

MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

Monday, July 14, 2008

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 Assembly of God Church in Sheridan offered invocation.

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

Others present: Kristen Millard, Mike & Jeanne Urbanski, Sandra Carlton, Patrick Duff, Roberta Murray, Brad Harrington, Donna White, Rhonda Waldorff, Patricia Lentz, Mary Ellen Snyder and Chris Hyzer.

Moved by Commissioner McCrackin, supported by Commissioner Caris to approve the June 23, 2008, regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Sandy Carlton addressed the board regarding requests that she has made under the Freedom of Information Act, and problems she has encountered during this process. She stated that charges are not consistent.

Rhonda Waldorff addressed the board regarding Animal Control and the county's contract with R&R Research. She feels the board should hold at least one night meeting per month so that individuals wanting to attend meetings to express their opinions can do so. She would also like to see published and posted policies at the Animal Shelter.

Donna White, Portland, addressed the board regarding problems she has encountered after adopting a dog from the Montcalm County Animal Shelter. She stated that she is having a difficult time getting information from the shelter.

Mike Urbanski addressed the board regarding Sandy Carlton's comments on a request he made under the Freedom of Information Act. He stated that he was overcharged but Chris Hyzer did present him with a refund check for the amount he was overcharged.

Jeanne Urbanski, Concerned Citizen Coalition, asked the board to consider doing away with the contract with R&R Research.

Mary Ellen Snyder, Safe Haven Humane Society, addressed the board regarding a spayed and neuter clinic in Lowell. The cost is \$40 per pet. In some cases, other counties are paying half of the fee to help the pet owners out.

At 1:20 p.m. Patrick Duff, candidate for 8th Circuit Court Judge, was in attendance to introduce himself to the Board and presented them with his qualifications.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Johansen to enter into Public Hearing at 1:30 p.m. for the MEDC Grant. Motion carried.

Public comments resumed. Rhonda Waldorff addressed the board again regarding policies and procedures at the Animal Shelter. She stated that photos of puppies are not allowed to be taken in the cages anymore, they must be taken in the lobby. She also stated that spayed and neutered deposits are not being returned in a timely manner.

Sandy Carlton addressed the board again about a letter she sent to Chris Hyzer asking that a sign be posted at the Animal Shelter stating that animals left at the shelter may go to research.

Chairman Carr informed those in the audience that there is a 5 minute time limit on public comments and at future meetings he will be enforcing that limit. He also stated that if a group of people are attending the meeting together, and want to address the board regarding the same topic, they will need to appoint a spokesperson for the group.

Chairman Carr stated that he has told the group in attendance that he would be glad to meet with them any time to hear their concerns, however no one has taken him up on that offer. He stated that a new Animal Control Director is in place and progress is being made at the shelter, however it takes time to implement changes. He stated that the county's contract with R&R Research will not expire until February and since R&R has done nothing to violate their contract, their contract will not be terminated until it expires. He encouraged the group to use the time between now and February to develop an alternative proposal to using R&R Research and present it to the board immediately prior to the contract's expiration. He informed the group that the board hears their concern loud and clear, however coming to meetings over and over and repeating the same message at every meeting is not productive.

A ballot for the MML Board of Trustees election was received. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Caris to place the ballot from MML on file. Moved by Commissioner Lindeman, supported by Commissioner Johansen to amend the motion to vote in the affirmative for all nine incumbent MML candidates and have the controller send the ballot in. Amendment carried. Original motion carried as amended.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Johansen to close the Public Hearing for the CDBG, MEDC Grant. Motion carried.

A Memorandum of Understanding to for City Net Use was received from Homeland Security Region Six of Michigan. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Paepke to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding for City Net Use with Homeland Security Region Six of Michigan and authorize Jerry McCoy to sign it. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from Robert Clingenpeel, Commission on Aging Director, recommending the appointment of Ralph Harrington to the AAAWM Board of Directors. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to appoint Ralph Harrington to the AAAWM Board of Directors, term to expire January 31, 2010. Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to amend the motion to allow Ralph Harrington to have proxy vote for Commissioner Johansen in his absence. Amendment carried. Original motion carried as amended.

Chris Hyzer informed the board of vacancies on the Brownfield Authority Board due to Wally Delamater and Fred Brown's resignations. Moved by Commissioner Baker, supported by Commissioner Paepke to advertise the two vacancies on the Brownfield Authority Board. Motion carried with Commissioner McCrackin voting no.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to approve consent agenda items 5 through 8 and move stated action:

Controller	Deputy Medical Examiner	Place on file
Carl Paepke	Solid Waste Management Minutes, June 19, 2008	Place on file
Carl Paepke	Solid Waste Management Minutes, June 30, 2008	Place on file
Carl Paepke	Parks & Recreation Minutes, May 22, 2008	Place on file

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Lindeman that the recycling test site proposal, as submitted by Goodwill of Greater Grand Rapids, in conjunction with Brad's Cleaners, be

approved for a period not to exceed the current contract with Goodwill. The Solid Waste Committee will assess the savings that the test produces. This recycling test can be rescinded either by Goodwill of Greater Grand Rapids, Brad's Cleaners, or the County of Montcalm with a thirty day notice. Project test date would be as soon as possible or a date when the trailer is secured. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Walker to place the July 14, 2008 Economic Development and Physical Resources Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to allow EMS to spend up to \$1,200.00 on used lockers and authorize the County Controller to authorize the purchase from the quotes received. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke to allow EMS to purchase refurbished field data computers subject to approval of the specification and pricing by the County IT Director and Controller. The price is not to exceed the budgeted amount of \$4,000, as long as the machines have a two year warranty. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve warrant number 071408 in the amount of \$212,051.65. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to place the July 14, 2008 Finance and Personnel Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Chris Hyzer informed he board that the new mileage rate is \$.585 per mile.

Public comments were offered. Sandy Carlton addressed the board again regarding Safe Haven's ability to subsidize the spayed and neutered fees. She stated that Safe Haven received a substantial donation from a Montcalm county resident and that money is being used to pay half of the spayed/neutered fees.

Brad Harrington addressed the board and thanked them for approving the recycling site.

Moved by Commissioner Lindeman, supported by Commissioner Retzloff to adjourn at 2:13 p.m. Motion carried.

Kristen Millard, County Clerk

Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman