



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 6, 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 September 6, 2023.

The meeting was called to order at 07:02 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; Alize Asberry Payne, Racial Equity Officer; Michelle Billard & Michael Auten, Corporation Counsel; Tina Gavalier & Catherine Jones-Alther, Finance; Guillermo Hernandez, Director of Human Resources; Jason Fee, Facilities Management; Trish Cortes, Nicole Phelps, & Heather Linky, CMH; Renee Casey, Community Corrections; Jimena Loveluck, Public Health Officer; Marie Pfeifer, Finance; Brady Peck, Director of Operations; Terrence Williams, Administration; Jeff Rose, ITS; Ashley Hall, BOC Communications and Operations Manager; Bryce Allmacher, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Noah Daller spoke about houselessness in Washtenaw County; said that the scope of the problem has grown beyond the funding's capabilities to address it.

John Dunlap spoke in support of Community Corrections funding in Washtenaw County.

Jim Clark spoke about the difference between houselessness and homelessness, advocated for County dollars to be spent towards the development of homes and a community shelter at 10 S Prospect in Ypsilanti.

Melissa Milton Punk spoke in support of Resolution A on tonight's agenda; said that designating Wild Frey Farm as a historic district will protect the property and benefit the Township and County.

Luna spoke about homelessness in Washtenaw County; advocated for rent control and other

tenant protection measures.

Shannon Singer said that their opposition to the new County Administrator contract was not motivated by racism; spoke about their experiences with a family member who was sick with COVID. Singer said that MAG has harmed the members of their bargaining unit.

David Girk thanked the Board for passing the Resilient Washtenaw Plan in December, asked the Board to keep climate action at the top of their priorities.

Sphinx McDaniel advocated for a 24/7 community shelter.

Zachary Story advocated for a 24/7 community shelter.

Mary Campbell thanked the Board for listening to their bargaining unit's concerns and allocating additional funds towards employee compensation. Campbell said that CMH isn't able to hire enough case managers to meet demand for their services; advocated for a compensation structure that allows the County to attract and retain CMH staff.

Sasha advocated for a 24/7 community shelter in Ypsilanti, a temporary shelter, and the rights of homeless and unhoused people.

Cynthia Price said that there is an urgent need for emergency shelter and that demand for shelter far outweighs supply.

Lindy advocated for a 24/7 community shelter in Ypsilanti, a temporary shelter, ending camp sweeps, and the rights of homeless and unhoused people.

Lisa said that any community shelter should center the voice of the unhoused community.

IV. COMMISSIONER FOLLOW-UP TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Comm. Hodge said that any effort to build community shelters and affordable housing will require a collaborative effort across multiple levels of government.

Comm. Rabhi thanked the public commenters who spoke about homelessness in the County; said that the community cannot rely on the private market to solve the housing and homelessness crisis. Rabhi spoke in support of a County Housing Commission, permanent affordable housing, and community shelters.

Comm. LaBarre thanked the public commenters who spoke about homelessness in the County; said that the County has taken steps in the form of the New Human Services Partnership to address this issue. LaBarre said that the County needs to take more direct action to address homelessness; noted several restrictions relating to state law and funding that hinder the County's ability to address homelessness on its own.

Comm. LaBarre addressed capacity issues at CMH; said that the State and Federal Governments need to directly subsidize the network which provides mental health services.

Comm. Somerville thanked the individuals who spoke about homelessness in the County and gave a brief overview of some of the County's ongoing sheltering efforts. Somerville said that she is internally advocating for additional resources being allocated towards supportive housing; noted that source of income discrimination is illegal in the City of Ypsilanti and the

City of Ann Arbor.

Comm. Rabhi reiterated Comm. LaBarre's request for citizen advocacy at the state level.

V. LIAISON REPORTS

Comm. Somerville spoke about leftover funding for older adult services.

Comm. Lyte spoke about the most recent meeting of the Youth Commission.

Comm. Maciejewski spoke about upcoming County Clean-Up days; said there has been a positive response to the new scheduling system. Comm. Maciejewski shared that Matt McDonald will be the new Director of the Washtenaw County Road Commission.

Comm. Sanders acknowledged the retirement of Sheryl Siddal of the Washtenaw County Road Commission and thanked her for her work. Comm. Sanders shared that Michigan Works! has completed the move to its new location.

VI. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

None.

VII. APPOINTMENTS

None.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Sanders, moved that the minutes of the August 2nd 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. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Sanders, moved that the following 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-0037 RECEIVED: August 1, 2023. Washtenaw County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority: Washtenaw County Brownfield Program 2021-2022 Biennial Report.

R-0038 RECEIVED: August 4, 2023. Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners: Resolution opposing legislation which would preempt local control over sand and gravel mining.

R-0039 RECEIVED: August 4, 2023. Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners: Resolution opposing proposed changes to the septic provisions of the Michigan Public Health Code.

R-0040 RECEIVED: August 9, 2023. City of Saline: Notice of intent to update Master Plan.

R-0041 RECEIVED: August 9, 2023. Ann Arbor Township: Notice of intent to update Master Plan.

R-0042 RECEIVED, BUT NOT ACKNOWLEDGED: August 10, 2023. Livingston County Board of Commissioners: Memo to the Area Agency on Aging 1-B regarding the agency's use of the terms "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" in its most recent multi-year plan.

R-0043 RECEIVED: August 22, 2023. City of Ann Arbor: Notice of Public Hearing to receive comment on a proposed resolution to vacate a portion of East Mosley Street.

3. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Sanders, moved that the following reports be received: Report of Standing Committees: Working Session (August 2, 2023). Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)
4. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Sanders, moved that the following Reports of Special Committees be received. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)

Washtenaw County Social Services Board - July 11, 2023

5. Other Reports
 - A. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Sanders, moved that the following reports be received: A report on contracts in the amount of \$25,000 and under from July 26, 2023 through August 29, 2023. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)
 - B. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Sanders, moved that the following reports be received: A report from the Washtenaw County Road Commission on the summary of service requests for the month of July, 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. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Somerville, moved that the Board enter a closed session to discuss a legal opinion issued by Corporation Counsel. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

The Board reconvened from closed session at 9:34pm.

2. First Reading
 - A. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved that a resolution to adopt an ordinance designating the Wild-Frey Farm as a Washtenaw County local Historic District under the jurisdiction of the Washtenaw County Historic District Commission be approved. Voice vote - motion carried.
 - B. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved that a resolution authorizing the County Administrator's signature on the Washtenaw County Health Department's Comprehensive Agreement in the amount of \$18,199,604 for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024 be approved.

Jimena Loveluck, Health Officer, and Jennifer Brassow, Finance Administrator, gave a presentation on the proposed budget for FY23-24.

Comm. Hodge asked Loveluck how to address Maintenance of Effort challenges.

Loveluck said the County should soon consider increasing Maintenance of Effort to be consistent with inflation.

Loveluck stated that ARPA funds are being used by the Health Department to bolster the County's emergency preparedness; structural funding for emergency preparedness remains a challenge.

Comm. Maciejewski asked about the Health Department's immunization efforts moving forward.

Loveluck said that immunization is a core function of the Health Department even if the County isn't providing vaccines directly and instead working with health systems to promote vaccinations.

Voice vote - motion carried with one abstention (Rabhi).

- C. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved that a resolution ratifying the signature of the County Administrator on the subrecipient agreement from the Michigan Public Health Institute to provide support to the Health Department for the ongoing operations of the Health Equity Council Backbone Organization Grant in the amount of \$341,846 for the period of October 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024; amending the budget; authorizing the Administrator to sign and delegate contracts be approved. Voice vote - motion carried.
- D. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved that a resolution approving the Washtenaw County Community Mental Health 2023/2024 annual operating budget in the amount of \$124,199,595 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 be approved.

Comm. LaBarre thanked CMH staff for preparing this year's budget.

Nicole Phelps, CMH Finance Director, gave a presentation on 23/24 Washtenaw County Community Mental Health operating budget.

Comm. Maciejewski noted that the number of available hospital beds in Washtenaw County is expected to continue to decrease and asked how that impacts CMH's work.

CMH staff said that they will have to send more individuals to out-of-County health networks.

Comm. Maciejewski to expand on Community Living Supports offered by CMH.

CMH staff said that CLS involves direct care and support primarily for individuals with intellectual developmental disabilities; noted that CLS services provide an alternative to institutionalized care.

Comm. Rabhi asked about reimbursement rates from the federal government and whether those rates vary according to who is providing the service.

CMH staff said rates do not vary and that reimbursements are disbursed on a per-capita basis.

Comm. Rabhi asked about the potential for a hospital operated by the County.

CMH staff said they are considering a youth-focused health center operated by the County.

Comm. Scott asked about the out-of-County areas which patients are being sent to.

Phelps said that CMH tries to stay within Southeast Michigan but that they are ultimately forced to send individuals wherever there are available beds.

Voice vote - motion carried.

- E. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved that the A Resolution Ratifying the Signature of the County Administrator on the Application to the State of Michigan, Michigan Department of Corrections/ Office of Community Corrections, and the Washtenaw County/City of Ann Arbor Community Corrections Board for the FY 2023/24 Washtenaw County/ City of Ann Arbor Community Corrections Comprehensive Plan in the Amount of \$2,434,970 for the Period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 be approved.

Comm. Rabhi asked why the general fund is the source of funding in this resolution in light of the Sheriff's ability to maintain surplus funds at the end of the year.

Comm. Hodge said that certain critical aspects of the program demanded additional funding and this resolution put the Board on track to provide that funding.

Comm. Somerville said that the allocation prevents additional individuals from being jailed and saves the County money.

Comm. LaBarre said that the program was moved to the Sheriff's Office years ago; noted that the Board needs to consider if the program is housed appropriately.

Administrator Dill indicated a desire to have a more in-depth conversation regarding the program's future.

Comm. Scott stated that it is important that the Board determine an appropriate department to administer this program.

Renee Casey, Community Corrections Program, clarified that the program has a separate budget from the Sheriff's Office.

Voice vote - motion carried.

- F. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved that a resolution to create 2.0 FTE American Rescue Plan Act Supported Positions to Support the Mobile Support Services Initiative through December 31, 2024 from Administration be approved.

Comm. Rabhi asked about the Mobile Support Services Initiative.

Brady Peck, Director of Operations, said that the MSSI will involve an RV which will provide services in areas where the County lacks the infrastructure to effectively administer services.

Voice vote - motion carried.

- G. Comm. Scott, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved that a resolution authorizing the recategorization of Community Priority Fund resources and the creation of a Grants Manager position from Administration be approved. Voice vote - motion carried.

H. **Comm. Hodge moved this item to Single Reading.**

23-152 Comm. Maciejewski, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a Resolution to Approve a Letter of Understanding with AFSCME Local 3052 Regarding Compensation for 2022 and 2023 from Corporation Counsel be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

3. Single Reading

- A. **23-149** Comm. Maciejewski, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a Resolution to Recategorize American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds in the Amount of \$8,730,144 as Lost Revenue from Finance be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.
- B. **23-150** Comm. Maciejewski, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a resolution authorizing an exemption to the County's Living Wage Ordinance for certain Community Mental Health Service Providers from Administration be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 8 NAYS 1 (Rabhi) ABSENT 0. Motion carried.
- C. **23-151** Comm. Maciejewski, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved that a Resolution to Recognize the Rededication Ceremony at Oakwood Cemetary Commemorating the Service of Continental Army Service Members Archibald Armstrong and Samuel Waldron be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Claims

- A. **23-153** Comm. Maciejewski, 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 August 28, 2023 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

X. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator Dill introduced Andrew DeLeeuw as Deputy County Administrator.

XI. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

None.

XII. ITEMS FOR CURRENT/FUTURE DISCUSSION

None.

XIII. PENDING

None.

XIV. ADJOURN TO NEXT SESSION

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:04 PM.

Justin Hodge, Chair of
the Board of
Commissioners

Lawrence
Kestenbaum,
Clerk/Register

By: Bryce Allmacher, Deputy Clerk
Board Approved: September 20, 2023