

MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

Monday, February 27, 2006

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 Jerry Carlson from the First Assembly of God in Sheridan offered invocation.

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

Others present: Kristen Millard, Chris Hyzer, Brian Gruesbeck, Shelly Strautz, and John Berchtold.

Moved by Commissioner McCrackin, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the February 13, 2006, regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the agenda with the addition of #3 under New Business entitled *Resolution for Walmart* and #1 under Old Business entitled *Postponed Rescue Motion*. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Commissioner Baker addressed the board regarding the Village of Howard City truck route resolution that was adopted on Feb. 13, 2006. This should resolve the truck route issues in Howard City.

Notification of a USDA Rural Development Rural Business Enterprise Grant was received from the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission. The purpose of the grant is to create market development opportunities for Michigan's rural small and emerging farm and food businesses by changing the marketing and purchasing behaviors of Michigan growers, consumers and retailers. Comments must be received no later than March 7, 2006. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Johansen to place the correspondence received from the WMRPC on file. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from Diane Murray, Director of the Commission on Aging, regarding the replacement of Gary Wakenhut to the COA Executive Board. Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Baker to appoint Ralph Hauenstein to the Montcalm County Commission on Aging Executive Board. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from John Czarnecki. Michigan Economic Development Corporation, regarding Clarion Technologies, Inc., Job Training Project. The CDBG has been awarded to Montcalm County in the amount of \$600,000. The grant agreement needs to be executed and returned to the MEDC within 30 days. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Walker to approve the Economic Development Grant Agreement between the Michigan Strategic Fund and Montcalm County. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Walker to release the fund for the MSC 205021-EDJT grant and request a waiver of the environmental review requirements. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Petersen to approve consent agenda items 4 through 13 move stated action:

Annegret Paas	Responder Reduction	Place on file
Controller's Office	Retirement Plan Transfer Agreement	Place on file
Controller's Office	Pension Plan	Place on file
Controller's Office	Letter to RWG recognizing termination of contract	Place on file
Controller's Office	Pension Trust Minutes 1-23-06	Place on file
Controller's Office	Pension Trust Minutes 12-19-05	Place on file
Controller's Office	Collective Bargaining Committee minutes 2-9-06	Place on file
Controller's Office	Joint Finance & Personnel Committee 911	Place on file
	Authority Board Minutes 12-1-05	
Controller's Office	911 Authority Board Minutes 12-1-05	Place on file
Controller's Office	Private Road Ordinance Amendment	Place on file67

Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from Gary Wakenhut regarding the jail expansion project. He is asking that the board take a look at the reasons for incarceration and not be preoccupied with the financial gain of the jail expansion. Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Retzloff to place the correspondence from Mr. Wakenhut on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve additional correspondence items 2 through 8 and move stated action:

Steven Van Holstyn	Outstanding Job	Place on file
Controller's Office	Resolution 2006-08	Place on file
Emergency Services	Request for Disaster Declaration	Place on file
Commission on Aging	Greenville Area Senior Citizen Center	Place on file
Commission on Aging	Howard City Senior Citizen Center	Place on file
Controller's Office	Eagle Scout Resolutions	Place on file
Controller's Office	Economic Development & Physical Resources	Place on file
	Committee Minutes 2-23-06	

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Petersen to place the February 23, 2006 Economic Development and Physical Resources Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Petersen to allow Jerry McCoy to solicit five fire departments in Montcalm County to accept custody of a generator, with the understanding that the generator will remain the property of, and be available to, Montcalm County with a memorandum of understanding for insurance and maintenance schedule. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Petersen to allow Maeder Bros. Inc. a one year extension in the timber agreement in Schmeid Park with the agreement ending 2-28-07. Motion carried with Commissioner Paepke voting no.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Petersen to place the February 27, 2006, Economic Development and Physical Resources Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the appointed department head evaluation policy as presented by the Controller/Administrator. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve and adopt **RESOLUTION 2006-09 NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUED MUNICIPAL SECURITIES in an amount not to exceed \$400,000:**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners deems it to be in the best interest of Montcalm County (the "County") to purchase, acquire and construct certain capital improvements, including, but not limited to, improvements to county facilities, including, but not limited to additions, improvements, and renovations to the Public Safety Complex, including furnishings, equipment, and related facilities and appurtenances (the "Capital Improvements") for the benefit of the County and to finance the Capital Improvements by the issuance of Municipal Securities which pledge the County's limited tax general obligation pursuant to Section 517 of Act 34 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2001 ("Act 34"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 517 of Act 34, it is necessary to publish a Notice of Intent to Issue the Municipal Securities for the Capital Improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board of Commissioners hereby determines to purchase, acquire and construct the Capital Improvements and to pay for the cost through the issuance of Municipal Securities, which pledge the County's limited tax full faith and credit, pursuant to Section 517 of Act 34, in an amount of not to exceed \$400,000 (the "Municipal Securities").

2. A Notice of Intent to Issue Municipal Securities be published in accordance with Section 517 of Act 34, and the County Clerk is authorized and directed to publish the Notice of Intent to Issue Municipal Securities in the *Daily News*, a newspaper of general circulation in the County, determined to be the newspaper reaching the largest number of persons to whom such Notice is directed, which Notice shall be substantially in the form as set forth on Exhibit A attached hereto, and shall be at least one-quarter (1/4) page size in the newspaper.

3. The firm of Clark Hill, PLC is hereby employed as bond counsel to the County to prepare the documents for the issuance of Municipal Securities for financing acquisition of the Capital Improvements.

4. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke to forward the exit survey of a Corrections employee to the Sheriff Department and for the department to review the job descriptions that are posted. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Walker to allow the Controller's Office to post the position of Administrative Assistant. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke to pay the claims on warrant 022706 in the amount of \$276,744.12. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to place the February 27, 2006, Finance and Personnel Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

At 1:30 p.m. Bruce DuHamel from the Mid Michigan District Health Department was in attendance to discuss the elimination of the Mobile Home Park Inspection Program. Effective October 1, 2005 the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality opted not to renew contracts with local health departments to inspect mobile home parks. Mr. DuHamel is asking the board to pass a resolution requesting the MDLEG re-establish contractual agreements with the local Health Departments to resume inspection activities. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Petersen to approve and adopt **RESOLUTION 2006-10:**

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) have opted to not renew contracts (effective October 1, 2005) with local health departments to inspect mobile home parks, citing a lack of funding, and

WHEREAS, environmental inspection services provided by local health departments will no longer be performed in effect leaving residents of mobile home parks and the community without local representation to address environmental issues, and

WHEREAS, the decision by MDLEG and MDEQ to not renew contracts with local health departments will have a negative impact on local mobile home park communities and surrounding areas.

WHEREAS, MDLEG has indicated they will respond to residents concerns and that local building departments may be enlisted to respond as well, there is no history relative to the capacity of MDLEG or local building departments to deal with the environmental issues previously handled by local health departments, and

WHEREAS, local building departments may not have the expertise or personnel to address environmentally sensitive issues relating to water supplies and sewage disposal, and

WHEREAS, the response to local residents' complaints and concerns may be delayed due to MDLEG staffing levels, along with the fact that local or regional representation will not be available.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montcalm County Board of Commissioners requests that Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth re-establish contractual agreements with local health departments that would allow the Mid-Michigan District Health Department to resume inspection activities for mobile home parks in Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm Counties.

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Walker to accept the bid from Millard's Furniture & Appliance for 4 heavy duty twin/full bunkbeds, 4 twin bunkie boards, and 4 full bunkie boards in the amount of \$1,468. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Walker to direct Jim Osborne to purchase mattresses needed for the bunkbeds, funds to come from the Parks & Recreation Fund. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Johansen to place the February 22, 2006 Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes on file. Motion carried.

Kristen Millard informed the board that the filing deadline for the election this year is May 16, 2006, at 4:00 p.m. She also recommended that the board members, especially the Economic Development & Physical Resources Committee members, do at least an annual tour of the Administrative Building to keep up on the status of the facility. She experienced a leak in her office last week due to faulty pipes in the old jury room.

Chairman Carr acknowledged Jerry McCoy's efforts during the recent ice storm. He did a good job managing emergency efforts and even soliciting donations for generators and heaters.

