



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 5, 2023

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I ROLL CALL

I

A session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners was held at the Administration Building, in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on April 5, 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, Jas Sanders, Katie Scott, Annie Somerville
Members Absent:	None.
Others Present	County Administrator, Greg Dill; Crystal Campbell, PIO; Michelle Billard and Asberry Payne, Racial Equity; Tina Gavalier, Catherine Jones-Alther, Brad Administration; Jason Fee, Facilities Management; Corey Mason, Labor Relations; Reyanne Gallippo, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Brandy Hill spoke regarding homeless families in attendance.

Stephanie Kraus spoke about homelessness and community partners for homelessness in Washtenaw County.

Peggy Lynch spoke about the homeless crisis and programs for homeless family gaps during cold months.

Derrick Williams spoke about Camp Outreach for homeless people and explained how the county should be taking care of their homeless, including finding a building to help with shelter needs.

Melissa Floyd spoke about the emergency housing program and addiction.

Rosalee Carunus spoke about being part of one of the warming centers in Washtenaw County and asked for support.

Eleanor Avlon Owen stated she is with Interfaith Council for Peace and is interested in

supporting unhoused neighbors.

Cindy Bow-Davis spoke about racial and financial equity and said she would like to engage those who are affected to fix what is not working.

Katherine Hughes said she is speaking as a volunteer who helps with homeless needs through her parish and asked for help with what she has been doing.

Cynthina Price said she is a member of the Mission board, but is speaking on behalf of homeless people after speaking with them separately.

Kath Howard said she is a retired social worker and spoke about shelter needs and the disconnect in the understanding of what is needed.

Noah Dolar spoke about statistics and costs associated with homelessness.

James Gee spoke about the humane approach to getting people housed and the need for rent regulations.

Dirk Mayhew spoke about keeping neighbors housed because desperate people do desperate things.

Theresa Reid spoke about governments disinvesting in homelessness needs over the years and encouraged levying higher taxes on the rich.

Ken Garber came to speak about the brownfield plan but asked the commission to address the homeless needs mentioned by others tonight.

Lindsay (no last name provided) spoke about stopping evictions.

Comments via Zoom:

Allison Foreman said she works for Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels and supports the board's focus on senior services.

Bret Stuntz spoke about the brownfield plan and gave background on the project and why it's hard to develop.

Janet Cannon spoke about rents going up with no limit and the need for construction of shelters.

Gail Summerhill spoke about an issue at University of Michigan hospital yesterday regarding a nurse without human compassion and suggested an effort to survey those affected.

1. Written Public Comment - None.

IV. COMMISSIONER FOLLOW-UP TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Commissioner LaBarre stated he appreciated everyone coming and the advocacy online and in-person. He explained the background on funding and support for homelessness needs.

Commissioner Rabhi thanked everyone that spoke and appreciated how issues were framed. He explained the need to look at the broader issues to properly understand the needs and

said that evictors should be viewed as criminals, and a housing committee should be established for oversight.

Commissioner Beeman thanked everyone for sharing their stories and addressed unsafe housing issues.

Commissioner Scott shared her experiences with homeless needs and the impact.

Commissioner Somerville thanked everyone who showed up to share their experiences and shared a personal story about a parent's struggle with homelessness.

Commissioner Sanders stated that she doesn't have the same experiences as those who have spoken but does have experience with landlords and uninformed tenants.

Chairperson Hodge thanked everyone and stated that this is a problem that this board takes seriously. He addressed the idea of using the Walmart property in Ypsilanti as a space for additional housing.

V. LIAISON REPORTS

None.

VI. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. **23-047** Comm. Katie Scott, seconded by Comm. Shannon Beeman, moved that a resolution to set a public hearing for April 19, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Board Room at 220 North Main and through Zoom to receive comment on the brownfield plan for the Village of Ann Arbor Brownfield Redevelopment Project in Ann Arbor, MI be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
2. **23-048** Comm. Katie Scott, seconded by Comm. Shannon Beeman, moved that a resolution to set a public hearing for April 19, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Board Room at 220 North Main and through Zoom to receive comment on the b2023-2027 Washtenaw Urban County Consolidated Strategy and Plan & the 2023-2024 Washtenaw Urban County Annual Action Plan be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.

VII. APPOINTMENTS

1. **23-043** Comm. Katie Scott, seconded by Comm. Shannon Beeman, moved that a resolution appointing members to the Washtenaw County Community Mental Health Board be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
2. **23-044** Comm. Katie Scott, seconded by Comm. Shannon Beeman, moved that a resolution appointing members to the Washtenaw County Community Action Board be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
3. **23-045** Comm. Katie Scott, seconded by Comm. Shannon Beeman, moved that a resolution appointing a member to the Washtenaw County Veterans Affairs Committee be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
4. **23-046** Comm. Katie Scott, seconded by Comm. Shannon Beeman, moved that a resolution appointing a member to the Southeast Michigan Regional Transit Authority be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Comm. Katie Scott, seconded by Comm. Shannon Beeman, moved that the minutes of the March 15, 2023 meeting of the Board of Commissioners be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)
2. Comm. Katie Scott, seconded by Comm. Shannon Beeman, moved that the communications be received and dealt with as recommended. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)

R-0007 RECEIVED: March 16, 2023 City of Ann Arbor Resolution to Approve 1680 Dhu Varren Road Redevelopment Brownfield Plan

R-0008 RECEIVED: March 17, 2023 City of Ypsilanti Sustainability Commission flier

R-0009 RECEIVED: February and March, 2023 Various resolutions adopted by county boards of commissioners throughout the state

3. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved to approve the minutes of the Board of Commissioners Working Session held March 15, 2023. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)
4. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved to approve the report of special committees. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)

- Washtenaw County Food Policy Council Minutes

5. Other Reports
 - A. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved to approve a report on contracts in the amount of \$25,000 and under from March 7, 2023 to March 28, 2023. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
6. Report of the Treasurer - None.

IX. RESOLUTIONS

1. First Reading
 - A. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution to authorize the expansion of services of the Solid Waste division to staff an additional home toxics center, add a position, and authorize the Administrator to execute the contract with Arbor Hills Landfill. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
 - B. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution directing the Board of Public Works to undertake a lake improvement project for Silver Lake in the

townships of Dexter in Washtenaw County and Putnam in Livingston County. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.

- C. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution approving the agreement with POAM, Washtenaw County and Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office for the Wage Re-Opener for 2023-2025. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
- D. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution modifying the Washtenaw County Rescue Plan - American Rescue Plan Act investment for Washtenaw County Health Department. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
- E. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution modifying the Washtenaw County Rescue Plan - American Rescue Plan Act investment for Washtenaw County Health Department.

Commissioner Rabhi said he requested to pull this item for consideration after hearing the needs of people in the County. He said he felt private donations should fund this item while the commission focuses on people's needs and would like mandated costs and non-mandated costs by the next meeting since this is a first reading. He said he would also like to know who owns the Humane Society building and land and would like to see the audited financial statements for the Humane Society.

Commissioner Lyte stated the board has a responsibility to address human needs before animal needs in the County. She asked when the last Humane Society funding increase took place and how often increase requests are made.

Commissioner Maciejewski asked about other municipalities funding the Humane Society.

Commissioner LaBarre said he will be supporting this and does not see another way for 2023, but agrees that further discussion should take place regarding the scope of the contract in the future.

Commissioner Sanders asked if funds are received from owners if collectible.

Interim Deputy Administrator Andrew Deleeuw and Corporation Council Michelle Billard spoke about mandated and discretionary funding, past contracts and other issues raised by commissioners. Michelle Billard explained that this is a short-term contract, so that RFPs can be issued for the future of animal control in the County.

Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.

2. Final Reading

- A. **23-049** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution to approve all formula grants received by the Office of Community and Economic Development with a fiscal year starting in 2023 calendar year. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.

3. Single Reading

- A. **23-050** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution authorizing the County Administrator to sign, accept, and amend the budget for the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) 2023 Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
- B. **23-051** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on the Marine Safety Grant through the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in the amount of \$65,467. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
- C. **23-052** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution authorizing Washtenaw County's Entry of Participation Agreements in Partial Settlement of the National Prescription Opiate Litigation and Entry of State Local Government Intrastate Agreement Concerning Allocation of Settlement Proceeds. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
- D. **23-053** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution addressing the eviction crisis and human service provider funding gap.

Commissioner LaBarre pulled this item for consideration and asked if the county is matching the SOS HUD grant.

Staff informed the board that the match is not included.

Commissioner LaBarre asked that this item be flagged because of the fact that this match is not included.

Commissioner Rabhi requested information on the fund allocation and additional opportunities to have input on where funding is allocated.

Commissioner Maciewski asked how the metrics of these programs will be reported back to the board.

Commissioner Scott stated she wants to make sure that the HAWC funds will get people into better situations.

Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.

- E. **23-054** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution extending the term of Washtenaw County as fiduciary for WRRMA and accepting the contract between WRRMA and Washtenaw County. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
- F. **23-055** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution proclaiming the week of April 9, 2023 through April 15, 2023 as National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week in Washtenaw County. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
- G. **23-056** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution honoring Fiona Stoker for receiving her Girl Scout Gold Award. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.

- H. **23-057** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution honoring Kiera Crawley for receiving her Girl Scout Gold Award. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
- I. **23-058** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution to offer a letter of support for the City of Ypsilanti's Climate Resiliency Hub Grant application to the EPA's Environmental Justice Government to Government Program. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
- J. **23-059** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution accepting and affirming the hiring committee's recommendation of Ashley Hall as the preferred candidate for the position of Board of Commissioners' Communications and Operations Manager. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.
4. Approval of Claims
- A. **23-060** Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve a resolution authorizing the payment of claims commencing with the last previously approved claim and continuing through the date of March 27, 2023. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion Carried.

X. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator Dill thanked the board for moving to address the housing crisis and introduced Morgan Boydston, Human Services Manager from OCED to give a presentation on HAWC and Catherine Jones-Alther, Budget Operations Director to present on the 2023 Budget Process Planning.

1. Morghan Boydston, Human Services Manager, OCED, presented an Overview of Housing Access for Washtenaw County (HAWC) services and partners.

Commissioner Hodge thanked Ms. Boydston for the charts and asked for more details on the hotel admission process.

Commissioner LaBarre asked about communication for HAWC and the need for OCED to have resources to conduct the needed work.

Commissioner Somerville thanked Ms. Boydston and said she understands it will take time to build trust.

Commissioner Somerville said she is also hoping the board can help provide sustainable support.

Commissioner Rabhi said he appreciated Ms. Boydston's presentation and asked for clarification regarding the old system versus the new system.

2. Catherine Jones-Alther, Budget Operations Director, presented information on the 2023 Budget Process Planning.

Commissioner Hodge complimented Ms. Jones-Alther on the presentation.

Commissioner Scott said she liked how different departments would be participating and asked about sunseting items to make room for other priorities.

Commissioner LaBarre asked about the switch in model and who was driving the switch.

Administrator Dill told the commissioners that this presentation was developed under the framework that came from the board.

Commissioner Rabhi asked what is meant by incremental budgeting and would like to make sure we are looking at a larger range of demographics.

XI. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Sanders said she organized a trip to Detroit to look at locations to help give ideas for spaces in Washtenaw County.

Commissioner Hodge stated that he attended: a program on transportation and senior services with Administrator Dill; an Urban County Meeting; the State of our Plate event with Commissioner LaBarre; a Spark meeting; a Board of Health meeting with Commissioner Scott; and a year-round recreation center meeting that focused on kids with health issues.

XII. ITEMS FOR CURRENT/FUTURE DISCUSSION

1. Comm. Rabhi, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved to enter a Closed Session to discuss pending litigation. Voice vote - Motion Carried.
2. Comm. Beeman, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved to postpone an Amendment to Mask Requirement Policy until the next meeting. Voice vote - Motion Carried.

XIII. PENDING

None.

XIV. ADJOURN TO NEXT SESSION

Comm. Beeman, seconded by Comm. Sanders, moved to adjourn. Voice vote - motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 PM.

Justin Hodge, Chair

Lawrence
Kestenbaum,
Clerk/Register

By: Ed Golembiewski, Chief Deputy Clerk/Register