

KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

*Thursday, January 10, 2002
Administration Building - Room 310*

Meeting called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Chair Steven R. Heacock.

Present: Commissioners Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Koorndyk, Kuhn, Kuipers, Mast, Mayhue, McGuire, Morgan, Morren, Postmus, Sak, Smoke, Vaughn, Vonk, Wahlfield, Chair Heacock – 19.

Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Sak introduced The Honorable Reverend Robert Dean, New Life Church of God in Christ & Third Ward Grand Rapids City Commissioner, who gave the invocation.
The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Batterers Intervention Program Recognition – Sheriff’s Department

Sergeant Jack Stewart explained that the Kent County Sheriff’s Department, in conjunction with the YWCA’s Anger Management Team, DeVos Children’s Hospital Child Protection Team and Project Rehab’s Alcohol/Substance Abuse Team, developed the Batterers Intervention Program. The purpose of this program is to reduce rates of recidivism by helping perpetrators of domestic violence change their attitudes which, hopefully, will lead to a change in behavior. The program was made possible by a grant from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation and will begin in January 2002, with inmates at the Kent County Correctional Facility. Sergeant Stewart gave a formal presentation of the program and a recognition award was presented to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of January 2, 2002 Organizational Meeting
- b) January 2, 2002 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)
- c) Resolutions:

1-10-02-02 – APPROVE SUBMISSION OF A MARINE SAFETY GRANT APPLICATION / SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the County operates a marine safety program that includes but is not limited to education, patrol, and body recovery; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds, if approved, will continue to pay for one sworn officer and six part-time personnel as well as a portion of the equipment and operating costs necessary for the officers to perform their duties; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated date of the grant award is January 1, 2002.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves submission of an application for a Marine Safety Program Grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event grant funding is eliminated or decreased, the position(s) will be eliminated unless continuation funding is approved pursuant to the Fiscal Policy on Grants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair to sign the grant documents.

1-10-02-03 – FUNDING FOR ACSET FACILITIES CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS / ACSET

WHEREAS, in 1985, the City of Grand Rapids and the County established ACSET through an Interlocal Agreement. In 1996, Allegan County was added to ACSET's service area for Workforce Investment Act programming. Pursuant to the agreement, the County and the City contribute equally to the administrative costs of ACSET; Allegan County also contributes an amount equal to the proportionate share of its allotment of the total resources received by ACSET; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Rapids owns three neighborhood facilities, known as the Westside, Northeast and Sheldon complexes which it leases at no cost to ACSET, and from which ACSET administers and delivers its programming; and

WHEREAS, the complexes are currently, and will be from time to time, in need of repair in excess of routine maintenance. The City has assigned responsibility for such repairs to ACSET as the primary tenant of the buildings. The City and the County recognize that in order for ACSET to continue to serve both municipalities at the existing levels without reducing funds allocated to other administrative or programmatic functions, that additional funds will need to be appropriated to ACSET to fund the repairs; and

WHEREAS, according the proposed agreement, ACSET will annually identify and request funding for capital improvements and other major repairs to both the City and the County, which will share equally in the expense of all approved projects, and funding requests will be submitted in time to be included in the County's budget process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED appropriate \$47,250 to the 2002 Area Community Services Employment and Training (ACSET) Budget to fund health and safety improvements at the Sheldon and Northeast Complexes, and to approve the agreement with ACSET and the City of Grand Rapids to provide for the future needs at the three facilities occupied by ACSET.

1-10-02-04 – REQUEST TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR A SURVEY AND REMONUMENTATION GRANT / EQUALIZATION

WHEREAS, the County began its remonumentation program in 1980; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Act 345 of 1990, the State offers an annual grant to counties for providing survey, monumentation, and remonumentation of public land survey corners consistent with the County's plan; and

WHEREAS, the County has participated in the State-offered grant since its inception; and

WHEREAS, the County completed the resetting of its monuments in 2001; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan continues to provide grant funds for monument maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the County will contract with outside parties for the provision of these services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves Equalization's request to submit an Application for a Survey and Remonumentation Grant totaling \$163,897.

1-10-02-05 – MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR CITY / COUNTY COMPLEX / FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, the City-County Shared Use And Maintenance Costs Agreement for operating maintenance costs of the City/County Complex (City Hall and County Administration Building) has been negotiated as a successor agreement to the "City-County Shared Maintenance Cost Agreement" dated January 16, 1979; and

WHEREAS, the cost of operating and maintaining the City/County Complex will be shared on a 62.9 percent (City), 37.1 percent (County) basis; and

WHEREAS, the successor agreement includes updated language and removes operation and maintenance of the Hall of Justice from the agreement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the City-County Shared Use And Maintenance Costs Agreement with the City of Grand Rapids and authorizes the County Administrator/Controller to execute the agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Sak, supported by Commissioner McGuire, to approve the consent agenda items.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Koorndyk, Kuhn, Kuipers, Mast, Mayhue, McGuire, Morgan, Morren, Postmus, Sak, Smoke, Vaughn, Vonk, Wahlfield, Chair Heacock – 19.

Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

1-10-02-06 – WIDE AREA NETWORK AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT / ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, Kent County has entered into agreements with 35 cities, villages and townships for provision of Property Tax Administration Services (PTAS); and

WHEREAS, Kent County is a member of the Regional Geographic Information System (REGIS) Agency which includes 20 governmental partners; and

WHEREAS, it is effective policy for the County to provide wide area network connectivity service for both the PTAS and REGIS systems because of the commonality of use and membership in the systems and to eliminate redundancy; and

WHEREAS, a Wide Area Network (WAN) Agreement has been developed in conjunction with local units and REGIS over the past seven months.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the enclosed WAN Agreement and authorizes Chair Heacock to execute same.

Motion by Commissioner Morgan, supported by Commissioner Hiddema, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Koorndyk, Kuhn, Kuipers, Mast, Mayhue, McGuire, Morgan, Morren, Postmus, Sak, Smoke, Vaughn, Vonk, Wahlfield, Chair Heacock – 19.

Nays: 0.

1-10-02-07 – VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PLAN / HUMAN RESOURCES –
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Kent County Administrator/Controller has reported his findings on future staffing needs, and reorganization opportunities and the cost savings of offering an early retirement incentive and has presented a proposed retirement incentive plan; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Board of Commissioners adopted the Kent County Employees' Retirement Plan (Retirement Plan) effective December 8, 1948. The Retirement Plan has been amended from time to time thereafter; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the Retirement Plan is necessary to provide for the additional benefits provided in the proposed Voluntary Retirement Incentive Plan, to adopt a provision required by the Internal Revenue Service and to clarify a provision regarding included compensation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Voluntary Retirement Incentive Plan dated January 10, 2002 in the form attached hereto is adopted and effective as stated therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent County Employees' Retirement Plan and Trust be amended in the form of the attached Amendment 2002-1 effective as stated therein.

Motion by Commissioner Wahlfield, supported by Commissioner Smoke, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Koorndyk, Kuhn, Kuipers, Mast, Mayhue, McGuire, Morgan, Morren, Postmus, Sak, Smoke, Vaughn, Vonk, Wahlfield, Chair Heacock – 19.

Nays: 0.

1-10-02-08 – SHERIFF SOUTH SUBSTATION LEASE / SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, since 1994, the Kent County Sheriff’s Department South Substation has been located on leased property at 3240 68th Street SE in Gaines Township; and

WHEREAS, in March 2001, the County entered into a four year lease with the Van Laan Trust while considering a plan to move the South Substation to the proposed new Gaines Township Hall; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff, Facilities Management Director, and Administrator/Controller have been in discussions with representatives from Gaines Charter Township to lease 5,824 square feet of space in the new Township Hall for purposes of housing the South Substation; and

WHEREAS, based upon the discussions, the proposed lease is for ten-years and it is proposed that the County pay the actual capital costs for the necessary construction (up to \$450,000), and rent of \$3.00 per square foot, plus utility and maintenance costs, upon occupancy of the premises. The rent is proposed to increase annually according to the increase in CPI.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners approves entering into an agreement with Gaines Charter Township to lease a portion of the new Township Hall for the Sheriff’s South Substation for \$3.00 per square foot, plus utility and maintenance costs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that up to \$450,000 be transferred from the Unreserved, Undesignated General Fund to the Capital Improvement Program to fund the capital costs necessary for the South Substation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED to authorize the Administrator/Controller to execute the lease agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Morgan, supported by Commissioner Kuhn, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Boelema, Buege, Hiddema, Horton, Koorndyk, Kuhn, Kuipers, Mast, Mayhue, McGuire, Morgan, Morren, Postmus, Sak, Smoke, Vaughn, Vonk, Wahlfield, Chair Heacock – 19.

Nays: 0.

REPORTS

Healthcare for People of Color Initiative

Chair Heacock reported that this committee, led by Beverly Drake, is prepared to make recommendations to this Board regarding how it might proceed to improve the results of, and access to, healthcare for people of color. The committee did great work.

Community Mental Health Funding Subcommittee

Commissioner Boelema reported that the Community Mental Health Funding Subcommittee had its final meeting two weeks ago. The members met with the Director of the Department of Community Health, Jim Haveman, and State Representative Terry Geiger. The meeting was informative, and they will make recommendations soon.

MISCELLANEOUS

Batterers Intervention Program

Commissioner McGuire is delighted to see this program. While in law enforcement, he saw many instances of domestic violence. He hopes that the program is a great success.

Commissioner Mayhue stated that, as a clinical social worker, he too has seen the results of battered people and the effects on children and is concerned with this issue. He would like more details about this program.

Goodbye

Commissioner Sak announced the departure of Navin Kharmai, who not only has been responsible for broadcasting the Board of Commission meetings, but also produces "Inside Our Government" on public television. Today is Navin's last day and he will be missed.

ADIJOURNMENT

At 8:52 a.m., Commissioner Sak moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, January 24, 2002, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Koorndyk. Motion carried.

Steven R. Heacock, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk