



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 1, 2021

WAYS & MEANS

I. Roll Call

A session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners was held virtually (due to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic) using Zoom videoconferencing on December 1, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 06:32 PM by Comm. Hodge, Chair of the Board of Commissioners Ways and Means Committee.

Members Present: Comms. **Shannon Beeman** (Village of Manchester, Washtenaw County, MI), **Justin Hodge** (Ypsilanti Township, Washtenaw County, MI), **Ricky Jefferson** (Ypsilanti Township, Washtenaw County, MI), **Andy LaBarre** (City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County MI), **Jason Maciejewski** (Dexter Township, Washtenaw County, MI), **Jason Morgan** (Washington D.C., District of Columbia County, DC), **Caroline Sanders** (Pittsfield Township, Washtenaw County, MI), **Katie Scott** (City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI), **Sue Shink** (Northfield Township, Washtenaw County, MI)

Members Absent: None

Others Present County Administrator, Greg Dill; Diane Heidt, Deputy County Administrator; Michelle Billard and Choi Portis, Corporation Counsel; Alize Asberry Payne and Crystal Campbell, Racial Equity Office; Tina Gavalier, Catherine Jones-Alther, and Brady Peck, Finance; Jimena Loveluck, Public Health; Jason Fee, Facilities; Judy Kramer, OIM; Monica Boote, Human Resources; Teresa Gillotti, OCED; Jeff Rose and Faye Jasman, ITS; Andrew DeLeeuw, Peter Lindeman, and Candace Reum, County Administration; Robert Mulcahy, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

II. Citizen Participation

Caroline Taylor from Ann Arbor Township spoke in favor of allocating American Rescue Plan funds to eastern Washtenaw County.

Corey Mason from Plymouth, Wayne County spoke in favor of hiring Choi Portis for the position of Assistant Corporation Counsel and discussed the proposed vaccine mandate.

Desire Simmons from the City of Ypsilanti discussed current and future American Rescue Plan funding decisions.

Devin Meyrer from Ann Arbor thanked the Board of Commissioners for listening to grassroots groups and spoke in favor of allocating American Rescue Plan funds to grassroots organizations.

Karen Holman, an employee of Washtenaw County, spoke in favor of the proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

Heather Jarrell Roe asked the Board of Commissioners for specificity in their American Rescue Plan proposal relating to the opportunity index.

Tami, an employee of Washtenaw County, spoke against the proposed COVID-19 vaccine

mandate.

James Glide, an employee of Washtenaw County, asked the Board of Commissioners how current court rulings against vaccine mandates affect the legality of the proposed vaccine mandate.

Nelson Dominguez, an employee of Washtenaw County, spoke against the proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

Trische Duckworth thanked Commissioners Morgan, LaBarre, Shink, and Jefferson for meeting with grassroots groups.

Mary Campbell, an employee of Washtenaw County, spoke about the freedom of choice regarding the proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

Gail Summerhill spoke about the Board of Commissioners hearing from eastern Washtenaw County residents at an upcoming event.

Dani Hoover, an employee of Washtenaw County, spoke about the benefits of COVID-19 vaccinations and agreed with previous comments about freedom of choice.

Renee Blaze, an employee of Washtenaw County, spoke against the proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

David Bowbeer, an employee of Washtenaw County, spoke against the proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

Debbie Swanson from Ypsilanti Township spoke in favor of using American Rescue Plan funds to uplift the community.

III. Commissioner Follow-Up To Citizen Participation

Commissioner Scott discussed historical and current vaccine mandates.

Commissioner Morgan thanked everyone who shared thoughts regarding the proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate and discussed historical vaccine mandates. Commissioner Morgan discussed implementing the proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate in a compassionate manner.

Commissioner LaBarre spoke in favor of the proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

Commissioner Shink thanked everyone who participated in public comment.

Commissioner Beeman thanked everyone who participated in public comment and looks forward to participating in future listening sessions in eastern Washtenaw County. Commissioner Beeman discussed historical vaccine mandates.

Commissioner Jefferson thanked everyone who participated in public comment. Commissioner Jefferson stated he has heard from those who support and do not support the proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate and spoke about the merits of each side's arguments. Commissioner Jefferson asked Administrator Dill about the vaccination rate for the county and barriers preventing employees from being vaccinated.

Administrator Dill replied that the county's vaccination rate is 90%. Administrator Dill stated he will find out what the barriers are to any potential vaccination and provide commissioners with the information in the coming weeks.

Commissioner Jefferson thanked those who spoke about allocating American Rescue Plan funds to eastern Washtenaw County. Commissioner Jefferson spoke about finding creative ways to close gaps in problems in eastern Washtenaw County.

Commissioner Sanders expressed concerns about resuming in-person meetings in January

2022.

Commissioner Hodge thanked everyone for participating in public comment, including county staff.

IV. New Business

A. Corporation Counsel

1. Comm. Andy LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Katie Scott, moved that the resolution Authorizing the Above Midpoint Hire of Choi T. Portis as Assistant Corporation Counsel be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

B. Office of Community and Economic Development

1. Commissioner Morgan seconded by Commissioner Shink motioned to put the Appropriation of 2022 Coordinated Funding funds for 6-month transition grants for previous Coordinated Funding grantees for the period Jan. 1-June 30, 2022 on the December 1, 2021 Board of Commissioners Agenda. Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Shink withdrew the motion.

Comm. Andy LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Katie Scott, moved that the Appropriation of 2022 Coordinated Funding funds for 6-month transition grants for previous Coordinated Funding grantees for the period Jan. 1-June 30, 2022 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

C. Administration

1. County Administrator Greg Dill, Deputy County Administrator Diane Heidt, and Executive Director of Human Resources Monica Boote provided an overview of the Employee COVID Vaccination and Testing Policy.

Comm. Andy LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Katie Scott, moved that the Employee COVID Vaccination and Testing Policy be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

V. Report of the County Administrator

- A. Administrator Dill welcomed Choi Portis, Assistant Corporation Counsel, to Washtenaw County.

Administrator Dill and Peter Lindeman provided the first reading of the Washtenaw County's proposal for the second round of American Rescue Plan funds, highlighting three objectives: 1) Building a Strong Equity Driven Health Department, 2) Launching the Mobile Services Support Initiative, and 3) Creating a Community Priority Fund.

- B. Report on the Budget - None.

VI. Report of the Chair of the Board
None.

VII. Report of the Chair of Ways and Means

Commissioner Hodge updated the Board of Commissioners that he has continued to work with Commissioner Maciejewski on an alternative 2022 meeting schedule. Commissioner Hodge thanked his fellow commissioners, Administrator Dill, and staff for support during his year as Chair of the Ways and Means Committee.

VIII. Items for Current/Future Discussion

None.

IX. Pending

None.

X. Adjournment

Comm. Katie Scott, seconded by Comm. Sue Shink, moved to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 09:06 PM.

Justin Hodge, Chair

Lawrence
Kestenbaum,
Clerk/Register
By: Robert Mulcahy, Deputy Clerk

Board Approved: