



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 7, 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 June 7, 2023.

The meeting was called to order at 07:04 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 Greg Dill, County Administrator; Andrew DeLeeuw, Interim Deputy County Administrator; Michelle Billard, Corporation Counsel; Tina Gavalier & Catherine Jones-Alther, Finance; Brady Peck, Director of Operations; Alize Asberry Payne, Racial Equity Officer; Jason Fee, Facilities Management; Harry Sheehan, Water Resources; Kristy Bray, Friend of the Court; Marie Pfeifer, Finance; Nathan Voght, OCED; Ashley Hall, BOC Communications and Operations Manager; Bryce Allmacher, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mary Campbell spoke about the ARPA premium pay allocated to the County. Stated that the process the County has used to determine how to distribute premium pay has been seriously flawed. Said that premium pay should be targeted towards County workers who primarily worked in-person during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic; asked for equitable distribution.

Angelina Terrell spoke about premium pay; stated that they are in favor of the BOC making additional allocations in order to distribute premium pay more equitably.

Shannon Zeart said that the distribution of premium pay has been deeply inequitable up to this point. Shared that they are disappointed in the County's negotiations with AFSCME.

Lance Mitchell said that the building inspection teams entered resident homes, conducted plan review, worked in-office, responded to flooding in Ypsilanti, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

James Glide spoke about premium pay for essential workers; stated that the distribution of funding has been unfair; criticized the County for failing to keep accurate records on in-person vs. remote work during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A member of the public said that they support the comments made by previous speakers.

Chelsea Compton said that they support the comments made by previous speakers; asked about the Board's plan to address the comments made here today.

Rachel Roston stated that their team at the County worked non-stop during the early stages of the pandemic; criticized the County's process for distributing premium pay.

Barbara Fortune said that they support the comments made by previous speakers.

Harvey Somers said that they look forward to the Board making appointments to the CJCC.

1. Written Public Comment - Through June 7, 2023

IV. COMMISSIONER FOLLOW-UP TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Comm. LaBarre said that the call for actionable steps from a public commenter was impactful; stated that he is confident in the County's ability to come to an agreement that is equitable and achieves a favorable outcome for all involved parties.

Comm. Somerville said that she appreciates the individuals who gave public comment; is committed to reaching an equitable agreement with the bargaining units. Stated that she deeply appreciates Washtenaw County's 24-hour crisis workers.

Comm. Rahbi thanked the individuals who gave public comment; stated that he agrees with the general sentiments shared. Comm. Rahbi said that the differences in premium pay between different departments highlights some of the flaws in the County budgeting process; stated that the County needs to reevaluate the level of autonomy it awards to individual departments.

V. LIAISON REPORTS

Comm. LaBarre stated that the Continuum of Care (CoC) has been considering items relevant to the Board. The CoC has emphasized engagement with individuals with lived experience of homelessness/housing insecurity. Shared that the last CMH Executive Committee meeting went well.

Comm. Somerville shared an update on the Commission on Aging, said that there is a Safe Aging Townhall this Friday, June 9th 1-3pm at the Ypsilanti Civic Center.

Comm. Hodge shared that there were a number of informative presentations from the Board of Health.

VI. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Comm. Hodge opened (and closed) a public hearing to receive comment on the proposed 300 North Zeeb Brownfield Redevelopment Project in Scio Township.

Nathan Voght (OCED) shared that this plan involves extensive rehabilitation coinciding with a 5-year tax abatement. This plan would authorize a maximum of \$2.7 million in Brownfield funds. The Brownfield Redevelopment Authority will be issuing its 2-year report shortly.

VII. APPOINTMENTS

1. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a resolution appointing members to the Washtenaw County Criminal Justice Collaborative Council be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 8 NAYS 0 ABSENT 1 (Beeman). Motion carried.
2. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a resolution appointing members to the Washtenaw County Advisory Council on Reparations be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 8 NAYS 0 ABSENT 1 (Beeman). Motion carried.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved to approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting (May 17, 2023). Voice vote - motion carried.
2. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved that the communications be received and dealt with as recommended. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)

R-0018 RECEIVED: May 22, 2023. Lenawee County Board of Commissioners: Resolution opposing legislation introduced in the Michigan State House of Representatives which would preempt local control of sand and gravel mining.

R-0019 RECEIVED: May 23, 2023. Livingston County Board of Commissioners: Resolution sharing veteran services department enhancements with other Michigan Counties.

R-0020 RECEIVED: May 25, 2023. Ingham County Board of Commissioners: Resolution designating June 2023 as LGBTQ Pride Month in Ingham County.

R-0021 RECEIVED: May 25, 2023. Eaton County Board of Commissioners: Resolution in support of the Second Amendment to the US Constitution.

R-0022 RECEIVED: May 31, 2023. Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy: Notification that EGLE has approved Permit to Install Nos. 67-23 and 68-23 for Emerald RNG, LLC and Arbor Hills RNG, LLC and Arbor Hills Energy, LLC located at 10611 West 5 Mile Road, Northville, Michigan. Full permits are on file at Washtenaw County Clerk's Office, 200 N Main St, Ann Arbor, MI.

3. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved that the following reports be received: Report of Standing Committees: Working Session (May 17, 2023). Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)
4. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved that the following reports be received:

Washtenaw County Food Policy Council - March 8, 2023

Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission - May 15, 2023

Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)

5. Other Reports

- A. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved that the following reports be received: A report on contracts in the amount of \$25,000 and under from May 9, 2023 through May 30, 2023. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)
- B. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, moved that the following reports be received: A report on budget adjustments done through Administrative Authority between January 1, 2023 and March 31, 2023. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)

6. Treasurer's Report - None.

IX. RESOLUTIONS

1. Final Reading

- A. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution approving the acceptance of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority HUD home ARP grants: Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) in the amount of \$139,673 and Housing Navigation Program (HNP) in the amount of \$150,000; authorizing the County Administrator to sign the grant amendment and contracts related to this award be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.
- B. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution approving the acceptance of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority emergency rental assistance/housing stability services program grant amendment in the amount of \$518,400 for calendar year 2023; authorizing the County Administrator to sign the grant amendment and contracts related to this award be approved.

Morghen Boydston (OCED) shared that the formula by which this funding was distributed has been updated, which is why a portion of the funding is being returned to the state.

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

- C. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution requesting the Board of Commissioners approve the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant application for the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Improvement and Advancement Grant (CCBHC-IA) be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

2. Single Reading

- A. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution approving the Cooperative Reimbursement grant from the Michigan Department of Human Services for the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for the period of October 1, 2023 through

September 30, 2028 be approved.

Anne Lerini gave a brief overview of the work of the Child Support Division (CSD) of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Comm. Sanders asked about the existence of any data that speaks to the efficacy of this division; also asked about the division's outreach efforts.

Lerini said that the majority of people learn of the CSD because they receive certain forms of public assistance which require they work with their office, but that CSD's services are available to the general public. Lerini said that the CSD has performance standards with the state that they are required to meet.

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

- B. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution ratifying the signature of the Board of Commissioners Chair on the application for the FY2024-2028 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Support, for the Friend of the Court in an amount not to exceed \$27,612,060 for the five-year contract beginning October 1, 2023, with an end date of September 30, 2028 from the Washtenaw County Trial Court be approved.

Kristy Bray, Director of Friend of the Court (FOC), gave a brief overview of FOC's work; shared that the FOC publishes an annual review.

Comm. Sanders stated her appreciation for Friend of the Court's presence at today's meeting; said that the public should be made aware of their services. Sanders suggested that customers of Friend of the Court be given the opportunity to provide feedback on their experience.

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

- C. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution ratifying the electronic application submission to the Michigan State Court Administrative Office for the FY2024 Michigan Drug Court Grant Program (MDCGP) be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.
- D. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution approving the SEMCOG Planning Assistance Grant Stormwater Basin Study Grant in the amount of \$59,973 for the period of July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2025 be approved.

Harry Sheehan, Chief Deputy Water Resources Commissioner, stated that this grant will be used to make recommendations for improvements to the County's stormwater basins.

Comm. Sanders asked about how an individual could get access to the stormwater maintenance schedule.

Sheehan said that reports on the last 5 years of maintenance activities can be provided (these also tend to inform schedules in the immediate future), stormwater maintenance tends to track closely with requests, as well.

Comm. Sanders asked about how drains are graded.

Sheehan said that information can be made available to any member of the public.

Comm. Rahbi asked about detention basins at new developments; wanted to know if the department's evaluation will take into account the value of these systems beyond standard quantifiable utility.

Sheehan stated that the human element of these systems is a part of their evaluation.

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

- E. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution to adopt a Brownfield Plan for 300 North Zeeb Road, Scio Township, MI 48103 be approved.

Comm. Rahbi asked about various eligible activities under this plan and requested an explanation as to why interior demolition is considered an eligible activity.

Nathan Voght stated that the general consensus behind this idea is that it is environmentally advantageous to keep an existing building rather than build a new one.

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

- F. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution approving the 2023 1st Quarter structural and non-structural general fund budget adjustments and reclassifying 30.0 FTE positions through the PDQ process be approved.

Comm. Rahbi said that he supports a more universal and fair approach to County budgeting.

Roll Call Vote: YEAS 8 NAYS 0 ABSENT 1 (Beeman). Motion carried.

- G. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a Resolution Amending the 2023 Board of Commissioners Annual Calendar of Meetings be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

- H. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. LaBarre, move to amend this resolution so that all appearances of "**\$177 million**" be replaced to read "**\$84 million.**" The amendment was approved.

Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution supporting Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson's proposed \$84 million FY2024 budget to ensure full implementation of Proposal 2 and address historic divestment in election administration be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

- I. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution urging the Michigan Legislature to end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including menthol products, and repeal local preemption of tobacco licensure and sales policies in the State of Michigan be approved.

Comm. Somerville stated that she will be voting no on this resolution because she does not support product prohibitions like this.

Comm. Rahbi said that the Board should be sensitive to cultural inclusivity regarding the use of tobacco.

Comm. Lyte said that flavored tobacco products have resulted in increased tobacco use among young people.

Comm. Scott said that this resolution only urges the Michigan Legislature to ban flavored tobacco products, it does not prohibit their sale in Washtenaw County or elsewhere. Comm. Scott shared that 8 in 10 young people who start smoking say that they started with flavored tobacco products; menthol-flavored products are marketed aggressively in low-income communities.

Comm. Rahbi said that the State should seek to provide clearer information on the contents of flavored tobacco products.

Comm. Hodge said that tobacco use is a health equity issue, flavored products are marketed to marginalized communities specifically, annual healthcare costs related to tobacco use in Michigan exceed \$5 billion.

Roll Call Vote: YEAS 8 NAYS 1 (Somerville) ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

- J. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a Resolution Proclaiming June 19th as County Observance of Juneteenth be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.
- K. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a Resolution Declaring June Pride Month in Washtenaw County be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.
- L. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a Resolution Honoring the Life and Career of Pete Ballios be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.
- M. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville moved that a supplemental Resolution Honoring the Life and Service of Barbara Bergman be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried. .

3. Approval of Claims

- A. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that a resolution authorizing the payment of claims commencing with the last previously approved claim and continuing through the date of June 7, 2023 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0 Motion carried.

X. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
None.

XI. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
None.

XII. ITEMS FOR CURRENT/FUTURE DISCUSSION

Comm. Scott said that on June 28th Congresswoman Debbie Dingell will be meeting with the EPA regarding Gelman Sciences; encouraged attendance at the County's Pride Flag-Raising ceremony on Friday, June 9th.

Comm. Rahbi noted that the Health Department recommends individuals avoid strenuous activities outdoors due to issues with air quality.

XIII. PENDING

None.

XIV. ADJOURN TO NEXT SESSION

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

The meeting adjourned at 09:19 PM.

Justin Hodge, Chair

Lawrence

Kestenbaum,

Clerk/Register

By: Bryce Allmacher, Deputy Clerk

Board Approved: July 12, 2023