

KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Administration Building - Room 310

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Roger C. Morgan.

Present: Commissioners Agee, Boelema, Bulkowski, Dillon, Hennessy, Hiddema, Klein, Mast, Mayhue, Morren, Parrish, Rolls, Tanis, Vander Molen, Vaughn, Vonk, Wahlfield, Chair Morgan - 18.

Absent: Voorhees – 1 (Excused).

Invocation: Commissioner Klein gave the invocation.
The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Honorable Paul Sullivan, Chief Circuit Court Judge – Introduced newly-appointed Circuit Court Judge Christopher Yates.

Honorable Chris Yates – Expressed his gratitude at being appointed to the Circuit Court. He looks forward to working with the Board of Commissioners and serving the County.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

2008 Financial Overview / Fiscal Services

Fiscal Services Director Bob White reviewed the Financial Overview (copy of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk).

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Dillon, seconded by Commissioner Klein, that the agenda be amended to include a resolution for the Board's consideration.

Motion carried by voice vote.

Chair Morgan stated the resolution presented by Commissioner Dillon will be numbered Resolution 4-24-08-44.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of March 27, 2008 Meeting
- b) March 18, 2008 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)
- c) Drain Commissioner Report – Receive & File
- d) Resolutions:

4-24-08-40 – SIDWELL CONTRACT RENEWAL / BUREAU OF EQUALIZATION

WHEREAS, the County has contracted with the Sidwell Company for approximately 40 years for the production of a CD edition of atlases that Sidwell leases to an estimated 30 institutional clients in Kent County. Sidwell pays the County a royalty of 20 percent for their limited use of the map for lease sales. The current contract was to expire July 2008; and

WHEREAS, Bureau of Equalization staff is recommending that the contract, as amended July 27, 2006, be renewed for an additional one year period after which time it is anticipated that the County will be able to provide access to the maps through its GIS system.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the contract agreement with The Sidwell Company for sales and marketing of Kent County tax maps.

4-24-08-41 – QUIT CLAIM DEED CORRECTION / ROAD COMMISSION

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2007, the City of Wyoming inadvertently conveyed a right-of-way to Kent County, which right should properly vest in the Kent County Road Commission, and

WHEREAS, the Road Commission requested the County to correct the erroneous conveyance, quit claim title, right, and interest over the property to them, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to review of the Road Commission's request and related property records, Corporate Counsel has approved the grant of quit claim deed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chair, or vice-chair, in his absence, be hereby authorized and directed to execute the quit claim deed.

4-24-08-42 – APPROVE THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND BUDGET AMENDMENT / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Kent County has qualified as an Urban County, which makes it eligible to receive funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for its 27th year as an entitlement community; and

WHEREAS, the five-year Consolidated Plan for July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2010, consists of a needs assessment, market analysis and related goals and objectives, and is a prerequisite of obtaining Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI) funding from HUD; and

WHEREAS, the grant application, referred to as the Annual Action Plan, contains a description and budget for CDBG, HOME, and ADDI-funded activities proposed to be undertaken between July 1, 2008, and June 30, 2009, including CDBG projects requested by 33 local units of government as well as one project requested by the Kent County Parks Department for improvements at Dwight Lydell Park (\$25,000); and

WHEREAS, the application seeks \$2,219,778 in funding that includes CDBG \$1,539,669, HOME \$598,980, ADDI \$6,129, and recognizes an additional \$75,000 anticipated as income from the CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve the Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan for July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Board Chair to sign all documents related to the plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates \$2,219,778 in estimated revenues to the 2008-09 CDBG, HOME, and ADDI programs contingent upon award and execution of a contract.

Motion by Commissioner Klein, seconded by Commissioner Mast, to approve the Consent Agenda items.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Wahlfield, Rolls, Parrish, Tanis, Hiddema, Boelema, Morren, Agee, Mast, Vander Molen, Hennessy, Bulkowski, Mayhue, Vaughn, Dillon, Klein, Chair Morgan – 18.

Nays: 0.

RESOLUTIONS

4-24-08-43 – 2008 EQUALIZATION REPORT / EQUALIZATION

WHEREAS, the Kent County Bureau of Equalization has completed its review of the 2008 assessment rolls of the twenty-one (21) townships and nine (9) cities of Kent County; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Kent County Bureau of Equalization recommends the adoption of the equalized value of real and personal property as follows:

Real Property:

Agricultural	\$	310,324,700
Commercial		4,629,371,200
Industrial		1,833,563,600
Residential		15,640,329,575
Developmental		0
TOTAL REAL		22,413,589,075
TOTAL PERSONAL		1,882,659,100
GRAND TOTAL	\$	24,296,248,175

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in compliance with Section 211.34 M.C.I.A., 1984, as amended, the Kent County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the 2008 Kent County Equalization Report attached to this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kent County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints Mr. David G. Jager, Equalization Director, to represent Kent County in matters of equalization before the State Tax Commission pursuant to MCL 209.7.

Motion by Commissioner Tanis, seconded by Commissioner Agee, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Wahlfield, Rolls, Parrish, Tanis, Hiddema, Boelema, Morren, Agee, Mast, Vander Molen, Hennessy, Bulkowski, Mayhue, Vaughn, Dillon, Klein, Chair Morgan – 18.

Nays: 0.

4-24-08-44 – SCHOOL INSPECTION FEES / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, legislation passed in 2007 allows local Health Departments to charge school districts for kitchen inspections at the same rate they charge local restaurants; and

WHEREAS, prior to this legislation school districts were exempt from any inspection fees; and

WHEREAS, there are less than two months left in the current school year; and

WHEREAS, many school districts in Kent County will struggle to pay these fees this year because school lunch programs are self supporting and operate on tight budgets; and

WHEREAS, HB 5951 was introduced into the Michigan House of Representatives by Rep. Michael Sak on April 8, 2008, to allow school district to be charged \$20 per kitchen per year; and

WHEREAS, the Kent County Health Department is not mandated to charge fees for kitchen inspections to school districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent County Board of Commissioners direct the Kent County Health Department to waive the assessment of these optional inspection fees until at least January 1, 2009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should any fees be collected prior to passage of this resolution by the Kent County Board of Commissioners, the Health Department will refund school districts for any inspections performed prior to January 1, 2009.

Motion by Commissioner Dillon, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion failed:

Yeas: Hennessy, Bulkowski, Mayhue, Vaughn, Dillon, Klein – 6.

Nays: Vonk, Wahlfield, Rolls, Parrish, Tanis, Hiddema, Boelema, Morren, Agee, Mast, Vander Molen, Chair Morgan – 12.

REPORTS

Mental Health Parity

Commissioner Mayhue reported that the bi-partisan Kent County Discussion Group on Mental Health Parity now includes: Commissioner Mayhue, John Canepa, Greg Dziadosz, Mark Eastburg, Hank Fuhs, Barb Hawkins-Palmer, Paul Ippel, Kevin Rose, Commissioner Klein, Madonna Saia & Cyndy Viars. This group has monitored & engaged in providing input on the parity issue on national & local levels. House Bill 1424 & Senate Bill 558 have passed the house and senate. The group continues to be active and he is proud of the work they have done.

Road Commission Sub-Committee

Commissioner Morren stated that the Road Commission Sub-Committee has met twice including once with the Road Commissioners and will meet with township representatives soon. A report will be coming to the Legislative Committee and the full Board within the next two months.

MISCELLANEOUS

Thanks

Commissioner Rolls thanked Matt Wolford, Equalization Deputy Director, for helping some citizens who have had problems with local assessors.

Released Prisoner Identification

Commissioner Mayhue thanked Judge Sullivan and the Community Corrections Advisory Board for being receptive to released prisoners' identification problems. A committee has been formed to look at ideas for IDs which may help slow the recidivism rate.

Judge Yates

Commissioner Dillon stated that Judge Yates is a friend and will be a good judge. He is looking forward to working with him.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:34 a.m., Commissioner Klein moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, May 8, 2008, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Tanis. Motion carried.

Roger C. Morgan, Chair

Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk