



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 1, 2023

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

A session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners was held at the Administration Building, in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on March 1, 2023.

The meeting was called to order at 07:00 PM by Comm. Hodge, Chair of the Board of Commissioners.

Members Present:	Comms. Shannon Beeman, Justin Hodge, Andy LaBarre, Crystal Lyte, Jason Maciejewski, Yousef Rabhi, Caroline Sanders, Katie Scott, Annie Somerville
Members Absent:	None.
Others Present	County Administrator, Greg Dill; Andrew DeLeeuw, Interim Deputy County Administrator; Michelle Billard and Michael Auten, Corporation Counsel; Alize Asberry Payne, Racial Equity; Tina Gavalier, Catherine Jones-Alther, Brady Peck, Terrence Williams, County Administration; Jason Fee, Facilities Management; Corey Mason, Labor Relations; Nina Johnson, Human Resources; Reyanne Gallippo, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Greg Woodring stated he is a member of Ann Arbor for Public Power and is interested in finding other ways to manage the electrical system.

Lauren Sargeant stated she is a member of Ann Arbor for Public Power and referenced Lansing's electrical system and success the city has had.

Andrea Pierce stated she is the chair and founder of Anishinaabek caucus and is frustrated with DTE and the recent power outage.

Kaylee Garcia discussed domestic partnerships and the need for reform.

Laquan Hill stated he is affiliated with Nation Outside and A Brighter Way and expressed

gratitude to the board for funding.

Adam Grant Executive Director of A Brighter way expressed gratitude to the board for funding.

Gigi Jones expressed concerns about SafeHouse and the power outage's effect on the elderly.

William Garcia discussed American brutality towards the Cuban people.

Lisa Queijeiro stated she supports a feasibility study for a countywide municipal utility.

Online Participants:

D. Parnell McCarter asked the board to consider establishing a countywide public electric utility and expressed climate concerns.

Rayvonne Fields stated she was removed from SafeHouse and would like commissioners to address SafeHouse issues.

Harvey Somers discussed the Criminal Justice Collaborative Council.

Allison Foreman stated she is President and CEO of Meals on Wheels and spoke in favor of a senior millage.

Yoline Williams stated she is a 13-year member of the Lincoln Consolidated School District board and discussed safe housing availability.

Gail Summerhill expressed concerns about SafeHouse.

Mia Kang expressed concerns about power outages.

Nicole Beverly expressed concerns about SafeHouse.

IV. COMMISSIONER FOLLOW-UP TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Comm. LaBarre addressed recent power outages.

Comm. Somerville addressed the domestic partner policy, stated she supports looking into a municipal power utility, and discussed the Criminal Justice Collaborative Council.

Comm. Rabhi stated he appreciates those who spoke, that DTE's behavior is unacceptable, and that the company gave money to those who pushed for voter suppression.

Comm. Scott echoed Comm. Rabhi and stated that these are life and death issues for those with medical issues. She stated that Washtenaw County does not run SafeHouse.

Comm. Sanders discussed property easements and inequity in being able to pay for hotels during the power outage.

Comm. Beeman discussed the domestic partner policy, stated that her area has been approached for a solar field installation, and discussed SafeHouse.

Comm. Maciejewski stated that power outages are still ongoing and thanked those working on restoring power.

Comm. Lyte thanked those that spoke during public comment in regard to DTE Energy.

Comm. Hodge recognized Harvey Somers, stated that SafeHouse is not run by the county but is an issue, and reported that Nicole Beverly met with him and Administrator Dill.

V. LIAISON REPORTS

Comm. LaBarre provided an update on Community Mental Health.

Comm. Scott provided an update on the Board of Health.

Comm. Hodge provided an update on the Board of Health.

Comm. Maciejewski provided an update on Public Works.

Comm. Rabhi discussed healthcare in the county and a public power utility.

Comm. Somerville provided an update on the Environmental Council.

Comm. Somerville, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved to take a 10-minute recess. Voice vote - motion carried. The board recessed at 8:25pm and the meeting resumed at 8:35pm.

VI. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

None.

VII. APPOINTMENTS

Comm. Rabhi, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to appoint Dwight L. Wilson as District 8 representative on the Commission on Aging for a term expiring 12/31/2024. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved that the minutes of the February 15, 2023 meeting of the Board of Commissioners be approved. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)
2. Communications - None.
3. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve the minutes of the Board of Commissioners Working Session held February 15, 2023. Voice vote - motion carried.
4. Report of Special Committees - None.
5. Other Reports:
 - A. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved that the following report be received: A report on contracts in the amount of \$25,000 and under from February 7, 2023 through February 21, 2023. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)
6. Report of the Treasurer - None.

IX. RESOLUTIONS

1. First Reading:

- A. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Rabhi, moved that a resolution approving position modifications in the Office of Community and Economic Development to address the increase in Weatherization programming through the Weatherization Assistance Program Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grant be approved. Voice vote - motion carried.
- B. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Rabhi, moved that a resolution to update the Revenue - State Liquor Tax Policy be approved. Voice vote - motion carried.

2. Final Reading:

- A. **23-026** Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a resolution authorizing a Community Priority Fund - Community Violence Interventions allocation to We The People Opportunity Farm be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.
- B. **23-027** Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a resolution authorizing a grant from Results for America in the amount of \$25,000 for the period of January 2023 to December 2023 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

3. Single Reading:

- A. **23-028** Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a substitute resolution amending the bylaws of and appointing members to the Criminal Justice Collaborative Council be approved.

Comm. Scott stated that the alternate section should be struck.

Comm. Somerville stated that an additional general at-large with lived experience position should be added.

Comm. Lyte discussed items that should be struck.

Comm. Rabhi discussed items that should be struck.

Comm. Scott, supported by Comm. Rabhi, moved to take out Section B and strike section 8 E by special proxy.

Comm. Rabhi, supported by Comm. Scott, moved to table the resolution until staff could make all requested amendments. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

Comm. Scott, supported by Comm. Maciejewski, moved to take the item from the table. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote on the resolution as amended: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

- B. **23-029** Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a resolution to honor Kathy Sample, United Way of Washtenaw County's 2023 "Power of the Purse" Woman of the Year be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.
- C. **23-030** Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a substitute resolution urging the normalization of trade and diplomatic relations with the Republic of Cuba be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.
- D. **23-031** Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a resolution directing that the County Administrator develop options for consideration by the Board of Commissioners in response to the aftermath of the freezing rain event of February 22, 2023 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

4. Approval of Claims:

- A. **23-032** Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a resolution authorizing the payment of claims commencing with the last previously approved claim and continuing through the date of February 20, 2023 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

X. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator Dill provided a report on weather events have been occurring and a first quarter Administrative Update that included a classification and compensation structure update, premium hazard pay, leadership hiring, security, and board priority budget amendments.

Comm. Rabhi discussed premium pay parameters.

XI. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Comm. Hodge discussed information received from the Michigan Association of Counties regarding establishing a county housing commission.

XII. ITEMS FOR CURRENT/FUTURE DISCUSSION

Comm. LaBarre discussed the screening of a movie called Bedlam.

Comm. Somerville discussed the youth commission and a gun buy-back event in June.

Comm. Lyte stated she will be meeting with the youth commission tomorrow.

Comm. Sanders discussed National African American Parent Involvement Day which will occur on March 13.

Comm. Hodge stated that branches will be picked up soon.

XIII. PENDING

None.

XIV. ADJOURN TO NEXT SESSION

Comm. Katie Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to adjourn. Voice vote - motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Justin Hodge, Chair

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Ed Golembiewski, Chief Deputy Clerk/Register