



Manistee County Board of Commissioners

Manistee County Courthouse • 415 Third Street • Manistee, Michigan 49660

CHAIRPERSON
Jeffrey Dontz
VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Brook Shafer

Mark Bergstrom
Karen Goodman
Ken Hilliard
Alan Marshall
Richard Schmidt

CLERK

Jill Nowak
(231) 723-3331

CONTROLLER/ADMINISTRATOR

Thomas Kaminski
(231)398-3504

COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS STUDY SESSION

Monday, August 8, 2016
1:00 p.m.

Board of Commissioners Meeting Room
415 Third Street, Manistee, MI

MINUTES

Members Present: Jeff Dontz, Chairperson, Mark Bergstrom, Ken Hilliard, Alan W. Marshall, Richard Schmidt and Brook Shafer.

Members Absent: Karen Goodman

Others Present: Tom Kaminski, County Administrator/Controller; Lisa Sagala, Human Resources Manager/Assistant Administrator; Cameron Clark, Director of Youth Services; Deidre Robison, Probate Register; Suzanne and Dr. Schwing, Village of Onekama residents; Jill M Nowak, County Clerk

The Study Session was called to Order by Chairman Dontz at 1:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation was given by Mr. Bergstrom

Roll Call – All members present except Ms. Goodman.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Suzanne and Dr. Schwing, residents of the Village of Onekama, appeared before the Board to discuss the discharge of a firearm incident in the Village of Onekama that had happened recently. Ms. Schwing explained that she has tried to communicate with the County Prosecutor's Office to

no avail. The Prosecutor's Office has decided not prosecute the case because of insufficient evidence. Mrs. Schwing said the Prosecutor's Office has been rude to her, numerous people have hung up on her and her phone calls are not being returned. Ms. Schwing asked that the salary increases for the personnel in the Prosecutor's Office be withheld until the case is addressed further. Ms. Schwing indicated that she will be filing a complaint with PAAM, the Attorney General's Office or civil court but she wanted the Board to be aware of the situation.

**BOARD DISCUSSION WITH DEPARTMENTS/COURTS/AGENCIES WHO HAVE
SCHEDULED A SPECIFIC TIME TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC TENTATIVE BUDGET
APPROPRIATIONS**

Cameron Clark, Director of Youth Services, appeared before the Board to discuss a few changes in the Juvenile Court General Fund Budget and the Child Care Fund Budget. Some appropriations have been moved within line item numbers but the net change is zero. Mr. Clark has met with Russ Pomeroy, County Treasurer and Mr. Pomeroy is satisfied with the changes in the budgets. Mr. Clark further explained the changes will further help Juvenile Court with the mindset of allowing funds to be used for prevention rather than at the back end of the system for placement costs. The changes will also allow for staff development for new employees and for caseworkers to be more hands on with youth. The Board agreed with the changes but reiterated to Mr. Clark to work within the budget.

Deidre Robison, Probate Register, had some questions on the appropriated technology money for Probate Court. Mr. Kaminski explained annual maintenance costs are included in the appropriations of the County Technology budget.

OTHER BUDGET DISCUSSION ITEMS

Wages and health insurance changes were again discussed. Various employee groups have agreed to or currently in contract negotiations. Mr. Kaminski reiterated that it is nearly impossible to have all employee groups receive the same wage changes. Mr. Kaminski brought to the attention of the Board various adjustments to the adopted tentative budget. The deficit is still approximately \$197,474 with that amount to come from fund balance. Again, it was repeated that each year there is a tentative transfer from fund balance that has not had to be transferred. This is due to the conscientious work of employees, Department Heads, Elected Officials and Administration that allows for these transfers not to happen and actually have a surplus (rather than a deficit) in the budget. After discussion, all agreed that the wage and health insurance changes adopted in the tentative budget will stand.

Since there are no other Departments/Courts/Agencies who have signed up for budget discussion, it was a consensus to cancel the Budget Study Session that was scheduled for Tuesday, August 9, 2016.

Mr. Kaminski brought to the Boards attention and read a letter from Five-Cap requesting support of an Early Headstart Program. Mr. Kaminski will get with Board Chairman Dontz to address the request.

Mr. Kaminski gathered attendee's names for the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Annual Conference.

MISCELLANEOUS BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

Adjourn at the Call of the Chair at 2:03 p.m.

Clerk