Commissioner Johansen also commented on contacts he had from two of his townships regarding Jerry McCoy's efforts and the direction he offered them.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Retzliff to approve and adopt **RESOLUTION 2006-11:**

**Whereas**, on February 16, 2005 much of Montcalm County was impacted by a major ice storm that resulted in widespread damage and power outages across the entire county, and

**Whereas**, the ice storm was followed by dangerously frigid temperatures that threatened the safety and welfare of thousands of residents, and

**Whereas**, in spite of the massive and heroic relief efforts of firefighters, EMS providers, police, Road Commission and other emergency services personnel hundreds of people in Montcalm County faced the deadly cold without heat, food or water, and

**Whereas**, the victims of this disaster were in desperate need of significant and immediate assistance to prevent the loss of life and alleviate suffering, and

**Whereas**, Sheridan Community Hospital faced a sudden and unexpected loss of generator power leaving their entire facility without lights, and

**Whereas**, Montcalm County EOC staff and the American Red Cross opened a shelter at the Greenville Middle School and required supplies, food and water for over 160 people who took advantage of the shelter over a period of four days, and

**Whereas**, the Wal-Mart Supercenter in Eureka Township, recognizing the plight of the people of Montcalm County, did not wait for a call requesting donations but actually contacted EOC staff to offer, in the words of Regional Manager Joseph Woods, "anything you need", and

**Whereas**, upon request the Wal-Mart Supercenter delivered hundreds of dollars worth of food, supplies and water to the shelter at the Greenville Middle School, and

**Whereas**, upon request the Wal-Mart Supercenter delivered hundreds of dollars worth of flashlights, lanterns, and batteries to Sheridan Community Hospital, and

**Whereas**, upon request the Wal-Mart Supercenter not only delivered every kerosene heater they had in their Greenville store, but immediately routed a truckload of heaters and generators toward Greenville, ultimately delivering five generators and twenty-five more heaters to the Emergency Operations Center to provide desperately needed relief to many Montcalm County residents, promising to charge only half of the cost of said generators and heaters, and

**Whereas**, when requested to provide an invoice to the Office of Emergency Services for Montcalm County's share of the cost of the equipment provided, the Wal-Mart Supercenter advised there would be no charge for the goods and services provided,

**Now therefore be it hereby resolved** that the Montcalm County Board of Commissioners applauds, commends, and gratefully acknowledges the generosity and compassion of the Greenville Wal-Mart Supercenter and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. in response to the February 16, 2006 ice storm in Montcalm County.

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Retzloff to take from the table the motion from the last meeting regarding Rescue Personnel. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Retzloff to revoke the recently implemented Emergency Management Services policy to pay only one rescue personnel per call, and return to the previous policy with the exception of a change in the pay schedule. The new pay schedule will be as follows: pay a flat rate of \$20.00 per responder per call (no additional pay for driving the Advanced Life Support Units), with the exception of a "disregard" for which an employee will be paid \$10.00.

Under discussion Commissioner Walker stated that she feels the board needs to stand behind their appointed department heads. She feels that Jerry McCoy should be mandated to come up with some kind of a meeting to iron out some of these issues and report the resolution of that meeting back to the board by the next meeting.

Commissioner Petersen stated that that meeting has already taken place. He attended it and at that meeting Mr. McCoy stated that he will not be changing his policy at all.

Commissioner Johansen stated that he has spoken with Jerry McCoy regarding this issue and stated that he is not comfortable taking action on this motion when it hasn't gone before the Health and Human Services Committee yet.

Commissioner McCrackin stated that he has been associated with Jerry McCoy for 16 years and during that time there has only been one error made by an EMS employee. He stated that he trusts Jerry and feels that by taking this action the board will be undermining Jerry and his department.

Commissioners Caris and Carr stated that it's unfortunate that we have volunteers in some areas that are willing to run Rescue but under this policy they are unable to. First Responders do provide a valuable service.

John Berchtold reported that Jerry McCoy informed him that the outcome of the team leader meeting was that the determination of whether to send one or two rescue personnel on a call would be handled on a case by case basis. Chairman Carr suggested that if this motion fails, Jerry McCoy should be invited to the next full board meeting to find a resolution that everyone can live with.

Vote on original motion: Motion failed with Commissioners Walker, Retzloff, Johansen, Paepke, Baker, Carr, Caris and McCrackin voting no.

Moved by Commissioner Walker, supported by Commissioner Caris to invite Jerry McCoy to the next meeting to discuss the issue of rescue personnel and the recent cutbacks. Motion carried with Commissioner McCrackin voting no.

Public comments were offered. Commissioner Baker reported on several sessions he attended at the MAC conference.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Paepke to adjourn at 2:23 p.m. Motion carried.

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Kristen Millard, County Clerk

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Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman