

MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

Monday, September 14, 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. Associate Minister Bernice Sorrels from Faith Lutheran Church in Sidney offered invocation.

Members present at roll call: Commissioners Blanding, Lindeman, Johansen, Baker, Caris, Carr and Crouse. Members absent: Paepke and Retzloff.

Others present: Chris Hyzer, Kristen Millard, Ryan Jeltema, Marcia Sawdy, Bob Clingenpeel, Susan Brantley, Sharon McInnis, Janice Williams, Sherma Horrocks, Kristina Archambault, Kathie Calverley, Mary Vusich, Beth O'Grady, Jonelle Ball, Tara Conaway, Sherry Mountney, Bob Burns, Rich Stevens, Katie Arwood, Sandy Carlton, Tim Scott, Jeff Troyer, Mike & Jeanne Urbanski and Eileen Burr.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to approve the August 24, 2009, regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Blanding, supported by Commissioner Caris to approve the agenda with the addition of a 1:05 agenda item entitled *New Central Dispatch Director*. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Sandy Carlton, addressed the board regarding a dog that was surrendered to Animal Control and given to R & R Research. She stated that the form the owner signed said the animal would be adopted or euthanized. The form says nothing about going to research. Ms. Carlton stated that the Board of Commissioners did nothing to get the animal back from R & R Research when it was brought to their attention.

Commissioner Johansen responded to Sandy Carlton's remarks.

At 1:05 p.m. Jeff Troyer, Central Dispatch Director, introduced his replacement, Tim Scott, to the board. Mr. Troyer will be leaving the county on October 9th.

Kristen Millard, County Clerk, informed the board that Sheila Sharrow's term on the Montcalm County Board of Canvassers is expiring November 1st. As required by law, the Democratic Party submitted three names for the Board to consider when making their appoint to the Board of Canvassers. Moved by Commissioner Baker, supported by Commissioner Johansen to re-appoint Sheila Sharrow to the Montcalm County Board of Canvassers, term expiring November 1, 2013. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from Stephanie Ogden, Relief After Violence Encounter, asking the Board for permission to display the Clothesline Project in the Court Complex lobby from October 1 - October 30, 2009. Moved by Commissioner Baker, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to allow RAVE to display the Clothesline Project in the Court Complex lobby from October 1 - October 30, 2009. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority regarding an amendment to Grant # MSC-2008-0765-HOS. Moved by Commissioner Baker, supported by Commissioner Johansen to approve the Michigan State Housing Development Authority amendment to Grant # MSC-2008-0765-HOS. Motion carried.

Kristen Millard provided the board with farmland agreements for David & Michelle Patin. Moved by Commissioner Baker, supported by Commissioner Blanding to place the farmland applications on file until responses are received from the Conservation District and the Planning Commission. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Blanding to approve consent agenda items 4 through 9 and move stated action:

Scott Minard	Dodge Report, August 2009	Place on file
Controller	MI Strategic Fund Grant Agreement Amendment	Place on file
Controller	Black Box Statement of Work	Place on file
Controller	Secondary Road Patrol & Traffic Accident Prevention Application	Place on file
Controller	Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 SRP Grant Application	Place on file
Controller	Release of Addl. FY 2009 Secondary Rd Patrol Fnds	Place on file

Motion carried.

At 1:15 p.m. several library board members, as well as librarians, were in attendance on behalf of the Montcalm County Public Libraries. They are requesting the placement of a countywide library millage on the ballot in August, 2010, as 2009 is the last year of a 20 year countywide library millage. They are asking for .5 mills, which makes up about half of their budgets. They will draft their wording and bring it back to the board for their approval prior to May of 2010.

Moved by Commissioner Blanding, supported by Commissioner Johansen to enter into Public Hearing at 1:26 p.m. for the FY 2010 Budget. Motion carried.

Sandy Carlton addressed the board and stated that she has not had an opportunity to review the proposed budget and asked Chris Hyzer to highlight where any cuts will be made. Chris Hyzer went through a list of areas that will see reductions or cuts in the 2010 budget.

Commissioner Johansen addressed the elimination of any funding from Central Dispatch for the Addressing Position in the Equalization Department. He asked the Finance Committee to look into the Addressing Position to see how that position is being utilized.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to adopt **RESOLUTION 2009-20 to maintain state funding levels for Michigan Conservation District:**

***RESOLUTION REGARDING MAINTAINING STATE FUNDING LEVELS FOR
MICHIGAN CONSERVATION DISTRICTS***

WHEREAS, Michigan's Conservation Districts were organized by the people under provisions of the Soil Conservation District Law, Public Act 297 of 1937 and therefore are locally controlled special purpose units of state government. The Conservation District Law was made part of the Compiled Environmental Code, Part 93, Public Act 451 of 194, as amended in 1994 and further amended by Public Act 463 of 1998 and Public Act 107 of 2002.

WHEREAS, Michigan Conservation Districts are the local providers of natural resource management services and are responsible for developing comprehensive plans for the conservation of farmland and natural resources and for the control and prevention of soil erosion within the county, and

WHEREAS, Michigan Conservation Districts are the grass roots, local conservation partner providing local leadership direction and assistance to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-Natural Resource Conservation Service in the delivery of conservation on private lands through the Federal Farm Bill programs. Conservation Districts work closely with local farmers and land owners to address natural resource concerns and issues as identified by landowner's through the conservation planning process, bringing to Michigan communities millions of dollars in cost share practices that deliver conservation benefits to the entire community; and

WHEREAS, Michigan Conservation Districts deliver the Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program, the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program the Conservation Technical Assistance Initiative, provide Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program assistance, Critical Dunes Assurances, watershed management programs, invasive species programs, and county funded programs including forestry assistance programs thus leveraging state funding to implement natural resource programs that address resource issues at the local level,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Michigan Association of Counties supports the full restoration of state funding for Conservation Districts and the increased utilization of Conservation Districts in the delivery of state natural resource programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Michigan Association of Counties strongly opposes any further reduction of state funding for local Conservation Districts, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to the Governor, Members of the Michigan Legislature, and the Michigan Association of Counties

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to approve the Montcalm County Planning Commission Ordinance with action to be taken at the September 28, 2009 Board of Commissioners meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to approve the plan modifications to the COA Building as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to change circuit providers for the phone system from Verizon to Prime Circuits for cost reduction and better service and authorize the Controller to sign the contract. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Crouse to place the September 14, 2009 Economic Development and Physical Resources Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Johansen to approve the catering agreement with Senior Meals Inc. and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Blanding to approve the purchase of two refrigerators and one freezer from Northland with cost not to exceed \$4,000 to be used by the Montcalm County COA food program. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to authorize the Director of COA to hire four site hostesses for the congregate meal program and increase the hourly wage of the direct service staff to \$9.25 per hour effective October 1, 2009. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Blanding to authorize the Controller to sign the contracts with OSSI pending a legal review. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to allow Chris Hyzer to be the officer delegate for MERS conference and allow Chairman Carr to sign the certification form. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Blanding to approve warrant number 091409 in the amount of \$268,442.42. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to place the September 14, 2009, Finance and Personnel Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Chris Hyzer presented the board with a summary of the 2010 proposed budget. He highlighted each area of the budget and reductions that will be required for the 2010 budget.

Kristen Millard informed the board that she has located three used Lektrievers filing systems. As she was denied new roller shelving in the budget, she is asking the board to consider purchasing used systems. She can get three of the Lektrievers for less than the cost of one new Lektrievers system. She and Chris Hyzer will bring more information before the Finance Committee at the September 28th meeting.

Commissioner Blanding commended Chris Hyzer for his work on the 2010 budget.

Chairman Carr stated that he would entertain any comments or questions on the 2010 Budget. No comments were made.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Blanding to close the Public Hearing on the 2010 Budget at 2:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Sandy Carlton addressed the board regarding actions by the Board that she takes exception to. She left documentation on the dog that went to R & R Research in error. She stated that the paperwork contains a minimum of 4 errors on it. She would like the board members to review it.

Mike Urbanski addressed the board regarding an animal control worker giving out his home phone number and address. The individual that was given the Urbanski's home number and address came to their home and removed a dog from their kennel while they were not home. He would like the board to look into this.

Commissioner Blanding responded to comments made by Sandy Carlton which were directed at Commissioner Johansen. He stated that these comments are unfounded and inappropriate. He feels that Commissioner Johansen is the hardest working commissioner on the board.

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

Kristen Millard, County Clerk

Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman