

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2021

9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Joe Brehler, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott and Jeanne Pearl-Wright.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Brian Droscha.

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Jeremy Whittum, Barbara Rogers and Mark Mudry; Tom Reich, Chris Anderson, Michael Armitage, Melissa Ballard, John Fuentes and Connie Sobie.

The August 13, 2021, regular meeting of the Ways and Means Committee was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chairman Mulder.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Chairman Mulder requested to amend the agenda to move Collective Bargaining Negotiations after Limited Public Comment. Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to approve the regular and closed session minutes of the July 16, 2021, Ways and Means Committee meeting. Commissioner Mott seconded. Motion carried.

There was no Limited Public Comment.

An update of the position vacancies was presented and discussed (attached). Commissioner Brehler moved to refill the position vacancies as presented. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried.

A Municipal Employees' Retirement System resolution to certify the officer and employee delegate for the 2021 Annual Meeting was presented (attached). It was reported that Chris Kuhlman and Judy Ash were elected as the employee delegate and alternate, respectively. Commissioner Jeanne Pearl-Wright agreed to attend as the officer delegate and Andrea Cherwinski will serve as the officer alternate. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval of the resolution to certify Chris Kuhlman as Employee Delegate, Judy Ash as Employee Alternate, Jeanne-Pearl Wright as Officer Delegate and Andrea Cherwinski as Officer Alternate for the MERS annual meeting to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried.

The County health, dental and vision insurance bid recommendations were presented (attached). Mr. Fuentes provided information regarding each of the proposals. The recommendation from Brown and Brown, our third party administrator was to continue with the current plans based on the analysis of costs and coverages. Commissioner Brehler moved to approve the bid for the current BCBS, Eye Med and Delta Dental self-insurance plan administrators as presented. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried.

The June Health Insurance Expenditure report was presented (attached). The report indicates an unfavorable variance of (\$284,897) compared to the budget projection for both the County and Health Department. The County's portion is an unfavorable variance of (\$306,006). The County's active employees' unfavorable variance is (\$248,969) and the retirees' unfavorable variance is (\$55,037).

An update of the Child Care Fund was presented and discussed (attached). Based on the updated projection of revenues and expenditures the estimated fund balance at September 30, 2021 is \$531,327. Based on the current projection, it is likely the transfers from the Juvenile Millage and Child Care Fund may be reduced. Mr. Fuentes would recommend retaining \$150,000 in the Child Care fund balance at fiscal year-end.

A proposed resolution to Authorize Application for Raise the Age Grant Application was presented (attached). Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval of the Resolution to Authorize Raise the Age Grant Application as presented, to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried.

Mr. Fuentes provided an update to the Public Improvement project expense and status of the projects (attached). Mr. Fuentes and Steve Barnett met with Johnson Controls regarding a proposal for infrastructure and energy improvements. Johnson Controls provided preliminary projections for cost savings to the County. Mr. Fuentes indicated it may be possible to include solar energy in the program along with infrastructure improvements. Discussion held. Mr. Fuentes will continue to explore the program with Johnson Controls and Michigan Solar Solutions.

A proposed resolution to Authorize Application for Title IV-E Child and Family Legal Representation Grant (attached). Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval of the Title IV-E Child and Family Legal Representation Grant application resolution as presented, to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Wright seconded. Motion carried.

A request from the County Clerk to increase the per diem of the Board of Canvassers and Jury Board was presented (attached). Discussion held. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval to establish the Board of Canvasser and Jury Board per diem compensation as requested by the County Clerk, to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried.

The Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) submitted a request letter for consideration of funding from the American Rescue Plan Act. No action taken.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the payment of the claims against the County in the amount of \$480,060.21 and immediate claims in the amount of \$7,846,643.65 to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Mott seconded. Motion carried.

The budget amendments were presented and discussed (attached). Michael Armitage was present to discuss the amendment to purchase communication equipment to install an emergency alert siren at Crandell Lake Park property. Discussion held. Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the 2020/21 budget amendments. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Mulder recessed the meeting at 10:00 a.m. for a ten minute break.

Chairman Mulder reconvened the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

2021/2022 Budget

The updated projections for the budget were presented. The estimated expenditures are \$42,234,987 and estimated revenues are \$39,264,394. Mr. Fuentes discussed the use of the ARPA revenue loss calculation within the budget proposal. There was discussion regarding the position requests. Sheriff Reich was present to discuss the position of FOIA Coordinator for his office. The Committee discussed the addition of a county-wide FOIA Coordinator. There was discussion with Sheriff Reich and Chief Assistant Prosecutor Chris Anderson regarding how that proposal would impact their offices. Discussion held. Melissa Ballard presented budget scenarios with the addition of positions including the two technology services requested positions. Discussion held. The addition of three positions results in an estimated budget of \$42,491,880. Commissioner Augustine moved to present the proposed budget, with inclusion of the two technology field specialist positions and a FOIA Coordinator position, at the Public Hearing scheduled for September 7, 2021. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried. All materials will be posted on the County website and advertised as required.

There was no Limited Public Comment.

Mr. Fuentes recommended closed session to discuss upcoming labor contract negotiations. Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to enter into closed session at 11:02 a.m. pursuant to Section 15.268 Sec 8. (a) of the Open Meetings Act, to discuss negotiation related to upcoming labor contract negotiation strategy. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

The Committee resumed the open meeting at 11:24 a.m.

No action needed.

Chairperson Mulder adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Way and Means Committee will be held Friday, September 10, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.



Chairman Blake Mulder