

MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

Monday, February 23, 2009

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 Dave Kingsbury from the Crystal Community Church offered invocation.

Members present at roll call: Commissioners Blanding, Lindeman, Retzloff, Johansen, Paepke, Baker, Carr, Caris and Crouse. Members absent: None.

Others present: Chris Hyzer, Kristen Millard, S. Michael Scott, Mark Rambo, Sandy Carlton, Mike & Jeanne Urbanski, Gisela Peek, Bob Clingenpeel, Lisa Lund, Dr. Scott Koeningsknecht, Sue Sunden, Jane Beach, Debra Flacks, Debra Thorton, Sandy Hodges, Jim Lantz, Tom Sova, Nancy Nixon, Randolph and Jane Sherburne, Pam Allen, Larita Kemp, Carol Ziegefuss, Nikki Belyou and Ryan Jeltema.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to approve the February 9, 2009, regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to approve the agenda with the addition of *Law & Courts Committee minutes* under Committee Reports. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Nancy Nixon, Richland Township, addressed the board regarding stray cats on the property across from her home.

Mike Delacourt, Pine Grove Rd, Richland Township, addressed the board regarding cats on the property next to his.

Sandy Carlton, Greenville, addressed the board regarding the difference between Animal Control and a humane society.

Mike Urbanski, Coral, addressed the board regarding the type of research that is done on animals obtained from R & R Research.

At 1:15 p.m. Dr. Scott Koeningsknecht and Bob Clingenpeel were in attendance to discuss the Countywide Transit Initiative.

Dr. Koeningsknecht, Superintendent of the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District, addressed the board regarding the need for countywide transportation. He introduced parents of four special needs students; Debra Flacks, Sandra Hodges, Susan Sunden and Tammy Deacons. All four addressed the board and stressed the need to help make individuals with special needs productive members of society. They explained that their children will never be able to drive and need a way to get to jobs, medical appointments, etc. They asked the board to support the countywide transit initiative.

Jane Beach, retired special education teacher from Lakeview Schools, addressed the board regarding her experiences with families that are in the need of transportation. She gave the board several examples of needs in our community. She urged the board to support the countywide initiative.

Jim Lantz, Montcalm Community College, addressed the board regarding the transportation need for college students. MCC has tried to make courses available to students via on-line classes and satellite campuses, however there is still a great need for students to get to the Sidney campus.

Paul McNamara, Clinton County Commissioner, addressed the board regarding Clinton County's experience with countywide transportation.

Dr. Koeningsknecht informed the board that 1 in 3 people cannot drive. These people need a way to move throughout the county. He also told the board that the cost to each household in Montcalm County would only be \$.07 per day.

Bob Clingenpeel, Commission on Aging Director, addressed the board regarding the need for public transportation. He presented the board with statistics on the miles driven by Commission on Aging; the number of clients served by transportation; the transportation routes; and the costs associated with transportation. He encouraged the board to support the transportation initiative.

Correspondence was received from Kristen Millard, County Clerk, regarding Anna Morse's position on the Jury Board expiring in April. Ms. Millard recommends re-appointing Anna Morse to a 4 year term on the Jury Board. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Johansen to re-appoint Anna Morse to the Montcalm County Jury Board, term expiring April, 2013. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve consent agenda items 2 through 5 and move stated action:

Controller	Animal Control Ad-Hoc Comm. Minutes 2-5-09	Place on file
County Clerk	Resolution 2009-04	Place on file
Controller	Hankins & Flanigan Letter – Meeting Date	Place on file
Controller	Health & Human Service Minutes, 2-9-09	Place on file

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Johansen to award the design bid contract for Krampe Park Fishing Pier to Spicer Group. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to place the February 3, 2009 Parks & Recreation Commission minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to place the February 23, 2009, Economic Development & Physical Resources Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Johansen to allow the Sheriff to apply for the COPS grant for one officer. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to place the February 23, 2009 Law Enforcement and Courts Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to allow EMS to purchase an F-250 truck meeting the specifications developed by EMS and award the bid to Borgman Ford for \$23,248.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to allow EMS to purchase the rescue module from the specifications developed by EMS and award the bid to Truck & Trailer Specialties for \$7,998.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to allow EMS to purchase accessories from the specifications developed by EMS and award the bid to Parr Public Safety Equipment for \$10,600.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to approve the reclassification change from a probation officer to a senior probation officer for David Gates. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to appoint Paul Rehfus to the Montcalm County Housing Commission. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to appoint Ronald Finegood to the Substance Abuse Advisory Board and Address Ordinance Appeals Board. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to approve warrant number 022309 in the amount of \$509,516.48. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to place the February 23, 2009, Finance and Personnel Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Discussion took place on the motion that was postponed at the last meeting: “Moved by Commissioner Lindeman, supported by Commissioner Blanding to make the following addition to the By-Laws: The Chairperson, at his or her discretion, may require person(s) wishing to speak during public comment to fill out at “public comment information card” listing name and address, and submit it to the chairperson prior to the public comment period.” Roll call vote on motion: Ayes: Commissioners Lindeman, Retzloff, Paepke, Baker and Caris. Nays: Commissioners Johansen, Carr, Crouse and Blanding. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Commissioner Lindeman addressed the board regarding the railroad possibly not pulling up the rails in Greenville.

Commissioner Johansen addressed the board regarding the amended dog ordinance and explained that cats are now defined in the ordinance.

Commissioner Caris asked Chris Hyzer to pass Ms. Nixon and Mr. Delacourt’s complaints regarding stray cats in Richland Township on to the Animal Control Director.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to adjourn at 2:08 p.m. Motion carried.

Kristen Millard, County Clerk

Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman