to leverage existing infrastructure and make incremental improvements by replacing only the needed portions of the system; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is October 1, 2010, through September 30, 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Sheriff Department’s request to accept an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant from the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates $117,189 to the 2010 Sheriff’s Department Special Projects budget.

10-14-10-88 – ACCEPT A FY 2010 RISK AVOIDANCE PROGRAM GRANT / SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT
WHEREAS, the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA) provides grant funding to its members through the Risk Avoidance Program (RAP) which was established to assist in projects that present a unique and innovative approach to solving a specific risk management problem and that have a high potential of solving liability exposure of government agencies; and

WHEREAS, priority is given to projects that are designed to foster collaboration in their implementation and management; and

WHEREAS, these grant dollars will be used in conjunction with the FY2010 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for upgrades to the in-car video system technology; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Sheriff’s Department was approved for a $30,000 grant for the In-Car Camera project; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is August 30, 2010, through February 28, 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Sheriff Department’s request to accept a Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates $30,000 to the 2010 Sheriff Department’s Special Projects budget.

(Commissioner Tanis asked that Resolution 10-14-10-86 be removed from the Consent Agenda.)

Motion by Commissioner Antor, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, that the remaining Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:
Nays:    0.
Absent from room:  Vander Molen – 1.

10-14-10-86 – AMEND FY 2010 BUDGET FOR A 2008 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT / SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners adopted the Sheriff’s 2008 State Homeland Security Grant in January 2010 (Resolution 1-28-10-03 for $156,918); and

WHEREAS, starting with grant year 2006, the Homeland Security Grant funding allotments were allocated on a regional basis. Kent County was placed into Region 6 of the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC), which is part of a 13 county region; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2010, the City of Kentwood announced their intention to withdraw as an Emergency Management Program Grant recipient and relinquish Emergency Management responsibilities to Kent County. Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board approved the transfer of contracted funds of $2,000 in planning incidentals from Kentwood’s allotment to Kent County’s allotment on January 25, 2010; and
WHEREAS, the additional allocation will increase the total grant amount by $2,000 from $156,918 to $158,918. Planner wages and benefits are $154,918 (no change) and Planner incidentals will be $4,000 (up from $2,000); and

WHEREAS, the additional funds will help to enhance the County’s abilities to mitigate, prepare, respond and recover in times of disaster or emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners accepts $2,000 in additional funding for a State Homeland Security Grant from the Michigan Department of State Police; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates an additional $2,000 from the Michigan Department of State Police – Emergency Management Division to the FY 2010 Sheriff’s Emergency Management Budget – Special Projects Fund.

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:


Nays: 0.

RESOLUTION

10-14-10-89 – SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICE CONTRACT / NETWORK180

WHEREAS, on October 24, 2002, the Board of Commissioners created the Prevention Programming and Evaluation Fund to be used to implement the County’s Prevention Initiative. The funding plan for the Initiative includes funding to expand substance abuse services for families; and

WHEREAS, the Prevention Subcommittee report identified substance abuse as a contributing factor to other problems, such as child abuse and neglect or truancy. The report noted that substance abuse is a cyclical problem, affecting generation after generation. Network180 was asked to develop a proposal to expand substance abuse services, focusing on “breaking the cycle” of substance abuse within the family structure; and

WHEREAS, per its proposal, Network180 uses Prevention Initiative funding to provide comprehensive family-focused substance abuse services, including assessments, treatment, family therapy, case management, and follow-up in which the mother has been identified as the primary substance user. The funded service delivery method differs from the traditional method in that 1) the proposed services will treat the entire family as the client, and both the assessment and treatment plan will incorporate services for the substance abuse client, individual family members, and the family as a whole, and 2) a single caseworker will serve as the primary contact for the family from assessment through treatment, and through re-assessment and treatment in case of relapse; and

WHEREAS, over the past three years, Network180 has been able to expand its use of Medicaid funds and increase the amount of teams from two to six; and

WHEREAS, this program has demonstrated positive outcomes as determined through the Prevention Initiative evaluation; and

WHEREAS, the original contract with Network180 expired on December 31, 2006. A second contract was for a period of January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2009, and was extended for one year; and
WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves award of the contract to network180 (Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Network) for the period of January 1, 2011, through December 31, 2014, to expand substance abuse services for families, as recommended by the Kent County Family and Children’s Coordinating Council (KCFCCC) in the amount of $325,000.

10-14-10-90 – PRIMARY PREVENTION FAMILY SUPPORT CONTRACT – CHILD AND FAMILY RESOURCE COUNCIL

WHEREAS, on October 24, 2002, the Board of Commissioners created the Prevention Programming and Evaluation Fund to be used to implement the County’s Prevention Initiative. The funding plan for the Initiative includes funding for primary prevention and family support services; and WHEREAS, in 2003, proposals for primary prevention family support service expansion were received from two organizations – Child and Family Resource Council (CFRC) and Kent Intermediate School District (KISD). The Kent County Family and Children’s Coordinating Council (KCFCCC) was asked to review the proposals and to make recommendations for specific funding allocations. In reviewing the proposals, the KCFCCC noted that CFRCs Healthy Start provides a more comprehensive array of services, which more closely match the requirements of the Prevention Initiative, whereas KISDs Bright Beginnings had more of a school-readiness focus. The KCFCCC found that both services were important components of a continuum of services, and complemented one another; and

WHEREAS, initially in 2003, the KCFCCC recommended that the Board of Commissioners award the full amount of the primary prevention funds ($800,000) to the Child and Family Resource Council (CFRC) for the Healthy Start program with the provision that CFRC be required to enter into negotiations with the goal of subcontracting with Kent ISD to link Healthy Start with Bright Beginnings. This occurred and Bright Beginnings received 25% of the appropriation ($200,000); and

WHEREAS, the program has demonstrated positive outcomes as determined through the Prevention Initiative evaluation; and

WHEREAS, the original contract with CFRC expired on December 31, 2005, and was extended for one year. A second contract was for a period of January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2009, and was extended for one year; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves award of the contract to the Child and Family Resource Council (CFRC) for the Healthy Start program with the goal of subcontracting with Kent ISD to link Healthy Start with Bright Beginnings. This occurred and Bright Beginnings received 25% of the appropriation ($200,000); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the contract and other necessary documents.

10-14-10-91 – PRIMARY PREVENTION FAMILY SUPPORT CONTRACT / KISD

WHEREAS, on October 24, 2002, the Board of Commissioners created the Prevention Programming and Evaluation Fund to be used to implement the County’s Prevention Initiative. The funding plan for the Initiative includes funding for primary prevention and family support services; and
WHEREAS, in 2003, proposals for primary prevention family support service expansion were received from two organizations – Child and Family Resource Council (CFRC) and Kent ISD. The KCFCCC was asked to review the proposals and to make recommendations for specific funding allocations. In reviewing the proposals, the KCFCCC noted that CFRC’s Healthy Start provides a more comprehensive array of services, which more closely match the requirements of the Prevention Initiative, whereas KISD’s Bright Beginnings had more of a school-readiness focus. The KCFCCC found that both services were important components of a continuum of services, and complemented one another; and

WHEREAS, initially, the KCFCCC recommended that the Board of Commissioners in 2003 award the full amount of the primary prevention funds ($800,000) to the CFRC for the Healthy Start program with the provision that CFRC be required to enter into negotiations with the goal of subcontracting with Kent ISD to link Healthy Start with Bright Beginnings. This occurred and Bright Beginnings received 25% of the appropriation ($200,000); and

WHEREAS, the program has demonstrated positive outcomes as determined through the Prevention Initiative evaluation; and

WHEREAS, the original contract with CFRC that funded Bright Beginnings expired on December 31, 2005, and was extended for one year. A second contract was for a period of January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2009, and was extended for one year; and

WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves award of the contract to the Kent Intermediate School District for the period January 1, 2011, through December 31, 2014, as recommended by the Kent County Family and Children’s Coordinating Council (KCFCCC) in the amount of $212,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the contract and other necessary documents.

10-14-10-92 – PERSPECTIVE 21! EARLY IMPACT CONTRACT - KISD

WHEREAS, on October 24, 2002, the Board of Commissioners created the Prevention Programming and Evaluation Fund to be used to implement the County’s Prevention Initiative. The funding plan for the Initiative includes funding for early intervention services for children at risk of child abuse or neglect; and

WHEREAS, Early Impact is a priority service that provides early intervention for families with reported, but not substantiated, abuse or neglect to improve family functioning and keep children safe in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the funding Perspective 21! Early Impact is to 1) ensure an effective level of service and evaluate its long-term impact, and 2) provide additional support services which will increase the success of the program and reduce the financial burden on service providers; and

WHEREAS, over the past two years, the State of Michigan has reduced funding for this program by over $400,000. In order to maintain service capacity, the community has adopted an Early Impact model that aligns with the Kent School Services Network. Services will be provided to families in a voluntary manner, but delivered in a geographic assignment and by providers who may also be able to utilize other federal funding sources that were not previously available. This is part of the Community Family Partnership model being developed through the KCFCCC and network180 via the federal System of Care grant that was awarded in September 2009; and
WHEREAS, P21! Early Impact has demonstrated positive outcomes as determined through the Prevention Initiative evaluation; and
WHEREAS, the original contract with DHS expired on December 31, 2005, and was extended for one year. A second contract was for a period of January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2009, and was extended through September 30, 2010; and
WHEREAS, Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves award of the contract to the Kent Intermediate School District (KISD) for the period of October 1, 2010, through September 30, 2013, as recommended by the Kent County Family and Children’s Coordinating Council (KCFCCC) in the amount of $375,000 per year; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the contract and other necessary documents.

Motion by Commissioner Talen, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, that Resolutions 10-14-10-89, 90, 91 & 92 be adopted.

(Commissioner Talen disclosed that he is employed by Child and Family Resource Council. He has consulted with legal counsel and, since he does not benefit either directly or indirectly from any of the preventative health contracts and does not have a legal conflict of interest, he will be voting on Resolutions 10-14-10-89, 90, 91 & 92.)

(Chair Parrish disclosed that Child and Family Resource Council is a client and she will abstain from voting on Resolutions 10-14-10-89, 90, 91 & 92.)

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.
Abstain: Chair Parrish – 1.

10-14-10-93 – REAPPRaisal SERVICES CONTRACT WITH ALGOMA TOWNSHIP – BUREAU OF EQUALIZATION

WHEREAS, Algoma Township has established a goal to perform a Township-wide reappraisal of its commercial and industrial properties, and has requested the County to perform the reappraisal, citing the County’s extensive knowledge and experience in this area. Benefits to the Township include timely, accurate appraisals on accelerated time schedule than would otherwise be possible with existing staff levels; and
WHEREAS, the benefits to the County include obtaining current records on all township commercial/industrial parcels for equalization study purposes. Performing the work allows the County to ensure that valuation standards, equalization factors and final project costs comply with State law directly, eliminating the need for the County to do a separate verification/audit; and
WHEREAS, due to the relatively “soft” economy reducing the time Equalization staff is currently required to spend on sales and appraisal studies and the limited duration of the project, it is expected that the services of .25 FTE Appraiser III time and .03 FTE Administration time can be directed to the project; and
WHEREAS, the proposed contract outlines the scope of work and the responsibilities of the two parties, and provides that all costs (personnel, mileage and cost allocation) associated with the function estimated at $27,800 shall be paid by Algoma Township over two years in eight (8) quarterly installments; and

WHEREAS, the Reappraisal Services Agreement has been approved by Corporate Counsel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the contract with Algoma Township for Reappraisal Services, and authorizes the Board Chair or her designee to sign the Reappraisal Services Agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, seconded by Commissioner Antor, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

10-14-10-94 – AUTHORIZATION OF A WINTER 2010 (DECEMBER 1, 2010) DEDICATED MILLAGE PROPERTY TAX LEVY / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS / FISCAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the County Administrator/Controller is developing a recommended budget for the year 2011, which outlines requirements for revenues and expenditures to support operations/capital programming; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary recommended budget includes spending requests for the operating/debt service requirements of the County Corrections/Detention and programming for Senior Services; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary recommended budget requires the levy of 0.7893 mills for Correctional and Detention operations/debt service and 0.3244 mills for Senior Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby certifies a December 1, 2010, levy of taxation of 1.1137 mills which includes the levy 0.7893 mills for debt service and operation of facilities for County Corrections/Detention as approved by County electors on August 5, 2008, and 0.3244 mills for Senior Services as approved by County electors on August 8, 2006.

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

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

10-14-10-95 – ADDITION OF A FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN POSITION / PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, in its first three months of operations, the Recycling Center received and processed 25% more material than the old facility thereby requiring all current staff to operate the system. This does not allow time to perform necessary preventative maintenance on the equipment; and
WHEREAS, the Maintenance Technician will perform preventative maintenance on highly advanced equipment; monitor computerized operational systems for heat, cooling, fire and security; assist contractors and vendors; manage the replacement part inventory; and maintain the grounds and snow plow in the winter; and

WHEREAS, in order to obtain optimal efficiency from the recycling machinery and equipment, the Maintenance Technician will perform his/her duties during the weekends and evenings to not disrupt operations; and

WHEREAS, the annual cost of the position is $62,287 including salary and benefits. The cost for the remainder of 2010 is approximately $7,238.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approve the addition of a full-time Maintenance Technician (UAW 20) position to the Public Works Recycling and Education Center.

Motion by Commissioner Rolls, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

REPORTS

There were no reports.

MISCELLANEOUS

Boxer Stanley Ketchel
Commissioner Hennessy: The 100th anniversary of the death of Boxer Stanley Ketchel will be commemorated on October 15th at Holy Cross Cemetery on the West Side. This Grand Rapids native, who died at the age of 24, was middleweight champion of the world and continues to be remembered.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:41 p.m., Commissioner Antor moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, November 4, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Talen. Motion carried.

____________________________        ______________________________
Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair       Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 6:50 p.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Dillon, Ponstein, Morgan, Vonk – 4 (Excused).

(Note: This work session is on 2011 General Fund Budget, presented by Administrator Delabbio. Questions asked during the presentation and are shown in the order asked.

INTRODUCTION

Chair Parrish thanked staff for their work on the budget and explained that this additional work session is intended to allow full board commentary on the budget so as to provide input as we move forward. County Administrator Delabbio will present the 2011 budget as recommended and comments will follow.

Administrator Delabbio gave credit to the staff, department directors, and operating budget review team. Matt Woolford, Equalization Director, will speak briefly on the state equalized value, state taxable value and some issues related to them. After Mr. Woolford’s presentation Administrator Delabbio will give a brief presentation on the proposed 2011 budget and its impacts and implications.

State Equalized Values (SEV) / State Taxable Values (TXV)

Mr. Woolford reviewed the following charts:

a) Kent County SEV and Market Changes: 2003-2011
b) Proposal A CPI History: 2003-2011
c) Kent County TXV and TXV % Changes: 2003-2011
d) Kent County SEV and TXV Changes in Value: 2003-2011
e) Kent County SEV, TXV, Market Changes, Taxable Value Changes, CPI: 2003-2011

The long period of growth in the SEV and TXV peaked in 2007. The downward trend continues. SEV is 50% of the cash value. Between 2003-2007, the county’s SEV grew a billion dollars each year. We’ve declined almost a billion dollars the last couple of years. In 2011, SEV will drop 4%. Prior to Proposal A, SEV was based on assessments and the market. With Proposal A, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was introduced into the formula. On the taxable value side, since Proposal A, we experienced growth from 2003 to 2007, but a decline since then. 2010 was the first year that we showed a decrease in taxable value and that trend will continue in 2011 although at a slower rate of 2.36%. Taxable value now represents 93% of the value of the SEV. The
assessed value in the majority of cases now is equal to the taxable value so any
decrease in assessed value will decrease the taxable value as well. We may
stabilize in 2012.

Vander Molen: Have you included the commercial properties and have they hit
the bottom yet?
Woolford: Yes and no, I don't believe commercial has hit the bottom yet. There
has been a continuing rise in vacancies in the commercial property.

Antor: Heard a report on foreclosures that we thought we had bottomed out, but
we hit another high water mark - how do you project that for the future?
Woolford: Follow the market, we don't predict. Foreclosures continue to be 30-
50% of the overall amount of paper transactions that Equalization handles. They
go through a process to see which ones are being influenced like normal market
transactions, whether they've been marketed appropriately, he is in continuous
communication with assessors about which foreclosure properties are allowed to
be included in the studies. Even though the foreclosures represent a large
portion of the properties being sold, the vast majority of parcels are not being
sold. As assessors, we study the mass of the properties, so foreclosures still
represent a very small portion of the overall properties in Kent County.

Hirsch: Are commercial properties taxed any differently if occupied vs. vacant?
Woolford: No. They are not but their values may be changing based on the
newer appraisals.

Hirsch: Is there any measure of tracking foreclosures on vacant properties vs.
occupied?
Woolford: You could run a comparison against the vacant parcels and the
foreclosures.

BUDGETS OVERVIEW

Administrator Delabbio explained the budget parameters set by Finance
Committee:
1) General Fund reserves not to exceed $2 million to balance the budget;
2) No new hires that require a general fund appropriation (unless it can be
demonstrated by the department that such an appropriation would result in a net
savings);
3) Use .15 mills for the capital improvement program to make sure that our
infrastructure is maintained.

He reviewed the Fund Statement (pg 11 of the handout). The estimated
revenues of almost $141 million are primarily composed of taxes ($86 million)
this is down as a percentage of the budget as compared to the 2010 budget.

✓ Licenses and permits of $110,800

✓ Intergovernmental is the most significant change in the budget. This is
up significantly as a percentage of the budget because the state
revenue sharing is scheduled to kick in in toto, but when this budget
was prepared, we were only expecting $6.9 million.

Other dollars that make up the intergovernmental: $3.4 million in court
equity; $3.3 million Liquor Tax; and, a few others.

✓ Charges for services
$18.3 million (down as a percentage of the budget) – includes court fees, real estate transfer taxes, recording fees, board & care at the correctional facility, zoo and park revenues, and some miscellaneous revenues.

- Interest Earnings (budgeted down but still slightly higher than we anticipate this year). Interest earnings have just taken a beating. It is 2-fold: we don’t have the fund balance that we used to have and the reduced interest rate.

- Reimbursements - $14 million

- Transfers In - $24.2 million – not included as revenue but it is included as a transfer and after we get through with the revenue that includes $14.7 million for the corrections detention millage which transfers into the general fund to fund a portion of the correctional facility. It includes the balance of our revenue sharing reserve fund so some time during the late 1st qtr early 2nd qtr of 2011 that fund will be depleted and that’s when the state shared revenues kick in. Also, some $5 million from the delinquent tax fund moves into the general fund.

When you consider the revenues and the transfers in, we have slightly more than $165 million dollars for the general fund.

Courtade: When the state revenue kicks in, what amount will we have left that transfers in?

Delabbio: We will have used it all up by April 2011. The revenue sharing reserve fund will be gone.

Proposed expenditures total $131.2 million. Public Safety is down about 2/100% comparing budget to budget and general government down 1/100%; judicial 1/100th; Health and Welfare about the same; Culture & Recreation up 3/100% and Community and Economic Development is down slightly.

Proposed expenditures of $131 million with transfers out of almost $31 million and about $3 million for transfers out for the capital improvement program. Total expenditures exceed our revenues by $13,486. This is close to a balanced budget.

Some uncertainties include: 1) indigent defense costs in the Circuit Court; 2) Inmate medical health care in the Correctional Facility; 3) Children’s Rights Settlement; and, 4) national health care changes. Also, we are concerned about what the state may do when the new Governor and legislature convene in January. The budget that was approved for the year beginning October 1 may be subject to modification. Revenue sharing will most likely be an annual battle, and so it is important to preserve the reserves to the extent that we can. Plus, we have all just heard about the decline in property tax revenue.

Proposed eliminations: 56 full-time and 4 part-time positions and a conversion of 2 positions from full time to part time. Of those positions, 28 FTE and 2 PTE positions are vacant. That leaves 32 full or part time positions scheduled for elimination. Two were eliminated as part of the October 1 budgets that were adopted by the Board of Commissioners on September 24, 2010. And of the 32 positions, 22 are in the Sheriff’s Department. We believe that at least 7 of the eliminated positions will be vacated due to retirement. We will have final numbers on the voluntary retirement incentive plan and its impact in November.
Major impacts: 35 ½ positions at the sheriff’s department (14 are vacant) – effect the honor camp (closure), administrative records, road patrol and investigation. 2 ½ positions are vacant in the circuit court. Circuit court will redistribute the workload. The 1 position in I.T. is vacant – redistribution of work load and some maintenance deferrals. Zoo – the 1 position proposed for elimination is vacant – also a proposal to increase the admission fee by $1 for each age level and close the zoo from November 1 – February 28. Parks - while no staff reductions, Parks will defer some maintenance in parks but it restores weekend hours at Pickerel Lake and Brewer Park. Snow plowing will be limited to Monday – Friday and there will be some proposed fee increases for the open shelters, picnic areas, etc.

Policy and Administration area: Reduction in funding for management studies, outside legal counsel and evaluation activities which are associated with the prevention initiative. We propose paying Metro Council dues ($35,000) which will get us through September 30, 2011, (Metro’s fiscal year), and then a one year waiver of our contribution of $65,000 to ACSET.

Bureau of Equalization – elimination of 1 position – redistribution of workload
Clerk/Register of Deeds Office – 2 positions – one of which is vacant and the distribution of workload.
Fiscal Services – Conversion of one full time to part time position
Treasurer – Elimination of one position
Prosecutor – 4 positions one of which is vacant – conversion of 1 FTE to part time and some changes in case load management.
Cooperative Extension – reduced educational programming but the proposed budget does maintain a $275,000 for the PDR program.
Medical Examiner’s Office – reduce the number of autopsies by about 3%.

Hotel/Motel Tax – In order to fund our obligations, we’ve included a $2 million dollar transfer from the general fund to the Hotel/Motel tax fund. It maintains $200,000 for the Sports Commission, $625,000 for Experience Grand Rapids (Convention & Visitors Bureau) and $10,000 for Festival.

Questions that the Finance & Physical Resources Committee had have been answered and are in the mail to Commissioners.

While the proposed budget does impact service levels you can’t cut people and/or programs without service levels being cut. But the cuts do not jeopardize mission critical services, mandated services or the health and safety of our citizens or employees. By not initially using the $2 million dollars of the reserves to balance the budget, we believe that the County will be able to meet any unforeseen increase in service levels and/or potential loss in revenue.

About 60% of the staff reductions are vacant and/or will be vacant due to the retirement incentive. That percentage is expected to grow and we believe that the budget does send a message to the rating agencies that the County thinks and plans long-term and that we continue to remain financially sound.

DISCUSSION

Chair Parrish: Thank you Daryl. What we want to accomplish tonight is for Finance Committee members to get some input from the Legislative Committee members. We may not come to any conclusions tonight, but we want to identify the issues. We intend to pass the budget on November 18, 2010, and so our hope is that everyone listens to what the majority of the board wants on whatever issue and that Finance Committee would recognize that as they deal with and wrestle with the budget.
Antor:  Honor Camp closure – what are the plans for it?
Delabbio:  Don’t believe that the Sheriff has any plans for it if it is closed.  We’ve
seen the occupancy of the jail decrease and so we do have capacity in the jail to
handle whomever would be at the honor camp.
Antor:  Can we use that property in the meantime to generate revenue?

Sheriff Stelma:  The plan is to mothball the honor camp.  We will most likely see
a need to reopen it.  There are no plans to dismantle it.  The new fence makes it
more secure.  It would be difficult to use it in another capacity because of the
security of the place as well as the design.  It is a correctional institution.  It is not
something that 4-H or schools could readily use.  We are in the process of
working out an agreement with a couple of different federal agencies that want
and utilize it in various capacities.

Antor:  If some other facilities in Michigan have an overflow problem with low
risk is it a possibility that we could start housing them there.  They would have to
staff it and pay rent on it.
Sheriff:  We have used it in that capacity, in fact we continue to use it in that
capacity especially with Montcalm County.  The flip side of that is that currently
most jails across the country are experiencing the same trend as we are and
capacity is just not an issue right now.  More jails are trying to rent out their
space because of vacancies.  We are down in population by roughly 1/3.  The
chart shows that the maximum day so far in 2010 is equal to the minimum of
2007.

Synk:   Did the inmates of the honor camp have special programming and, if so,
was that designed to help them not commit crimes in the future?  And so can we
expect more recidivism?
Sheriff:  It does impact recidivism.  Frankly, the honor camp is very dear and
near to my heart and this one hurts personally.  The honor camp offers a lot to
our community.  It was a wake up call to get young offenders back on track and
it has been very successful at that.  There are any number of stories of
businessmen in our community today, names who you all would recognize who
have gone through that experience and it has been a tremendous benefit for
them.  The downside is that it is an expensive operation.  It houses 65 people
but yet requires a complete squad of staff, kitchen crew, maintenance and
transportation.  We don’t get those low level offenders anymore.  The judges just
aren’t able to incarcerate those types of people anymore.  There has been a
change in the types of people we get in jail and certainly the age at the honor
camp has gone up significantly from the 17-19 year olds.  Still believe it is a great
opportunity to put low level offenders that we want to keep out of the hard core
jail environment.  It has a lot of value but it is expensive.

Synk:  Will you be able to do any of those types of programming at the jail?
Sheriff:  Yes. We will roll in as much of that programming into the main facility as
we can.

Hirsch:  How many employees are we actually looking at laying off.
Delabbio:  6 corrections officers, 6 patrol officers, and some civilian clerks/clerk
typists, a social worker and a part-time cook.

Hirsch:  So are some of the 35 positions open now?
Delabbio:  The ones I’ve just mentioned are vacant now.

Hirsch:  By what percent is the Sheriff’s budget growing?
Delabbio:  A memo in Commissioners packets (in the mail) includes the chart
that Sheriff Stelma referred to in terms of capacity and the occupancy of the jails.
Along with 2009 actual amounts expended and compared to what is recommended for Sheriff's 2011 budget.

**Hirsch:** Sheriff, if there are fewer inmates and I realize crime isn’t necessarily going down, your department has grown in size, do you see this growth stabilizing or decreasing? I’m trying to get a handle on your department growing in size of the budget.

**Sheriff:** I don’t know if it’s growing in % of the budget. My assumption is that any increase is going to be in wage and benefits the BOC approved. Other than that, utilities are really the only costs we have. Equipment, for the most part, is covered under grants. Communication and the dispatch authority funds come from outside general fund revenues.

**Hirsch:** If the County in the future could stabilize your budget so that there weren’t cuts every year do you think it would be possible to not need to increase the size of your budget or do you think that is going to continue?

**Sheriff:** I think increase in budget will continue as long as the utilities costs increase. As wage and benefit package keep taking incremental steps up that will impact the budget. In order to limit budget increases, we need to control wage and benefit package increases (pension, medical and all the related costs).

**Hirsch:** A lot of people in the County who pay taxes have seen their wages froze or decline. Do you see your department heads voluntarily taking a pay or benefit freeze to stabilize this?

**Sheriff:** I see that as a possibility but when it comes to a union contract that is where the bulk of those employees are. We have no control over that. Actually, the BOC has that control.

**Vaughn:** Exactly how much does it cost to operate the honor camp?

**Sheriff:** About $800,000 a year.

**Vaughn:** If there was private funding would that be a way to keep it open?

**Sheriff:** I’m certain the County would accept revenues from all sources.

**Vaughn:** I was there on Monday doing a presentation to about 15-20 people who don’t have a GED. Now the program is gone, but it used to be we were running 70 people out of there for GEDs every year and the state was reimbursing.

**Sheriff:** The camp has always been a huge proponent of GEDs. There have been many years where more GEDs were issued through the honor camp than the entire Grand Rapids Public School system. It is a tremendous program and it wasn’t too many years ago when I believe 9 ½ instructors were assigned by the GRPS to the correctional environment both at the main facility and at the honor camp. Right now we are struggling to keep one teacher. We have been fighting and going back and forth to get educational opportunities at the honor camp. Part of that, in all honesty is that back in those days the GED was a revenue source for the school district that was doing it. They actually obtained money from the state and as I understand it now since the No Child Left Behind programs became popular, the GED student is considered a drop out and so it’s a detriment to their statistics on performance. There is not the incentive for them to do the GEDs that there once was.

**Vaughn:** We are going to have to start spending on the front end with these GEDs so that they don’t continue to go to jail and prison. Once they get a GED, there is a $5,000 scholarship waiting for them at the community college to get some skills. We are missing a big piece of the puzzle here.
Rolls: That is being looked at right now. There is a GED committee that is trying to get that reinstated. We are working with some of the state legislature to see if we can get that so that the schools aren’t penalized. The sheriff’s department wants it and the public schools want it. It is a function of how to make it work.

Vander Molen: If jail bed occupancy is going down, how do we reduce the number of corrections officers?

Sheriff: Our capacity is down roughly 1/3 and our maximum capacity is just under 1,500. At one time, we were staffed for 1,494. Many of the positions that we reduced will have to be backfilled by officers on top of their regular duties. We are walking backwards and the people that we take out of the honor camp are going to have to come back down into the correctional environment and so those people will still be there and we feel we will be able to reduce our staff number and not jeopardize public safety.

Courtade: Who sets the jail reimbursement amount? If all the jails’ populations are falling and you have more empty beds obviously the cost per inmate would go up.

Sheriff: Are you talking about the CJRP that comes from the State? The legislature sets that.

Courtade: Do they look at that?

Sheriff: I have no idea what the legislature looks at.

Courtade: Do you still have someone overseeing the kitchen even though it was being outsourced?

Sheriff: We have a contract monitor that oversees the kitchen and laundry contracts and operations.

Courtade: Is that something that somebody else can do? Could we eliminate that position?

Sheriff: Due to the size and specialized nature of those contracts, it is important that we track them so we know what is going on there.

Courtade: Requested a comparison of the privatized costs vs. the cost when handled in-house.

Synk: Sheriff, you’re also closing the community reentry center?

Sheriff: We are downsizing the community reentry center but we are not closing it.

Synk: The essential elements of that program will basically be the same?

Sheriff: Yes, we will maintain many of the same programs that it was designed for giving people with jobs the ability to continue their jobs. Over the years we’ve expanded the programs and some of those other programs are faith based, educational based, technology based -some of those will be restricted.

Agee: Thanked Sheriff Stelma for his cooperation. There are many counties where the sheriff and the board barely talk to each other. These are difficult times – thank you for working with us.

Delabbio: The Sheriff was recently installed as the President of the Michigan Sheriff’s Association.

Voorhees: Parks – in the presentation you mentioned no weekend snow plowing. Our residents have a big investment in our parks’ system and to think that we shouldn’t have access on the weekends to the parks bothers me. Could we get a cost analysis of bidding out snowplowing to ensure that the parks are accessible for all citizens all year round?

Roger Sabine: The parks are plowed Monday through Friday so it would have to be a Friday night, Saturday snow event for them not to be plowed. We’ve
actually done this for the last couple of years and we haven’t had one complaint. The folks accessing the parks on the weekends are generally cross country skiing and so they expect some snow. The park employees who plow would be getting overtime and so by not plowing on the weekends we’re saving money. They are also the people who plow the vast majority of the County properties Monday through Friday and that is a definite cost savings to the County instead of using contractors.

Voorhees: I would like to know what that price is as we look at priority setting. The cross country skiers don’t ski to the park, they drive to it. I think maybe we should look at it by the number of inches it snows and then have a private sector contractor.

Courtade: There was talk of raising shelter fees, what percentage of weekends or days do those shelters go unused? If we raised fees, would we end up with some of them not being rented?
Sabine: They are booked pretty solid and steady through the typical season. When we have raised fees in the past, we rarely get a complaint. We’ve tried to keep the picnic areas as low as we can. There are always picnic tables available for families that just show up, they don’t need a reservation although it is first come first served so there may not be tables available. We do as many weddings as anybody does in town and it is the cheapest wedding that you can get. People recognize that. Our price point is pretty reasonable and the public recognizes that and we are busy.

Hirsch: Whoever deserves the credit, thank you very much for adjusting things so that Brewer Park could be open. That was a big deal in the community I represent for quite awhile. I’d like to argue the opposite point of Commissioner Voorhees, a lot of the sub-contractors who plow have a ½ inch threshold and they are out plowing. I feel most people using a park in the winter months are there to be in the snow and it wouldn’t bother me if there was an inch of snow in the parking lot on the weekend if the gates are open. If that is a way of your department saving money, I’m all for it.

Hennessy: What seasonal layoffs will we be expecting? Any in the parks or zoo?
Sabine: Parks does not have any seasonal layoffs. The seasonal employees disappear but not full time staff.
Delabbio: We do hire people in the summer for the zoo.
Bert Vescolani: At this point, we don’t have a planned layoff for the fall. If our revenues are dramatically down in the summer, we will have to look at some cost savings and that will probably be in staffing.

Courtade: How many zoo attendees would be affected by this dollar a ticket increase?
Vescolani: Roughly a little more than half the people walking through the gate pay. So, 250,000 would be affected. The zoo’s fee structure is complicated. The total per cap includes all the payors, all the free, all the members, all the ½ priced members, all the combinations of folks who come in through the gate through this pricing structure. That runs somewhere between 290,000 – 320,000.

Delabbio: When Bert refers to members, he is talking about zoo society members. They pay $35, $55 a year of which the zoo gets nothing.
Vescolani: There are several membership categories, a member, a reciprocal member, a half-priced member. All of those revenues for membership either go to the zoo society or they go to the organization that they collaborate with. (Ex: Detroit Zoo might be a 50% member of ours – which means a zoo member at Detroit Zoo would come to John Ball at ½ price. But we don’t see the other half
and they don’t see the other half in Detroit. The County doesn’t realize any of those dollars. We have about 80,000 members that take advantage of either low price or no price.

Courtade: People comment a lot that “when I was a kid I could afford to come to go to the zoo and now I can’t afford to take my kids and/or my grandkids to the zoo.” In general conversation it comes up a lot.

Vescolani: It’s tough. I won’t disagree. Pricing for attractions has gone up as costs have gone up. I sent a report to Daryl about comparative pricing structures in our community, not only per individual but a family of four, to get a sense of what a price was for a family of four, and even with the price increase, we are competitive. That doesn’t mean that it isn’t expensive. But, we have a Jump Program (of which the County subsidizes a portion). We receive $1 from the zoo society for those who come in the gate through Jump. So the other $4.50 is subsidized by the taxpayers.

Synk: What is the cost for an adult to go to the zoo now?

Vescolani: $7.50

Synk: So it will be $8.50 next year. Wasn’t it just raised last year.

Vescolani: No, it was raised two years ago.

Synk: Last year we deliberated whether to open February 1st or March 1st and it turned out to be good weather in March.

Vescolani: Gorgeous March. We are opening in March so it will be a gamble on the weather. This year we doubled our revenue for any March on record. I have trended out the last five years’ attendance to see what months are continuing to trend up, which are staying stable, and which months are decreasing. Our attendance has increased overall.

Hirsch: Appreciate all the work that has gone into the budget and thanked Chair Parrish for holding the work sessions. He is frustrated that the full Board does not have the ability to amend the budget. As a Legislative Committee member, the only option is to vote the budget up or down.

This is not the case in Lansing or Washington, D.C. As Commissioners, how did we get to the place where the most important document we work on half the board doesn’t have a say other then to vote it up or down?

A student at Kelloggsville is interested in building an urban garden on Division in a farmer’s market. He wants to redevelop Division and bring it back. Attended a meeting in Wyoming where they are looking at a 280-acre asphalt site with 2 million square feet of commercial space that they don’t know what to do with. At one time, Studio 28, Rogers Plaza, Rogers Department Store area was the economic hub of West Michigan. No one wants to build there, we have all this infrastructure. The reason I got elected was to be part of the solution, part of fixing the county’s problems. The best way to do that is through better land use. There was a sub-committee that recommended the County spend $1 million dollars over three years with the first year being $275,000. I do not want to create a problem for the County. I don’t want to delay the budget approval, but I will let everyone know that unless there is $350,000 for PDR, I will be voting “no” on the budget. I know for a fact that I am not the only Commissioner that will do that and it may be a majority of the Board. I do not want to create that problem for Finance or for staff but I didn’t come here to play politics. I came here to make my community a better place. And continuing to spend our county’s resources in rural areas and depleting our cities is not the answer. I am not asking for more. I am asking to make good on the recommendation of the subcommittee. And just so you will understand simple math, in order for it to be $1 million dollars it needs to be $350,000 this year and $375,000 next year. If I would have served on that subcommittee I would have said that is not the right
way to do this. A third of a million is $333,000 or at least let’s do $350,000 the first year but that wasn’t my choice. Regardless of PDR, I think the structure of this county government is flawed and every member of the commission should have input on the most important document - the budget. And be able to amend it. Thank you.

**Voorhees:** In my years I have never been threatened like I feel tonight. It’s not the first time but I’m hopeful that we can work together as a full board and the County has run under this policy as I understand long before I came here. I compliment Kent in that we are financially structured better than many other counties. I think we have a lot to be thankful for but I don’t like serving under a threat.

**Courtade:** Thanks Commissioner Hirsch, you’ve covered a lot of what I was going to say as far as the PDR goes. The people of Wyoming understand they have store fronts, Studio 28 sitting there they know that were crushed between Rivertown Crossing and Woodland Mall and it’s all empty and its going to become blight just like Flint and Detroit. We should have had a PDR program 30 years ago or more that would have stopped some of this sprawl. We should make good on that. As far as Voorhees calling it a threat why waste the time because when it comes to the full board you are going to have the numbers. Last year it was 14 to 5. It’s not going to change that much so instead of wasting everybody’s time why not try to make it right somehow in the system where everyone can take some kind of vote and find out if we are wasting our time. The majority of those 14 people who voted for PDR last time around aren’t going to change and if it comes down to the full vote on the budget, obviously we are not going to approve it. (Chair clarified it was 13 to 6.)

One question I had was on the Extension money - I don’t want to see 4-H cut at all as they have a lot of good programs. Where does 4-H come in on the Extension money?

**Delabbio:** I will let you know.

**Synk:** We are scheduled to layoff 30 more people, how much would it cost us to keep those people on?

**Delabbio:** Approximately $1.6 million.

**Synk:** We are not using the $2 million we usually do.

**Delabbio:** Not that we “usually do” but that the finance committee said we could if we needed, to use up to $2 million in reserves.

**Synk:** We are only using $13,486 of the $2 million?

**Delabbio:** Yes.

**Antor:** Going through the process, you look at the dire straights we are in right now, not necessarily because of anything we’ve done wrong, but I guess if we’ve done anything wrong we really haven’t looked to the future and we now have the scenarios that have popped up. If we want to keep this from continuing to happen in the future, we need to make some changes. We can’t do business as usual. Look at Lancaster and Carroll County (everyone opposed PDR out there just like they do here, the realtors, chamber of commerce), but they had leadership that said we are going to move forward despite of the opposition because we know its right. 35 years later, everyone supports the program. Why would we not want to follow the lead? We have it all laid out for us and it is like we pretend its not happening out there. Why do we want to continue on the same path we’ve been on? What is it about all the tremendous farmland they had in the City of Detroit that is now paved over what is it about that model of sprawl. Who has sprawled themselves into prosperity in this state? Wyoming? Kentwood? Why do we want to continue doing that? Why can’t we continue to grow and prosper and preserve farmland? It’s been done. The model is there. It
doesn't cost that much. It pays for itself. But, to sit there and just say “I'm against it” without really knowing how the program works is upsetting. We are asking for $350,000 this time around. I wasn't here when we spent $15 million on Millennium Park and all the other money we've spent to downsize to get rid of money to buy whatever. But all of a sudden we are looking at $350,000 like it is going to destroy the County. We have to step outside the box on this, people. At least acknowledge the success they have had out east. I want to know what the opposition is. Is it because we don't want to tick off our buddies who happen to be potential donors that might be working the real estate market or whatever? What is the reason? We can develop, we can grow and we can preserve farmland. If you don't preserve the farmland, you will lose it forever. Ask Detroit. We can't grow crops in national forests. I'm fed up with the fact that people oppose this and they don't really know why. Best I can tell is it's all political. I am looking out for the residents of Kent County, the taxpayers. This is one of the most important things we can ever face is the future of Kent County's land use. If we continue what we've always done we will continue to get what we've always got. The sheriff says a lot of the cost is due to pensions and pay increases well what happens over time? Next year will be even more expensive, it keeps escalating we need to make an adjustment at some time. I agree with Bill 100%. It's not a threat it's just I am looking out for the future of my family, relatives and everyone who lives and works in this county. We have to do something because we cannot continue to sprawl the way we have.

Agee: Where to start. I had a call today from Rick Wilson. He wanted to know how the unique arrangement that we entered into last year has worked with the power sharing and what it would look like next year. I told him it was not very long ago when all decisions for this board were made in a back room by a leadership team and if you disagreed with the leadership team you were cut off. Our Chair has done a spectacular job of giving people a seat at this table whether they are democrat, republican, whatever position that they held on any issue. In fact, I told Rick that I thought the most contentious issues came from within the Republican Party. I don't really have a strong opinion on $275,000 vs. $350,000. We have a $160 million budget. I talked with Chair Parrish today about it. Let's find out where the board members are and that's where we will end up going. But I am the Chair of Finance and I've had no one approach me on $275,000 or $350,000 to even talk about it. In fact, I had one member and that person wants to stay at $275,000. Commissioner Courtade, you said that we were going to have a conversation. My point is that we have done a spectacular job as a board in creating a collegial environment where everyone has a seat at the table and my hope is and part of the discussion that we had on the phone today is what will it be like next year. My hope is that we go into next year and, whatever the number of Republicans and Democrats, that we maintain that collegiality. I hope that we can figure out a way to come up with some kind of number on PDRs that will work for everyone. We are talking $75,000 on a $160 million budget. But, we've got to do it in a way that is done collaboratively, its got to be done with discussions and its got to be done not by standing up and saying we're frustrated. I appreciate your frustration but it really pains me that for as far as we've come this year working together that over $75,000 we are prepared to throw the baby out. My hope is we will figure out a way through this. We have huge, huge cuts in the Sheriff's Department, an item that we're mandated to provide; we are not mandated to do land use, yet we're working with our sheriff in a collaborative manner to get through the budget issues. I was going to say earlier that staff is to be phenomenally commended for slowly and deliberately managing our budget process over the last many years so we're not here doing draconian cuts. So my hope is that we will figure out a way to all come together, figure out how to get around the $75,000 problem and go from
there. But, I would be really disappointed if we got to November 18th and we hadn’t arrived on some sort of consensus on that issue. Thank you.

Chair Parrish: Thank you Commissioner Agee I don’t think there is anyway I could have said that better.

Courtade: I just want to say that this is over $75,000, it is crazy.

Chair Parrish: I will echo what Dean said and that is when we get to November 18th I am hoping that we will all be on the same page and that we will all be able to vote on the budget. Thanks to the staff, I think what Daryl and the staff has done was really courageous to bring us an almost balanced budget and the work it took to get to that point and the cooperation of all the department heads. That we are here is really just a testament to everybody realizing what our situation is and how we need to look forward. I really appreciate everyone taking the time tonight. I appreciate everyone’s thoughtful comments. I really do think we need to go forward in a collegiate way. I think our community demands that. We will get there and I believe we can get there by November 18th, so I really appreciate everybody’s leadership. Thank you so much.

Hirsch: Sandi, I would just like to thank you for this process and Dean’s comments are correct.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:23 p.m., Chair Parrish adjourned the work session.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: Antor, Agee (Excused) - 2.

Invocation: Commissioner Morgan introduced Doug Sporte, Deputy Drain Commissioner, who gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gabe Hudson, 8269 Kalamazoo Avenue, Gaines Township – Reminded everyone that next Thursday, November 11th is Veteran's Day. A veteran is responsible for the fact that we can gather here this morning and have our differences of opinion but still continue to support the greatest nation in the world. A parade will be held in Grand Rapids and he encouraged all to attend and hug a vet.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Legal Assistance Center Update
Valerie Ambrose (Executive Director of the Legal Assistance Center) explained that the Legal Assistance Center (LAC) helps people gain efficient and effective access to the court system. By providing information for legal options and court procedures, individuals can represent themselves in civil legal disputes. They provide information only - no legal advice or legal representation. The LAC served over 15,000 people in 2009, most of whom were low income. Volunteers (community and law students) contribute their time and expertise over 120 hours each week. Staff and volunteers talk with each party to determine their specific needs, provide them with court approved forms and make appropriate referrals to other organizations, services, or an attorney. She thanked the Board for its continued support.

2011 Budget Public Hearing
Motion by Commissioner Hennessy, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, to go into a public hearing on the 2011 budget.
Motion carried by voice vote.
At 8:42 a.m., the hearing began on the proposed 2011 budget.

County Administrator Daryl Delabbio presented an overview of the budget (copy of which is on file in the Office of County Clerk).

Chair Parrish explained that questions from Commissioners would be taken prior to public comment.
Ponstein: What was the subsidy to the lodging tax 2009 and projected for 2010 from the general fund? Could one conclude that that subsidy probably benefits the businesses in the core area more so than the rural part of the county?

Delabbio: Approximately $2 million for last year and about the same for this year. We collect the lodging excise tax countywide and the bulk of the lodging excise tax goes to retire the debt on the convention center.

Hennessy: You mentioned that we're eliminating the Assistant Administrator position at the zoo but I understand that there is a maintenance position that will be moved from a temporary seasonal layoff to a permanent layoff in next year's budget. So, two positions at the zoo will be eliminated?

Delabbio: Yes, two positions, one of which is vacant right now.

Rolls: Of the potential positions being eliminated, the sheriff's department seems to have the most cuts, specifically road patrol and investigations. How many are tied to reductions in township contract services?

Delabbio: 4 positions.

Courtade: Have there been any studies on what it would cost to not increase zoo admission by $1.00 next year?

Delabbio: $200,000.

Synk: What is the balance now in the unreserved/undesignated fund?

Delabbio: Close to $9 million.

Synk: You indicated that you expect the earlier figure of 30 layoffs to be high, that the actual number will be lower? Do you have an updated figure?

Delabbio: Yes. We just received the total number of people that are taking advantage of the voluntary retirement incentive. This information will be available at the November 16th Finance Committee meeting.

Morgan: The early deficits of 2002-2003 were intentionally created to spend down the reserves, correct?

Delabbio: Yes, then there was a lot of capital.

Vander Molen: Regarding the SEV and its trend down, what do you see for the next 2-3 years?

Matt Woolford: In general, we’re not looking for increases anytime soon. Until the foreclosures in the residential class works its way through we will see continued downward pressure in home values. We have not seen the bottom in the commercial industrial class either. Agriculture is probably the most stable class of property but it is a very small percentage of the overall contribution to the tax roll.

Vander Molen: Would it be fair to say that any increased revenue from the property tax just isn’t there for the foreseeable future?

Matt Woolford: Unfortunately, that is correct. Even if we were to return to a rapid growth environment, because of Proposal A, we would have a continued lingering effect that will not allow us to bounce back quickly.
Vander Molen: The county levy being proposed is not the full levy that is authorized. Is that correct?
Delabbio: We can levy .4 of a mill more which would generate roughly $750,000.

Vander Molen: The reserve fund is approximately $9 million, but the revenue sharing, which is an unknown, is $12 million or a $3 million shortfall.
Delabbio: For the 2011 budget, we are anticipating getting about $6.9 million from the state along with our $4.5 million. But, in 2012, if revenue sharing continues, it would be in the $12 million range from the state.

Courtade: Will we have the information on the job situation at the Finance Committee meeting on November 16th? I am concerned about loss of jobs, charging more for zoo admission, and PDR commitment of dollars.
Delabbio: Yes, we will have exact numbers on the jobs scheduled for elimination and how many retirements.

Talen: I've been dealing with these budgets for quite a long time and what I'm seeing in this budget is pretty amazing. My compliments to Daryl and the team approach that is clearly embodied in this budget. We have an amazing staff and that comes through in what we are seeing with this budget. I want to express my appreciation for it because this had to be pretty tough to come up with.

Vonk: The revenue sharing issue for 2012 could be a very serious issue if we lose that funding from the state. What is plan B?
Delabbio: If we have reductions in revenues, it means that we either have to find additional revenue sources or make additional reductions in expenditures.

Hirsch: I appreciate the hard work and stress that has went into making the budget and I'm good with almost everything. The problem I'm having is $275,000 vs. $350,000 funding for PDR. A subcommittee recommended $1 million over three years and there is a Frey Foundation grant out there that has been tabled or pigeonholed. Has anyone done the math on the amount of matching funds out there that we will miss out on?
Chair Parrish: We can probably get that quantified within the next few days.

Public Comment:
Doug Small, Experience Grand Rapids, 171 Monroe Avenue, Grand Rapids – There is good news on the Lodging Excise Tax front as far as hotel room revenue. In August & September of this year we've exceeded $10 million so we are on the upswing. The growth nationally is 5.4% room revenue growth year-to-date. Here in Kent County we are up 9% over a year ago. Payments on the convention center are rapidly increasing and it's very tough to keep up, but we are doing our part to get the brand recognition, to market the destination and we are filling the coffers. Sustainability is what it's all about. We have a good plan in place and a lot of good people are working hard in these hotels, restaurants and other places to build those coffers up. Make sure you enjoy Restaurant Week which starts today for 10 days.
Scott Atchison, District 19 – I've addressed this board before and first I would like to reiterate what Doug said - we are growing. We need an information booth. This town needs a directions and information booth staffed with humans. The old visitor and information center was closed in December 2001. I’m trying to correct something that should have never have happened. The hotel/motel tax should pay for the information booth. Approximately $350,000 a year from this Board would make a 365-day a year operation staffed with helpful humans at least 12 hours a day. Different events could use half the booth when that event is going on (i.e., ArtPrize, Restaurant Week, 5/3rd River Bank Run). I’m not trying to take money away from the West Michigan Sports Commission or Convention & Visitors Bureau but the hotel/motel tax should pay for this. The Downtown Development Authority should build it. This needs to be a community effort. Did any Commissioner make a recommendation for this? Why not? This is the future. This is what the city needs – information, because we live in the information age.

Mike Guswiler, West Michigan Sports Commission, 171 Monroe Avenue – At a DDA meeting last night it was stated that, internationally, tourism is the largest job and revenue producer. In the state, it is in the top 3. I appreciate the support and investment by the Board in the Sports Commission. In my annual report in August, I listed the good work that the Sports Commission is doing and the growth that we are having each year-upwards of $40 million in economic impact. In a couple of weeks, a press conference will be held announcing developments in the growth of the Meijer State Games. The WMSC plans to launch a campaign to raise some funds and build a baseball/softball complex that could nearly double the impact that the Sports Commission is already having. Thank you for your investment in tourism and the work that the WMSC is doing.

Tina Wurl, 2232 Clyde Park Avenue SW, Grand Rapids – I am appealing to the Commission on the proposed 2011 budget cuts for the Sheriff Department. We often think of public safety as a cut and dry issue - bad people commit crimes, get caught, lock them up and the community is safe again. There is an illusion with that train of thought. Unless they are serving a life sentence, these same criminals will be released back into our community at some point. It would be nice if they learned their lesson while incarcerated and never committed another crime after release. However, statistics show that that is not usually the case. It takes a multifaceted approach to address the complex issues that bring people back to jail. For a number of years, Kent County and the Sheriff's Department have recognized the need for rehabilitative programs that truly make a difference in fighting crime. Evidence suggests a strong correlation between therapeutic interventions and reduced recidivism. In the last year in particular, the Sheriff's Department became part of the transition from jail-to-community initiative and began making large strides in community collaboration in order to connect individuals to resources on the outside. It is a difficult economic climate and tough choices lie before us. However, we need to consider the ramifications of each choice before we make them. Cuts in some areas, although painful, are more easily substituted by community foundations or private funding. For instance, it is easier to find a foundation to fund a park than our jail. Therefore, we must be careful about cutting back in areas we cannot fund in other ways. If portions of our emergency services are cut, it isn’t just sad for the community it directly effects our safety. Increases in crime mean more victims and more money out of taxpayers' pockets. The jail is a very expensive hotel and those who use it frequently rack up an enormous bill. Finding ways to reduce crime not only makes our community safer, it saves us a lot of money. Providing the upfront funding to adequately address crime with the proper combination of preventative, rehabilitative and punitive approaches ensures the best
return on our investment. The Community Reentry Center (CRC) does not provide fluff programming that simply helps inmates pass the time. As part of the TJC initiative, the staff has worked hard to create programming that is researched and proven to reduce the number of people returning to jail. Closing the CRC or decreasing funding to any similar law enforcement program would only increase our crime rates in Kent County.

I am appreciative of the consideration the Commission has already given to this by allowing partial funding to continue. However, it should be noted that the Sheriff’s Department has received national recognition from the Urban Institute and the National Institute of Corrections for utilizing cutting edge best practices to address crime through the programs of the CRC and other areas of our department. Any reduction in funding is still a crippling blow to the progress that has taken us years to make. Therefore, I would ask the Commission to carefully consider how the money of Kent County should best be spent. And make no mistake, the money will be spent. Dealing with crime will cost us. Either we will bite the bullet and pay for it upfront or we will pay for it later, leaving a wake of more victims, an overcrowded jail and, an even larger bill for next year. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter and not just for budget year 2011, but all future budget years.

Sr. Lucille Janowiak, 2025 E. Fulton, Grand Rapids (member of the Agriculture Preservation Board) – Thanked the Commission, both past and present, for the foresight and wisdom in investing in farmland preservation that benefits all Kent County citizens. Farmland preservation helps long term food security, the environment, wildlife and the local economy. We citizens of the State of Michigan believe that the Ag industry and farmland are very important to the state’s economic recovery. This was expressed in a recent survey conducted by Michigan State University’s Land Policy Institute. In the survey, more importance was given to Agriculture than to many other sectors of the economy and of the community including parks, trails, tourism, even renewable energy and the auto industry. Citizens are very supportive of farmland conservation and we who live in the urban areas often forget the great human cost paid by the farm workers, the farmers, the rural community to get food on our tables. They grapple with the uncertainties of weather, rising operating expenses, fluctuating markets and more. Farmland preservation gives some stability to farming by creating a long-term business environment and patching together large blocks of farmers and farmland. Farmers need other farmers. These blocks are not only beautiful, they produce food, jobs, water and wildlife protection and more. By including farmland protection in the County budget, we are saying that all citizens are taking some responsibility for long-term planning for our food security, for the creation of jobs and for the protection of the environment. I would like to remind the Commission that many of the priorities set forth in the 2020 Vision and directives that you give are met by farmland conservation. They are very measurable, they give security to the County residents and they produce a healthy community. I encourage you to promote farmland preservation in the budget and I thank you for your hard work.

Rob Steffens, 4344 15 Mile Road, Sparta – An apple grower in Sparta, I would like to reiterate Sister Lucille’s comments on farmland preservation. I heard earlier that farmland is a stable source of property taxes for the county and so I would encourage, if possible, the $1 million commitment to the Farmland Preservation Program.
Paul Snyder, 1526 144th Street, Spring Lake - Here to say an amen to what Tina Wurl said regarding the reentry center and the importance of its programs. In 2009, I began the facilitation of the GED Program. Now, 95% of all employers require a GED or high school diploma. So, you can imagine what that means to a person who has a criminal record and no GED or diploma. The GED Program is an important part of the reentry center and an important part for the budget of the County. Studies show an up to 34% decrease in recidivism rates for persons who obtain their GED while incarcerated. So, it is an important program and I would like you to keep that in mind.

Motion by Commissioner Hennessy, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, to go back into general session.
Motion carried by voice vote.
Chair Parrish declared the hearing closed at 9:37 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of October 14, 2010 Meeting and Work Session
b) October 19, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)
c) Resolutions:

11-04-10-96 – APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

   WHEREAS, State law (MCL 52.201) requires the Board of Commissioners of each county to appoint a County Medical Examiner for four-year terms. The current term expires December 31, 2010, and an appointment must be made for the next term; and

   WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen Cohle has worked in the County’s Medical Examiner Program since 1982, including serving as the Chief Deputy Medical Examiner, and since October 2002, serving as the County Medical Examiner; and

   WHEREAS, Dr. Cohle meets the requirements of County Medical Examiner as provided for in State law, and has agreed to continue to serve in this capacity. Consistent with the current arrangement, the County will contract with Michigan Pathology Specialists, P.C. for Dr. Cohle’s time and expertise; and

   WHEREAS, Michigan Pathology Specialists, P.C. also serves as a subcontractor of the County to provide autopsy services for the County Medical Examiner Program. As permitted by the statute, Dr. Cohle will continue to provide autopsy and investigative services while serving as County Medical Examiner.

   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby appoints Stephen Cohle, M.D., as the County Medical Examiner for the term of January 1, 2011, through December 31, 2014.

11-04-10-97 – COLD CASES DNA GRANT / SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

   WHEREAS, the Office of Justice Programs, supported under the National Institute of Justice – COPS DNA/Forensics, has approved funding under the FY 2010 Solving Cold Cases with DNA project in the amount of $407,449; and
WHEREAS, the Solving Cold Cases with DNA program will support the collaborative efforts of the Kent Metro Cold Case Team (KMCCT) which is a task force of homicide investigators from the Kent County Sheriff’s Department, Grand Rapids Police Department, and the Michigan State Police; and

WHEREAS, the Kent Metro Cold Case Team will utilize grant funding for the following allowable activities in order to meet the proposed objectives: (1) overtime for investigative team members; (2) travel assistance for investigative purposes, extradition and training seminars; (3) computer equipment and supplies to aid investigative efforts, (4) cost for outsourcing to private accredited laboratories for DNA analysis; and (5) contractor services to support investigative efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Sheriff’s Department, as part of the KMCCT, will expand activities to investigate unsolved homicides and violent crimes from the Kent County area through the Cold Case Enhanced Investigative Project (CCEIP). The project will begin the review of over 135 open homicide cases. With grant funding, the primary goal of this initiative is to reduce the number of open cold cases through DNA analysis; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is October 1, 2010, through March 31, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the Sheriff Department’s request to accept a Solving Cold Cases with DNA grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates $407,449 to the Sheriff’s Department – Special Projects budget.

11-04-10-98 – MICHIGAN JUSTICE TRAINING BUDGET AMENDMENT / SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Michigan Justice Training Fund was created by Act 302, P.A. 1982, and is funded by an assessment of $5.00 for certain civil infractions of the Michigan Vehicle Code. Funds are distributed to local units for in-service criminal justice training of its law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff’s Department has been informed of a rule change to the grant program and must spend all grant funds received to date by December 31, 2010, or forfeit their allotment for the 2011 budget year; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff’s Department is requesting an additional appropriation of $7,500 for the FY 2010 Michigan Justice Training Special Project budget in order to fully expend the grant dollars received to date; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2010 Adopted Budget was $50,000 and the additional funds will increase the appropriation to $57,500; and

WHEREAS, the remaining FY 2010 grant dollars will be used to purchase training cartridges for Tasers for officers to use in a controlled training environment; and to purchase replacement training laptops that can be used to facilitate mobile computer training, Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) training, and be used to complete in-house E-learning modules. These laptops will be the same as the ones used in the in-car computer environment to facilitate e-tickets, e-crash and mobile criminal reporting applications. Officers will also use these funds to maintain various certifications.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the appropriation of an additional $7,500 to the Sheriff’s Michigan Justice Training budget from the Special Project Fund reserves.
Motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, that the Consent Agenda Items be approved.  
Motion carried:  
Nays: 0.  

RESOLUTION  
11-04-10-99 – LABOR AGREEMENT: ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY ASSOCIATION (APA) / HUMAN RESOURCES  
WHEREAS, the County of Kent and Kent County Prosecuting Attorney and Kent County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Association have negotiated a labor agreement; and  
WHEREAS, the agreement provides wages to increase 1.25% effective January 1, 2011 and 1.25% effective January 1, 2012; and  
WHEREAS, the dental plan maximum calendar year benefit shall increase to $2,300 per family effective January 1, 2011. The total additional cost for this benefit is $3,200 in 2011; and  
WHEREAS, this contract will establish new Pension Plan retirement age eligibility for employees hired on or after January 1, 2011, and  
WHEREAS, the maximum employee pension contribution will increase to 7.5% effective January 1, 2012; and  
WHEREAS, the total addition to base salary costs over the life of the contract is $208,669. Other benefit costs are $43,190. The total two-year increase to salary and benefit costs is $255,059; and  
WHEREAS, the proposed contract has been ratified by the membership.  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the two-year labor agreement for the period January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2012, between the County of Kent and Kent County Prosecuting Attorney and Kent County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Association.  

Motion by Commissioner Rolls, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, that the resolution be adopted.  
Motion carried:  
Nays: 0.  

REPORTS  
Department of Public Works  
Commissioner Tanis: The waste-to-energy mortgage burning will be on Wednesday, November 10th, at 10:00 a.m.  

Parks Subcommittee  
Commissioner Rolls: The Parks Subcommittee has had its final meeting and staff is preparing a report which will be out in a few weeks.
MISCELLANEOUS

Appreciation and Wishes
Commissioner Courtade: Thanked supporters of his candidacy. He reiterated the importance of keeping zoo fees down, saving the jobs of workers whose job might be in jeopardy, and encouraged $75,000 more to the PDR Program.

Energy Conference
Commissioner Bulkowski: An energy conference will be held Saturday, November 13th, at Aquinas College in the Wege Center. This is in part sponsored by students at Aquinas College who are part of Students in Free Enterprise.

Restaurant Week
Commissioner Rolls: Thanked Doug Small for the kick-off event for Experience Grand Rapids Restaurant Week. It was a great opening event. He encouraged everyone to go to www.restaurantweekgr.com and make reservations.

Senior Millage, David’s House Ministries & Neighborhood Business Awards
Commissioner Ponstein: Senior Millage allocation will be on the Board of Commission November 18th agenda. He would like the Chair to have a proclamation requesting the DDAs to forfeit the capture back to the senior millage. Also, he would like Commissioners to contact DDAs in their districts.

He announced that David’s House Ministries opened in the 7th Commission District. They service the developmentally disabled. He encouraged everyone to tour the facility to see what large formal housing for the developmentally disabled is like now.

The Neighbor Business Alliance Awards will be presented tonight at 6:30 pm at the Wealthy Theatre.

Budget Parameters
Commissioner Synk: Thanked all who worked on the budget. He disagrees with some parameters given by Finance Committee to Daryl and staff. Believes the County should spend the $2 million authorized by the Finance Committee. We need to look at the triple bottom line: 1) Money – doing a good job with dollars. 2) People – be compassionate with employees. We have resources to save jobs and it benefits our economy to do so. 3) Future – will Kent be a nice place to live in the future - we have a responsibility to the next generation and we need to fund the PDR Program.

Veteran’s Day Parade
Commissioner Tanis: Invites all to walk with him in the Veteran’s Day Parade on November 11th.

Balanced Budget
Chair Parrish: We need a structurally balanced budget and the election showed that citizens want that. Please keep that in mind as we finalize the budget because anything additional to the proposed budget will put it out of line. These are challenging times and this is a dynamic environment and we need to keep that in mind as we go forward.
ADJOURNMENT

At 9:44 a.m., Commissioner Morgan moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, November 18, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Dillon. Motion carried.

____________________________                ______________________________
Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair       Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Rolls introduced Pastor Josh VanTil, River Rock Church, who gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Annual Employee Service Recognition
Chair Parrish presented the following employees with service awards:

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<th>Department</th>
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<td>Circuit Court</td>
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<td>Ken Van Woerkom</td>
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<td>Court Services</td>
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<td>Friend of the Court</td>
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<td>Clerk’s Office</td>
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<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>Gary Diekevers</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jon Hess</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kerry Malone</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peggy Vickery</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PUBLIC COMMENT

1) Terry Burlingame, 4457 Wyatt St SW, Grandville: He gave the background of David’s House Ministries for which he has been a member of its board of directors for twelve years. David’s House owns three separate adult foster care facilities and his son has been a resident since July 2009. His concerns are regarding the process of funding for disabled individuals seeking housing. There seems to be illogical laws regarding how the size of the home (6-person vs. 12-person facility) effects funding. He has received different answers to the same questions, and, in effect, a limitation of choice in size of home. He recommends carefully evaluating the rating system, having an independent assessor and not financially penalizing those in larger homes.

2) Annette Yff, 312 Scabbard SW, Byron Township: Her handicapped foster daughter is having difficulty being allowed to live in a group home. She is on the list to get into the third David’s House, but the move is being held up due to funding not coming through from network180. If she moves to David’s House, she will get fewer dollars than she gets now for her care and this doesn’t make sense.

3) Deb Lechman, 1570 Meadowslane, Wyoming: Her daughter wants to move to David’s House, but there is much concern over funding. Once she was evaluated as “high needs” and now she’s evaluated as “low needs.” She believes that it is network180’s attempt to lower the amount of dollars given for her daughter’s care. Ms. Lechman asked the Board to investigate these seemingly unjust practices.

4) Andy Mast, 2850 -9 Mile Road NW, Sparta: Needs to put his 30-year old son into a group home. His son has high needs in certain areas and some of the facilities which were recommended could not meet his needs. network180 recently determined that they’d no longer license larger homes. This means that funding for care is much different - in a 6-bed facility, he’d get $160/day, at David’s House, a larger bed home, he’d only get $80/day. network180 hasn’t been as responsive as he believes it should be.

5) Pastor Jay Deboer, 2105 Raybrook SE, Grand Rapids: Pastor Deboer founded David’s House Ministries because of their handicapped son, David. David’s House is being discriminated against due to the number of beds. He asked the Board to look into it.

6) Roger McClary, 767 Knapp NE, Grand Rapids: Invites all to attend the inaugural meeting tonight of his new non-profit organization “North American Federation on the Millennium Development Goals,” to develop a rating system to evaluate if local governments are meeting the Millennium Development Goals put forth by the United Nations in 2000. He recommends that local government give dollars to the Millennium Development Goals project.

7) Terri McCarthy, 11362 – 2 Mile Rd NE, Vergennes Township: She works for the Wege Foundation, which is very supportive of agriculture preservation. The Wege Foundation has given $882,000 to the program and gifted 575 acres of development rights. Please be open to having Kent County help pay for it. Mr. Wege hopes that the Board can recognize a good investment when it sees ones.

8) Fr. Mark Przybysz, 1776 Acacia Dr NW, Grand Rapids: Supports the PDR program and encourages Kent County to help fund the program. Be visionaries, not road blocks.
9) Nancy Nielsen, 14130 Keller Avenue NE, Spencer Township: Chair of the Senior Millage Review Committee, she acknowledged the good work of Commissioners Voorhees, Tanis, Hennessy and Assistant Administrator Wayman Britt. She specifically singled out Commissioner Tanis and his good work as he is retiring at the end of the year.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of November 4, 2010 Meeting

b) November 2, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Appointment: Veterans’ Affairs Committee – Edward Perdue

d) Resolutions:

11-18-10-100 – CHILD CARE FUND ANNUAL PLAN APPROVAL / CIRCUIT COURT – FAMILY DIVISION / DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

WHEREAS, each year the 17th Judicial Circuit Court – Family Division and the Kent County Department of Human Services (DHS) are required to prepare a plan showing how the Child Care Fund dollars will be spent by each agency; and

WHEREAS, the plan encompasses in-home and out-of-home placement costs (e.g., foster care, detention, etc.) for children at risk of abuse or neglect as well as children determined to be delinquent; and

WHEREAS, the law provides that each county will receive a reimbursement from the State of 50% of the annual net expenditures for certain costs related to placement and efforts to reduce placement; and

WHEREAS, the budget amounts provided for in the proposed agreements are based on the most current budget estimates available from the State of Michigan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Child Care Fund Annual Plan for FY11 and authorize the Board Chair to sign the document.


WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners approved the Sheriff’s State Homeland Security Grant (SHSG) in January 2010 for $156,918 (Resolution 1-28-10-03); and

WHEREAS, last month, the Board of Commissioners approved an additional $2,000 appropriation for the SHSG (Resolution 10-14-10-86); and

WHEREAS, starting with grant year 2006, the Homeland Security Grant funding allotments were allocated on a regional basis. Kent County was placed into Region 6 of the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC), which is part of a 13 county region; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2010, Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board allocated $38,593 in training funds to Kent County; and
WHEREAS, on April 26, 2010, Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board allocated $31,632 in exercise funds to Kent County; and

WHEREAS, the additional allocation will increase the total grant amount by $70,225 from $158,918 to $229,143. Planner wages and benefits are $154,918. Planner incidentals are $4,000, training funds $38,593, and exercise funds $31,632 (if approved); and

WHEREAS, the additional funds will help to enhance the County’s abilities to mitigate, prepare, respond and recover in times of disaster or emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners accepts $70,225 in additional funding for a State Homeland Security Grant from the Michigan Department of State Police; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates an additional $70,225 from the Michigan Department of State Police – Emergency Management Division to the FY 2010 Sheriff’s Emergency Management Budget – Special Projects Fund.

Motion by Commissioner Rolls, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

RESOLUTION

11-18-10-102 – FALLASBURG DAM MAINTENANCE APPROPRIATION / FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, since 1983 (Resolution 2-83-29), the County has an agreement to lease Fallasburg Dam to STS HydroPower, LTD., for $29,000 annually for the purpose of generating and selling hydroelectric power; and

WHEREAS, the public/private arrangement of Kent County and STS Hydropower, LTD. at the Fallasburg Dam permit both recreational opportunities and production of 5 million KWh of electricity annually; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has mandated repairs be done to the Fallasburg Dam this year. The scope of the project is to stop erosion of the downstream embankment toe and left abutment area and provide stabilization of the left embankment toe. Erosion is caused by large eddy currents during high river flows - there were three such damaging conditions experienced this year; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the project is estimated at $157,000; 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 account to be used solely to pay the costs of maintenance and repairs. The County General Fund currently receives a net $25,000 annually. The current available balance in the escrow account is $59,000; and

WHEREAS, Facilities Management is requesting an additional appropriation of $98,000 from the Unreserved/Undesignated General Fund balance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates an additional $98,000 from the Unreserved/Undesignated General Fund balance to the Fallasburg Dam Maintenance budget in the Special Projects Fund. The current Unreserved/Undesignated General Fund balance is $8,864,512.
Motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Vonk, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:


Nays: 0.

11-18-10-103 – 911 PLAN AMENDMENT / SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, pursuant to PA 32 of 1986 (the “Act”) the County has adopted a Final 911 Service Plan (the “Plan”) and has periodically amended the Plan to designate Primary or Secondary Public Safety Answering Points in Kent County; and

WHEREAS, the designation of the Primary and Secondary Public Safety Answering Points has changed in part as a result of the consolidation of the 911 call-taking function initiated through the Kent County Dispatch Authority; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 312 of the Act, the Kent County Board of Commissioners may amend the 911 Plan by resolution to designate the Primary and/or Secondary Public Safety Answer Points in Kent County. The following designations are recommended:

- Primary Public Safety Answering Points: City of Grand Rapids and Kent County Sheriff’s Department


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves an amendment to the Kent County Final 911 Service Plan to designate the Kent County Sheriff’s Department and the City of Grand Rapids as Primary Public Safety Answering Points and that the Michigan State Police-Rockford Post #61 and Life Ambulance be designated as Secondary Public Safety Answering Points in Kent County and the 911 Plan shall be edited to reflect these designations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this amendment supersedes all prior designations for Primary and Secondary Public Safety Answering Points in Kent County.

Motion by Commissioner Rolls, seconded by Commissioner Tanis, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried by voice vote.

11-18-10-104 – SENIOR MILLAGE ALLOCATIONS FOR 2011 / ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Area Agency on Aging of West Michigan (AAAWM) holds contracts with 31 agencies to provide services with funding from the Kent County Senior Millage.

Under the terms of the contracts, the funding level is evaluated annually based on new program proposals, current year operations, and available funding; and

WHEREAS, in mid October 2010, the Kent County Senior Millage Review Committee reviewed the 2011 funding requests and made recommendations regarding funding for each service. These recommendations
were forwarded to the AAAWM Executive Committee on October 25, 2010, which is now recommending them to the County for approval; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the annual contracts, Senior Millage funds will also be used to provide in-home services, prescription assistance, flu and pneumonia vaccinations, personal emergency response systems and emergency needs funding to seniors through purchase of service arrangements. Amounts to be allocated through this process have been included on the bid tabulation and recommendation sheet.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the allocation of $6,469,368 in Senior Millage funds for 2011 as recommended by the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, Inc.

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, seconded by Commissioner Hennessy, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:


Nays: 0.

Abstain: Bulkowski, Chair Parrish - 2.

11-18-10-105 – 2011 GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT / ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known as the FY 2011 General Appropriation Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCLA 141.412 and 141.413, notice of a public hearing on the proposed budget was published in a newspaper of general circulation on October 21, 2010, and a public hearing on the proposed budget was held on November 4, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County voters authorized millages of 0.7893 mills for correctional facility operations and debt service, and 0.3244 mills for senior services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners will authorize in May 2011, a general property tax levy on all real and personal property within the County upon the current tax roll for County general operations; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Finance and Physical Resources Committee allocated the equivalent of 0.15 mills of the general property tax levy to the CIP Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Finance and Physical Resources Committee has reviewed the recommended 2011 Budget in detail; and

WHEREAS, estimated total revenues and appropriations for the various funds are recommended as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Sources Revenues</th>
<th>Reserves</th>
<th>Appropriation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>$165,179,456</td>
<td>$ 13,486</td>
<td>$165,192,942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Revenue Funds</td>
<td>40,117,204</td>
<td>3,964,498</td>
<td>44,081,702</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Project Funds</td>
<td>3,081,026</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>3,281,026</td>
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<td>Internal Service Fund</td>
<td>20,576,902</td>
<td>1,799,012</td>
<td>22,375,914</td>
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<td>Debt Service Funds</td>
<td>2,133,346</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,133,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component Unit Funds</td>
<td>38,105,799</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>38,105,799</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proprietary Funds</td>
<td>44,165,691</td>
<td>5,581,388</td>
<td>49,747,079</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$313,359,424</td>
<td>$11,558,384</td>
<td>$324,917,808</td>
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</table>

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the FY 2011 Appropriation Act as the
official budget for FY 2011; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that County officials responsible for the appropriations authorized in the act may expend County funds up to, but not to exceed, the total appropriation authorized for each department or activity; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board adopts the FY 2011 budgets for the various governmental funds by department or activity as follows:

2011 General Appropriations Act
County of Kent, Michigan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GENERAL FUND</th>
<th>Appropriation</th>
<th>Memorandum</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Estimated Revenues</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
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<td>$ 85,924,850</td>
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<td>Licenses &amp; Permits</td>
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<td>110,800</td>
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<td>Intergovernmental</td>
<td>16,675,748</td>
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<td>16,675,748</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charges for Services</td>
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<td>18,388,919</td>
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<td>166,500</td>
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<td>887,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reimbursements</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>14,111,281</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>24,250,000</td>
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<td><strong>Total Estimated Revenues</strong></td>
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<td>-</td>
<td><strong>165,179,456</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fund Balance Usage (Deposit)</td>
<td>13,486</td>
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<td>13,486</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Revenues &amp; Other Sources</strong></td>
<td><strong>$167,192,942</strong></td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td><strong>$167,192,942</strong></td>
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## Appropriations

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<th>$16,673,780</th>
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<td>3,261,901</td>
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<td>District Court</td>
<td>2,696,906</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,696,906</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drain Commission</td>
<td>585,401</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>585,401</td>
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<td>Facilities Management</td>
<td>12,929,717</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12,929,717</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fiscal Services</td>
<td>3,429,526</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>5,029,099</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy/Administration</td>
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<td>Sheriff's Department</td>
<td>61,035,790</td>
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<td>Treasurer's Office</td>
<td>1,022,662</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parks Department</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>Probate Court – Mental &amp; Estate Division</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>1,288,382</td>
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<tr>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>49,632</td>
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<td>Intergovernmental</td>
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<td>DHS Social Welfare</td>
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<td>690,763</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bureau of Equalization</td>
<td>1,504,260</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td>1,768,194</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prosecutor’s – Criminal/Juvenile</td>
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<td>5,941,065</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooperative Extension Service</td>
<td>559,231</td>
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<td>559,231</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Examiner</td>
<td>1,238,554</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterans’ Affairs Department</td>
<td>169,509</td>
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<td>169,509</td>
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<td>John Ball Zoological Gardens</td>
<td>4,053,600</td>
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<td>4,053,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers Out</td>
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<td><strong>Total Appropriations before Lapse</strong></td>
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<td><strong>170,192,942</strong></td>
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### 2011 General Appropriations Act
County of Kent, Michigan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</th>
<th>Appropriation</th>
<th>Memorandum*</th>
<th><strong>Total Appropriation</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Revenues</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>$27,385,714</td>
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<td>$27,385,714</td>
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<tr>
<td>Licenses &amp; Permits</td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td>1,543,053</td>
<td>1,613,053</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental</td>
<td>1,858,653</td>
<td>39,603,858</td>
<td>41,462,511</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charges for Services</td>
<td>5,265,500</td>
<td>1,894,105</td>
<td>7,159,605</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fines &amp; Forfeitures</td>
<td>545,146</td>
<td>236,403</td>
<td>781,549</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Earnings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reimbursements</td>
<td>2,088,562</td>
<td>5,129,451</td>
<td>7,218,013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>229,228</td>
<td>461,353</td>
<td>690,581</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers In</td>
<td>2,540,601</td>
<td>27,476,564</td>
<td>30,017,165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Estimated Revenues</td>
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<td>76,344,787</td>
<td>116,461,991</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fund Balance Usage (Deposit)</td>
<td>3,964,498</td>
<td>3,198</td>
<td>3,967,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Estimated Revenues &amp; Other Sources</td>
<td><strong>$44,081,702</strong></td>
<td><strong>$76,347,985</strong></td>
<td><strong>$120,429,687</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appropriations</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Commission</td>
<td><strong>$ 572,241</strong></td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 572,241</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friend of the Court</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9,076,070</td>
<td>9,076,070</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Department</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>24,565,180</td>
<td>24,565,180</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lodging Excise Tax</td>
<td>6,665,537</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correction &amp; Detention Millage</td>
<td>15,691,618</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Millage</td>
<td>6,661,368</td>
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<tr>
<td>Register of Deeds Automation Fund</td>
<td>595,284</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>595,284</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Dispatch Collection</td>
<td>4,550,000</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drug Law Enforcement Fund</td>
<td>231,346</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>231,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Development / Shelter Plus Care</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,762,088</td>
<td>3,762,088</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Care</td>
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<td>21,187,822</td>
<td>21,187,822</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHS Social Welfare / DHS Child Care</td>
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<td>13,851,783</td>
<td>15,471,783</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue Sharing Reserve Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veteran's Trust</td>
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<td>75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>SP – Circuit Court Com Corrections Admin</td>
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<td>SP – Circuit Court Com Corrections Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>SP – Circuit Court Family Counseling</td>
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<td>SP – Circuit Court JABG</td>
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<td>SP – Circuit Court Juv Accountability Donations</td>
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<td>5,698</td>
<td>5,698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP – Circuit Court DMC Inter and Reduction</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>125,000</td>
<td>125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP – Drain Commission Special Assessment</td>
<td>76,520</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>76,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP – FM Fallasburg Dam</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP – Cooperative Extension Ag Preservation</td>
<td>485,500</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>485,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP – Cooperative Extension Mississippi Food Net</td>
<td>35,708</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>35,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP – FOC Access &amp; Visitation Grant</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>13,550</td>
<td>13,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP – FOC SCAO</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP – Prosecutor’s Cooperative Reimbursement</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,765,172</td>
<td>1,765,172</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SP – Remonumentation Program 175,000 - 175,000
SP – Courthouse Security 1,273,877 - 1,273,877
SP – 82 Ionia Security 301,155 - 301,155
SP – District Court Security 89,070 - 89,070
SP – Sheriff Drug Enforcement - 106,903 106,903
SP – Sheriff Gifts Jail 94,700 - 94,700
SP – Sheriff Local Correction Officers Train 294,300 - 294,300
SP – Sheriff Michigan Dispatch Training 45,000 - 45,000
SP – Sheriff Michigan Justice Training 50,000 - 50,000
SP – Sheriff Secondary Road Patrol - 452,054 452,054

Total Appropriations $44,081,702 $76,347,985 $120,429,687

*These Memorandum Budgets were previously appropriated by the Kent County Board of Commissioners via resolutions 04-22-10-19, 06-10-10-53, 07-22-10-61, 09-09-10-76, and 09-23-10-80.

2011 General Appropriations Act
County of Kent, Michigan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS</th>
<th>Appropriation</th>
<th>Memorandum</th>
<th>Total Appropriation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Revenues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Earnings</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reimbursements</td>
<td>94,050</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>94,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer In</td>
<td>2,986,976</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,986,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Estimated Revenues</td>
<td>3,081,026</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fund Balance Usage (Deposit)</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Estimated Revenues &amp; Other Sources</td>
<td>$3,281,026</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$3,281,026</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appropriations
Capital Improvement Program $3,281,026 $ - $3,281,026
Building Authority Construction - - -
Bond Capital Improvement - - -
Total Appropriations $3,281,026 $ - $3,281,026
### INTERNAL SERVICE FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Revenues</th>
<th>Appropriation</th>
<th>Memorandum</th>
<th>Total Appropriation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charges for Services</td>
<td>$ 900,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$ 900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Earnings</td>
<td>109,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>109,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reimbursements</td>
<td>19,537,902</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19,537,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>20,576,902</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td><strong>20,576,902</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Fund Balance Usage (Deposit) | 1,799,012 | - | 1,799,012 |
| **Total Estimated Revenues & Other Sources** | **$22,375,914** | - | **$22,375,914** |

### Appropriations

| Risk Management | $22,375,914 | - | $22,375,914 |

### DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Revenues</th>
<th>Appropriation</th>
<th>Memorandum</th>
<th>Total Appropriation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$ 770,006</td>
<td>$ 770,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,679,247</td>
<td>6,679,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers In</td>
<td>2,133,346</td>
<td>1,504,576</td>
<td>3,637,922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,133,346</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,953,829</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,087,175</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Fund Balance Usage (Deposit) | - | (18,677) | (18,677) |
| **Total Estimated Revenues & Other Sources** | **$2,133,346** | **$8,935,152** | **$11,068,498** |

### Appropriations

| Building Authority Debt Service Fund | - | $8,935,152 | $8,935,152 |
| Debt Service Fund | 2,133,346 | - | 2,133,346 |
| **Total Appropriations** | **$2,133,346** | **$8,935,152** | **$11,068,498** |

*The Building Authority Debt Service Memorandum Budget was previously appropriated by the Kent County Building Authority.

### 2011 General Appropriations Act

**County of Kent, Michigan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT UNIT FUNDS</th>
<th>Appropriation</th>
<th>Memorandum</th>
<th>Total Appropriation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Revenues</td>
<td>$ 642,805</td>
<td>$ 2,934,530</td>
<td>$ 3,577,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charges for Services</td>
<td>33,266,824</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33,266,824</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*The Housing Commission’s Memorandum Budget was previously appropriated by the Kent County Board of Commissioners via the signature approval of the Kent County Board Chair.

### PROPRIETARY FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Appropriation</th>
<th>Memorandum</th>
<th>Total Appropriation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Revenues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>$4,603,000</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$4,603,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charges for Services</td>
<td>21,794,382</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>21,794,382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fines &amp; Forfeitures</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Earnings</td>
<td>637,050</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>637,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reimbursements</td>
<td>160,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>160,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12,966,259</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12,966,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>44,165,691</strong></td>
<td><strong>-</strong></td>
<td><strong>44,165,691</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Balance Usage (Deposit)</td>
<td>5,581,388</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,581,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Revenues &amp; Other Sources</strong></td>
<td><strong>$49,747,079</strong></td>
<td><strong>$-</strong></td>
<td><strong>$49,747,079</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that appropriations made for the available balances and outstanding encumbrances at fiscal year end for grants are continued in full force and effect and shall carry over to successive fiscal years until the grants are completed or otherwise terminated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that appropriations made for the available balances and outstanding encumbrances at fiscal year end for capital projects are continued in full force and effect and shall carry over to successive fiscal years until the projects are completed or otherwise terminated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that appropriations made for the outstanding purchase orders and contractual encumbrances at fiscal year end in the operating funds are continued in full force and effect and shall carry over to
successive fiscal years until the projects are completed or otherwise terminated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator/Controller shall provide the Kent County Finance and Physical Resources Committee, at the end of each fiscal quarter, a report of year to date revenues and expenditures compared to the budgeted amounts in the various funds of the County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution supersedes all previous resolutions related to the General Fund and Lodging Excise Tax Fund appropriations and/or commitments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that whenever it appears to the Kent County Administrator/Controller or the Kent County Board that the actual and probable revenues in any fund will be less than the estimated revenues upon which appropriations from such fund were based, or when it appears that expenditures will exceed an appropriation, the County Administrator/Controller shall present to the County Board recommendations to prevent expenditures from exceeding available revenues and reserves or appropriations for the budget year. Such recommendations may include proposals for reducing appropriations, increasing revenues or a combination thereof.

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

Motion by Commissioner Courtade to amend the budget by adding $75,000 for Farmland Preservation.

Chair Parrish: Point of Order. Commissioner Courtade’s Motion is out of order as it is in violation of the County’s Annual Budget Policy and/or the Board’s Standing Rules relating to the responsibilities of the Finance and Physical Resources Committee, BOC Standing Rule 4.

Motion to appeal by Commissioner Courtade, seconded by Commissioner Dillon. Motion to appeal failed:


Motion by Commissioner Synk, seconded by Commissioner Courtade, to amend the budget by adding $1 million to the budget from reserves for the purpose of preventing layoffs where possible.

Chair Parrish: Point of Order. Commissioner Synk’s Motion is out of order as it is in violation of the County’s Annual Budget Policy and/or the Board’s Standing Rules relating to the responsibilities of the Finance and Physical Resources Committee, BOC Standing Rule 4.

Motion to appeal by Commissioner Courtade, seconded by Commissioner Dillon. Motion to appeal failed:


Absent from room: Rolls – 1.

Motion to adopt resolution 11-18-10-105 carried:


Downtown Development Authority
Commissioner Talen announced that he will report on the Grand Rapids DDA, of which he is a member, in his weekly newsletter instead of at the Board of Commissioners' meetings.

Commissioner Morgan would like Commissioner Talen to continue reporting on the DDA at Board meetings. He appreciates Commissioner Talen’s reports.

MISCELLANEOUS

Public Comment
Commissioner Ponstein: Acknowledged the individuals who spoke on behalf of David’s House during Public Comment. He sits on the network180 board and the learning curve is incredible. He has met with state representatives, network180, and this issue is not being resolved. They appeared here today out of pure frustration. He is proud to have David’s House in the 7th Commission District and would like Commissioners to visit that facility and compare it to six-bed facilities. There is something fundamentally wrong with the amount of their Medicaid dollars being dependent on the size of the home they live in. The position of network180 is that larger facilities can operate at a better economy of scale and, while he agrees with that, it is not 50%. We need to resolve this.

Commissioner Talen: Also serves on the network180 board and told Commissioners that both the Board and the staff have been addressing this issue for eight months. It is a very complex system. There are policies in place that have been there for a long time for very good reasons. It could be that those policies need to be changed, but network180 is a governmental body, it’s an Authority, and the decisions that it makes have far reaching implications in a budget that is tens of millions of dollars. Things are happening; there is movement on the issue. It would be helpful if staff could get more information on how the resolution of the issue is progressing.

Commissioner Courtade: He, too, is on the network180 board and these people are frustrated. There is a very high learning curve for new board members because of the complexity. Resolution to the problem is not moving along fast enough.

Bio-Solids
Commissioner Voorhees: Met with the City of Wyoming Bio-solid Authority members, the DNRE and several other agencies regarding the application of bio-solids to the farm near Big Crooked Lake. There will be a review of some of the current processes and possible improvements.

Budget Process
Commissioner Hirsch: He would like to work with the rest of the Board in the next couple of years and try to move things forward and not have some board members feel like they are shut out.

Service Awards
Chair Parrish: Presented Commissioners Morgan, Vaughn and Vonk with 10-year service pins, and Clerk Hollinrake and Administrator Delabbio with 15-year service awards.

Budget Process
Chair Parrish:Acknowledged Commissioners' feelings and frustration with the budget process. The Board will have an opportunity to look at the Standing Rules in 2011.
ADJOURNMENT

At 10:55 a.m., Commissioner Rolls moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, December 9, 2010, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vonk. Motion carried.

____________________________                _______________________________
Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair       Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk
Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Sandi Frost Parrish.


Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Voorhees gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Open Space and Agriculture Preservation Baseline Survey Results

John Cavanaugh, EPIC-MRA, gave an overview of the Open Space and Agriculture Preservation Baseline survey. EPIC-MRA was commissioned in 2009, after a recommendation by the board subcommittee on Open Space and Ag Preservation, to conduct a survey on attitudes and perceptions about open space and agriculture preservation. EPIC-MRA developed and implemented the survey from September 7 – 10, 2010, to gauge public opinion of registered voters regarding land use issues including the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program. 400 Kent County (county was broken down into eight regions) registered voters took part. The survey showed that citizens highly value locally produced foods and the quality of life afforded by their geographical spot in the state. There is uncertainty about the role of government as it relates to the disposition of property. As a result of the conflicting or inconsistent perceptions and opinions, it will be necessary for voters to be educated on the PDR program in order to obtain the levels of support indicated in the survey. (A copy of both the Open Space and Agriculture Preservation Baseline Survey and Mr. Cavanaugh’s power point presentation is on file in the County Clerk’s Office.)

PUBLIC COMMENT

1) Dave Morren, 7073 Willard, Gaines Township: Here today to honor Jim Day (Executive Assistant to the Board of Commission) who is retiring after 30 years of service with Kent County. As a former Chair of the Board of Commissioners, he worked closely with Jim and got to know the employee, the athlete, and the person. He is special and will be missed.

2) Doug Wood, Public Works Director: Thanked Commissioners Vonk and Tanis for serving on the Public Works Board. He presented a service plaque to retiring Commissioner Tanis, Chair of the Public Works Board.

Commissioner Vonk also acknowledged Commissioner Tanis’ service and his friendship.
CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes of November 18, 2010 Meeting

b) November 16, 2010 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
   (Reports of Claims and Allowances)

c) Resolutions:

12-09-10-106 – JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK GRANT / CIRCUIT COURT – FAMILY DIVISION

WHEREAS, since 1999 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; and

WHEREAS, funding is determined according to a formula based on the governmental unit’s justice expenditures and reported violent crime data. According to 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. JABG 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; and

WHEREAS, the 2011 adopted budget, in the amount of $58,925, was prepared using estimated funding figures. The actual amount is $76,818; and

WHEREAS, the Circuit Court is requesting $17,893 be appropriated to the JABG budget in the Special Project Fund, including $1,127 in General Fund support re-appropriated from the Circuit Court budget; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the grant from the Michigan Department of Human Services for JABG and appropriates an additional $17,893 to the 2011 JABG Special Project Fund Budget, including $16,104 from the State of Michigan, $662 from the City of Grand Rapids, and $1,127 from the Circuit Court.

12-09-10-107 – APPROVAL OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND BUDGETING CONTRACT (CPBC) AND AMENDMENT #1 FOR FY 2011 / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Planning and Budgeting Contract (CPBC) contract 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, food protection, drinking water and on-site sewage monitoring, as well as several other state-funded programs; and

WHEREAS, funding for CPBC activities is consistent with last year’s levels; and

WHEREAS, revenues and expenses related to the initial CPBC agreement were used to prepare the Health Department’s 2011 budget; and
WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) has received approval to allow local health departments to carry over some of the unspent H1N1 Public Health Emergency Response (PHER) funds from FY2010 to FY2011. This funding can be used to advance pandemic planning, preparedness and future pandemic response, and to close out current PHER activities, including the implementation of items that were identified in the After Action Report that was filed with MDCH after the bulk of the H1N1 response was completed; and

WHEREAS, Amendment #1 to the CPBC provides $94,342 in grant funds for the Health Department to advance pandemic planning and to implement the items in the After Action Report. This funding will be used to cover the cost of staff time for pandemic planning, and the purchase of an inventory system, a communicable disease reporting system, and a contact database management system, all of which were identified in the After Action Report.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Health Department’s Comprehensive Planning and Budgeting Contract (CPBC) and Amendment #1; and appropriate $94,342 in additional funding to the FY 2011 Health Department Budget.

12-09-10-108 – GENESEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT RACIAL AND ETHNIC APPROACHES TO COMMUNITY HEALTH (REACH) PROJECT FOR FY2011 / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Health Department has received notice from the Genesee County Health Department that $25,000 in grant funds are available for the REACH project to expand and continue the Interconception Care (IC) program at the Kent County Health Department; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Health Department’s IC program was implemented to address the infant health disparity and unacceptable poor birth outcomes in the African American community. The IC program targets women whose most recent pregnancy resulted in an adverse outcome (fetal death, preterm birth, low-weight birth, or an infant death); and

WHEREAS, activities included in the IC program include recruitment of at-risk women, provision of dental care, encouragement through financial incentives for enrollment in a family planning program, and provision of medical and basic needs; and

WHEREAS, funding will be used to provide IC services for Kent County Health Department and Cherry Street Health Services’ clients, including incentives, supplies, travel and staffing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves acceptance of $25,000 in funding from the Genesee County Health Department for the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Project, and appropriate same to the FY 2011 Health Department budget.

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:


Nays: 0.
RESOLUTIONS

12-09-10-109 – DONATIONS / PARK'S DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, over the course of 2010, several groups and individuals made donations to the Parks Department or the Kent County Parks Foundation to support various projects within the Parks and these funds must be officially accepted and appropriated by the Board in order to be added to the Parks Department budget; and

WHEREAS, Pickerel Lake Park was slated to be closed to the public from January through April and November through December, and Park supporters contributed volunteer hours and donations to keep the Park open those months. The Parks Foundation accepted $5,575 in private gifts for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Parks Foundation also agreed to fund a hydrological study of the lakes at Millennium Park to explore the potential for any future issues that might affect lake levels and the flow of surface and ground water. The cost of this study is $16,850; and

WHEREAS, a private donor contributed $1,134 to fund the installation of a memorial bench and plaque; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Mountain Biking Association contributed $400 to help purchase white pine trees to plant at Luton Park and $220 for trail improvements; Alger Racing and Kisscross Events also contributed $220 each for trail improvements at Luton Park; and

WHEREAS, the GE Volunteers Foundation contributed $1,500 to assist with expenses associated with work performed by more than 200 GE employees who volunteered on a single day in various Kent County Parks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby accepts $22,425 from the Kent County Parks Foundation, $1,134 from a private donor, $620 from the Michigan Mountain Biking Association, $220 from Alger Racing, $220 from Kisscross Events, and $1,500 from the GE Volunteers Foundation and appropriate $9,269 to the Parks Department 2010 operating budget and $16,850 to the Millennium Park CIP.

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

Motion carried:

Nays: 0.

12-09-10-110 – PROPOSED PARKS FEE INCREASES / PARK'S DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, County Policy requires that departments annually review their fees as part of the budget process; and

WHEREAS, new fees are proposed for rental of recently constructed cabins at Wabasis Campground, season passes for Palmer Park ski trails, boat rentals at Millennium Park, parking for certain events, and filming in County parks. Fee increases are proposed for open shelter and picnic area rentals, camping at Wabasis Campground, and for day use of the Palmer Park ski trails; and
WHEREAS, picnic area fees have remained unchanged for seven years and open shelter fees (with the exception of Townsend Park) have remained unchanged for three years. The fee for skiing at Palmer Park has not increased since its inception. Camping rate increases are market adjustments; and

WHEREAS, the new fees and fee increases are projected to generate an additional $11,100 annually from picnic and shelter rentals, $1,350 in ski trail fees, $17,300 from campground fee changes and $900 related to filming; and

WHEREAS, package rates and other promotional discounts on park fees may be offered throughout the year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following changes to the Parks Department Fee Schedule effective December 10, 2010:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Open Shelters</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millennium Park</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other parks</td>
<td>$130.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Picnic Areas</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per day</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Campground Rentals</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottage (weekly)</td>
<td>$575.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabins (new facilities - weekly)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full hook-up sites</td>
<td>$34.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric only sites</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primitive sites</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk-in Primitive</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reservation fee</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ski Trail use at Palmer Park</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trail fee (per day)</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Season Pass</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boat Rentals</strong> (rates include state use tax)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayak (hourly)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canoe (hourly)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Row boat (hourly)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paddleboat (per half hour)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commercial Filming and Photography</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit Application Processing</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expedited Processing</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Permit Fee</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extended Hours Permit Fee</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility Use Fees</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost Recovery Fee</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Guarantee</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tournament/Event Parking</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fee per vehicle</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Non-profit and school events are exempt. Fee otherwise may be waived at Director’s determination.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT date restrictions (previously Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day) on fees at the Millennium Beach are eliminated effective with the 2011 season.
Motion by Commissioner Vaughn, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:
Nays: Courtade, Hickey, Hennessy, Dillon, Synk - 5.

12-09-10-111 – PDR GRANT ACCEPTANCE – FREY FOUNDATION / KENT / MSU EXTENSION

WHEREAS, in February 2010 Kent/MSU Extension and the Agricultural Preservation Board submitted a grant application to the Frey Foundation for the Purchase of Development Rights Program; and
WHEREAS, the County has received notice that the Frey Foundation has awarded a grant in the amount of $250,000 to be paid over three years beginning in 2011; and
WHEREAS, the grant agreement stipulates that the first installment of $85,000 is contingent upon the County allocating $350,000 to the PDR Program in 2011; and
WHEREAS, as part of the 2011 Budget adoption, the Board allocated $275,000 to the Agricultural Preservation Program. Frey Foundation staff has indicated that if the full $350,000 is not appropriated, the installment payments will be pro-rated accordingly; the pro-rated amount is $66,786 for 2011.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the grant from the Frey Foundation for the Purchase of Development Rights Program and appropriates $66,786 to the Agricultural Preservation Program in the Special Project Budget.

Motion by Commissioner Talen, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

12-09-10-112 – 2011 DISCRETIONARY AND CURRENT UNMET NEEDS / DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners annually allocates funds to the Department of Human Services (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: Discretionary and Current Unmet Needs; and
WHEREAS, programs funded by Discretionary Funds are those that are not traditionally recurring expenses, and the DHS Board recommends funding $21,000 to three agencies for projects in this category; 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 2011 recommendation includes $384,888 to fund 16 programs for Current Unmet Needs.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the allocation of $405,888 in funding for human services programs as recommended by the Department of Human Services (DHS) Board.
Motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

12-09-10-113 – KENT COUNTY EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT PLAN / HUMAN RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan has been amended from time to time since its adoption in 1948. The Plan was restated effective January 1, 2008, and amended in May of this year; and
WHEREAS, the purpose of the amendment is to incorporate the changes in pension provisions as affected by the Voluntary Retirement Incentive Plan (VRIP) for the following employee groups who accepted the VRIP: UAW - General and Courts; POLC-Captains and Lieutenants; POLC-Court Reporters; Teamsters – Public Health Nurses; Kent County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Association, and the Management Pay Plan.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves Amendment 2010-2 (attached) of the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Plan to incorporate changes in pension provisions as the result of the Voluntary Retirement Incentive Plan.
Motion by Commissioner Vonk, seconded by Commissioner Dillon, that the resolution be adopted.
Motion carried:
Nays: 0.

REPORTS

Downtown Development Authority
Commissioner Talen announced that, last month, the DDA approved spending $2.5 million on downtown projects including designing and building a new Amtrak Station, a new entertainment structure next to the BOB, renovations to a medical office building on Cherry Street, the Downtown Urban Market project and maintenance on the Sixth Street Bridge. The DDA hired a firm to do some strategic planning and they received a report on preliminary findings. Two words that jumped out from the report - “retail” and “river.” We will be hearing these two words a lot in the future from the DDA.

Septic Subcommittee
Commissioner Antor, Chair of the Septic Subcommittee, reported that as the subcommittee continues to meet, it is closing in on a recommendation. They hope to come up with an interim report before the end of this year.

Purchase of Farmland Development
Commissioner Voorhees is concerned about food and farms. Although he has voted in support of many of the PDR gifts and he supports farm preservation, and the success of the agriculture business in the state and county, he does not believe that PDR is the best way to do that. Even though he wants to see the County do whatever we can to bring our local produce to market and bring success to local farmers, he is still concerned. He would like to see the County go to the people with the issue of public funding.
PDR Sustainability Subcommittee
Commissioner Talen said that the PDR Sustainability Subcommittee intends to complete its work by the end of the year; however, that report will go to the new Board in January.

RECOGNITION OF DEPARTING COMMISSIONERS

Chair Parrish acknowledged the seven Commissioners who are leaving the Board at the end of this year by reading proclamations and presenting each with a gift for their service to Kent County.

Commissioners Keith Courtade (District 8) Bob Synk (District 19)
Pete Hickey (District 12) Brandon Dillon (District 18)
Jim Vaughn (District 17) Art Tanis (District 6)
Dean Agee (District 11)

RECOGNITION OF JIM DAY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE BOARD

Chair Parrish acknowledged the retirement of Jim Day, Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners, who will be retiring after 30 years of employment with the County. She read and presented a proclamation claiming December 9, 2010, as “James L. Day Day.”

Jim Day acknowledged and thanked his family, former and present co-workers and Commissioners.

Former Board Chairs Steve Heacock, Kathy Kuhn, Roger Morgan, and Dick Vander Molen acknowledged Jim’s years of service and extended their best wishes.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Synk: Thanked all Board members and staff, and said that he was happy to serve.

Commissioner Courtade: Thanked everyone for the privilege of serving and plans on returning in two years. Thanked staff and Commissioners for their help and congratulated Jim Day on his retirement.

Commissioner Bulkowski: Thanked Jim Day for his service and his help over the years.

Commissioner Ponstein: Thanked departing Commissioners for their service to the County and their constituents. Wished Commissioner Dillon luck in Lansing. Thanked staff for their help and assistance. Thanked Jim Day for his dedication to the County and his assistance.

Commissioner Voorhees: Wished Jim Day the best in his future endeavors.

Commissioner Dillon: Thanked Board members, staff, and Jim Day. He has the greatest respect for fellow Commissioners. He will be having a swearing-in ceremony on December 20th at 4:00 pm in the Board room and invited all to attend.

Commissioner Vonk: Appreciated working with all departing Commissioners. Wished Jim Day well and thanked him for his good work and friendship.

Commissioner Vander Molen: He appreciates the Commission and the fact that
although opinions have varied, at the end of the day, they can reconcile and move on.

Commissioner Rolls: Best wishes to Jim Day and the departing Commissioners. It has been a pleasure working with all.

Commissioner Talen: Remembers the days before Jim Day and he is proud to share the name “Jim.” Thanks for everything.

Commissioner Antor: Thanked departing Commissioners. He is grateful for the differences of opinion because that is a sign of strength of a good Board. He thanked Jim Day for keeping him on track, for his friendship and knowledge.

Commissioner Vaughn: It has been a pleasure working with everyone.

Commissioner Hickey: It has been an honor to serve, and he learned something from everyone. They don’t always agree, but the passion of what you believe in makes him satisfied that every Commissioner believes in what they do and it reflects on how well the County is run. At the end of the day, this is probably one of the finest organizations that I’ve been a part of. Daryl has always been enthusiastic and it is reflected in the staff and the organization. Hickey came into a well run organization and leaving a well run organization. He thanked voters for allowing him to serve. He is not done being involved. Jim Day has been here from the start and has always been respectful, helpful.

Commissioner Hirsch: It has been an interesting and hard two years. No one can appreciate how difficult this job is unless you’re here. You work with people you don’t agree with and respect your differences. He has made some good friends on the Board. Thank you to Jim Day for all of his help.

Commissioner Tanis: A pleasure and an honor working with everyone. He has worked with Jim Day from when Jim started in the Purchasing Department. He wishes him the very best, he will be missed.

Commissioner Hennessy: This has been an evenly balanced Commission. There are so many different interests and perspectives from the 19 Board members. We’ve built the framework for the future which will guide the new Commission, whether it be with transparency in government, pension, health care, employment vacancies, etc. We can be proud of what we’ve accomplished and I will miss those leaving.

Commissioner Agee: Thank you everyone. Thank you, Jim Day.

Commissioner Courtade: Hopes that the next Board looks at “local first” and continues what this Board has started as far as a purchasing policy for “local first.” Thank you to Dean Agee and his friends on the Board, Commissioners Ponstein and Hirsch. This has been one of the best bi-partisan Boards ever.

Chair Parrish: Thanked Board members for their service. Has learned so much from all. She acknowledged the quality and dedication of the staff. She will definitely miss Jim Day. Jim Day’s retirement party will be Friday, December 17th, from 2 – 5 pm. Merry Christmas!

Commissioner Tanis: He attended the Pearl Harbor Memorial on December 7th and hopes that someone will attend the memorial service next year and also participate in the Veterans Parade.
ADJOURNMENT

At 10:44 a.m., Commissioner Tanis moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Tuesday, January 4, 2011, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Dillon. Motion carried.

Sandi Frost Parrish, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk