

MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

Monday, January 8, 2007

1:00 PM

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Carr at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Phillip VanDop from the First Congregational Church in Sheridan offered invocation.

Members present at roll call: Commissioners Walker, Petersen, Retzloff, Johansen, Paepke, Carr, Caris, Baker and McCrackin. Members absent at roll call: None.

Others present: Kristen Millard, Chris Hyzer, Chuck Cross, John Kroneck, Steve Palazzolo, John Berchtold and Shelly Strautz.

Moved by Commissioner McCrackin, supported by Commissioner Petersen to approve the December 18, 2006, regular meeting minutes as amended and the January 3, 2007 Organization Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the agenda with the addition of #4 under New Business entitled *Board Work Session*. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Chuck Cross, Greenville business owner, addressed the board regarding the Clean Air Regulation that was approved at the December 18, 2006 meeting. Mr. Cross had in his possession a list of business that have signed a petition opposing the Clean Air Regulation. He pointed out that the sidewalks in Greenville are less than 15 feet wide, therefore if someone is smoking in front of a Greenville business the business owner will be responsible to go out and tell that person that they are in violation of the regulation and insist that they do not smoke in front of their business. He stated that he intends to call 911 if a smoker violates this regulation in front of his business so that his report of the violation is on tape, and also so he is not alone in confronting the smoker, who will most likely be enraged.

Mr. Cross stated that he feels that most businesses have made their businesses smoke-free on their own, and quite successfully. He does not understand why the board felt it was necessary to pass this type of regulation and he feels his rights as a business owner are being violated. Lastly, Mr. Cross addressed the smoking ban in company vehicles. He used his own business as an example and stated that he personally owns his vehicle, however he has his business name on the side of it. The way the regulation is written, he is not going to be allowed to smoke, or allow anyone else to smoke, in his own personal vehicle. He asked the board to rescind the regulation.

Steve Palazzolo from Howard City addressed the board regarding the Clean Air Regulation and is concerned as to why the board felt it was necessary to pass this type of regulation when there are so many other issues that he feels are much more important in the County, especially in the Greenville area. He does not feel that citizens need to be protected from themselves, but instead from government.

John Kroneck addressed the board regarding his support of the Clean Air Regulation and thanked the board for supporting the regulation at the last meeting. He stated that many areas have adopted regulations of this sort and some are much more stringent than the one the Health Department proposed.

Teresa Good, Montcalm County Employee, addressed the board regarding the public transportation initiative. She feels there is a great need in Montcalm County for county-wide transportation and stated that while a millage would be the most efficient means of raising funds to pay for it, there are ways other than a millage to raise the funds that would be needed. She stated that if we want to promote business in Montcalm County then county-wide transportation is a necessity.

Ms. Good also addressed the Clean Air Regulation and stated that as a business owner she just doesn't see how it will work or be regulated. If a business owner has window shoppers outside of their business the business owner should not have to go outside to tell that person that they cannot smoke, or risk being reported for violating the regulation. She does not feel the Clean Air Regulation is good for Montcalm County business owners.

Project authorization for the Volunteer Driver Program through Commission on Aging was received from MDOT. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Johansen to approve the MDOT Project Authorization 2007-0263/Z1 and obtain the appropriate signatures. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from Diane Murray regarding a Cooperative Purchase agreement with MDOT to purchase vans through the state purchase agreement. Moved by Commissioner Walker, supported by Commissioner Retzloff to authorize the Commission on Aging Director to utilize the state purchase program, and obtain 3 quotes, for the purchase of two vans for Commission on Aging. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from the MAISD Board of Education regarding their search for a new superintendent. A survey was given to every commissioner regarding what qualifications and attributes the board would like to see in a new superintendent. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Petersen to place the survey from MAISD on file. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from Timberland RC&D asking the board to confirm their current representative. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Petersen to affirm to the Timberland RC&D that Carl Paepke is the representative for Montcalm County. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Petersen to approve consent agenda items 6 through 22 and move stated action:

Jerry McCoy	Resolution Authorizing Intergovernmental Agreement (HS Grant Funds)	Place on file
Varnum	Pension Plan Amendment 2006-2	Place on file
MDOT	MDOT Contract 2007-0263 Resolution	Place on file
Montcalm Co. Road Commission	Opposition to HB4315 and 4317	Place on file
COAM	Mediation	Place on file
POAM	Mediation	Place on file
Montcalm County Sheriff	Police Protection Agreement Crystal Township	Place on file
Montcalm County Sheriff	Police Protection Agreement Village of Sheridan	Place on file
Montcalm County Sheriff	Police Protection Agreement Montcalm & Sidney Townships	Place on file
Controller	SIPLAST Roof Membrane/System Extended Guarantee	Place on file
Conservation District	Minutes, November 14, 2006	Place on file
Montcalm Cnt Behav. Health	Minutes, November 27, 2006	Place on file
WMRPC	Minutes, December 8, 2006	Place on file
County Medical Control Auth.	Minutes, September 20, 2006	Place on file
Jail Diversion/MCBH	Minutes, December 7, 2006	Place on file
Ionia/Montcalm DHS Board	Minutes, November 16, 2006	Place on file
EightCap, Inc.	Minutes, August 25, 2006	Place on file

Motion carried.

At 1:30 p.m. Jerry McCoy, Emergency Services Director, was in attendance to present the board with the Pandemic Flue Continuity of Operations Plan and request the adoption of the current draft. Moved by Commissioner McCrackin, supported by Commissioner Paepke to adopt the current draft of the Pandemic Influenza and Epidemiological Outbreak Plan, along with its appendices, as submitted by the Director of Emergency Services. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to direct all county departments and request elected department heads to develop a list of essential functions that must be maintained even in the case of a pandemic influenza or other epidemiological outbreak. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Walker to adopt the Economic Development & Physical Resources 2007 work plan. (Work plan is attached to Economic Development minutes in Clerk's Office). Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Petersen to postpone action on this item until the next board meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Petersen to place the January 8, 2007 Economic Development and Physical Resources Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Petersen to approve the new job description for the Project Aide – Group Respite Activity Aide as presented by the Commission on Aging Director. (Attached to Finance Minutes.) Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to request the approval that Maple Township rental stipend to be added to the Finance Committee agenda item for the meeting on January 22, 2007. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to authorize the Finance Officer to make the following budget adjustment:

Increase	255292-816003	Contracted Services-Grants	\$ 12,000
Increase	255292-900000	Advertising	\$ 200

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to approve the purchase of a mapping computer from Dell (Quote #339334375) in amount of \$4,979.82. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Petersen to approve warrant number 010807 in the amount of \$451,767.52. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner McCrackin to place the January 8, 2007, Finance and Personnel Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

John Berchtold informed the board the Judge Simon brought over a draft contract on Friday regarding an agreement with DHS for Regional Detention Support Services (RDSS). It is a 3 year contract worth \$24,000. Judge Simon would like the agreement reviewed by the county's legal counsel prior to adopting it. Mr. Berchtold suggests sharing the handbook with Judge Simon and then meeting with him to review the contract to see if the Judge still feels the county should obtain a legal opinion. Mr. Berchtold does not think it is a good idea to obtain a legal opinion that could cost \$1,200 for a \$24,000 contract.

Mr. Berchtold reminded the board that the employee recognition luncheon is this Thursday, January 11th. Those attending need to RSVP with Brenda Taeter.

John Berchtold presented the board with his recommendation for revision to the Board of Commissioners By-Laws. He suggests changing the name of the Controller position to Controller/Administrator, changing FIA to DHS, eliminating the Citizen Friend of the Court Advisory Committee, and setting up a procedure where certain measures, such as regulatory matters, ordinances, new fees, fee changes and pension amendments, are considered at two separate meetings. Mr. Berchtold first gave his recommendation to the board at their January 3rd Organizational Meeting and requested that the board review his recommendations and bring any changes that they had to the meeting today. This topic will be postponed for discussion at the special work session to be scheduled.

Chairman Carr addressed the board regarding holding a special meeting to discuss procedural matters. He feels it would be beneficial for the board to hold a special meeting for this purpose.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Petersen to hold a special board meeting on Tuesday, January 16, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to amend the motion to change the time to 2:00 p.m. on January 16th. Amendment carried. Original motion carried as amended.

Public comments were offered and none were given.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to adjourn at 1:58 p.m. Motion carried.

Kristen Millard, County Clerk

Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman