



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 4, 2023

WORKING SESSION

I. ROLL CALL

A Working Session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners was held at the Administration Building, in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on October 4, 2023.

The meeting was called to order at 05:30 PM by Comm. Somerville, Chair of the Working Session.

Members Present:	Comms. Shannon Beeman, Justin Hodge, Andy LaBarre, Crystal Lyte, Jason Maciejewski, Caroline Sanders, Katie Scott, Annie Somerville
Members Absent:	Comm. Yousef Rabhi
Others Present	Greg Dill, County Administrator (attending virtually); Andrew DeLeeuw, Deputy County Administrator; Michelle Billard, Corporation Counsel; Tina Gavalier & Catherine Jones-Alther, Finance; Akintunde Oluwadare & Camellia Khorrami, Racial Equity Office; Alex Waterhouse, Marie Pfeifer, Benjamin Hourani, & Rachel Rosenberg, Finance; Jason Fee, Facilities Management; Crystal Campbell, Public Information Officer; Lawrence Kestenbaum, Washtenaw County Clerk; Brady Peck, Director of Operations; Terrence Williams, Administration; Guillermo Hernandez, Director of Human Resources; Jeff Rose, ITS; Ashley Hall, BOC Communications and Operations Manager; Bryce Allmacher, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Bill O'Reilly spoke in support of the resolution to fund senior services which was tabled at the September 20th Board of Commissioners meeting.

Ryan Hunter spoke about Jewish Family Services' relationship with the Board.

III. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator Dill thanked the County ITS team for making his participation from Austin, TX possible.

Administrator Dill gave a brief overview of the budget review process.

IV. REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LIAISON

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Catherine Jones-Alter, Deputy Finance Officer, gave a presentation on the 2024-2027 recommended budget.

Jones-Alter gave a brief overview of the quadrennial budget cycle and the program-based budgeting roadmap.

Jones-Alter reported that the total recommended budget in 2024 is approximately \$146.8 million.

Jones-Alter gave an overview of recommended adjustments to general fund revenues and expenditures.

Jones-Alter gave a brief overview of the recommendations for ARPA funds which were previously reserved for internal government services.

Comm. Hodge asked Jones-Alter to speak about the process of developing these recommendations.

Jones-Alter said that each department was represented on the Budget Task Force which allowed for a more complete view of the entire organization.

Comm. Maciejewski asked about the balance of the risk fund in relation to the allocation recommended in this budget.

Tina Gavlier, Chief Financial Officer, stated that internal government services could be maintained for 60 days with a risk fund balance of \$783,000. (FIX)

Jones-Alter said that the goal with the risk fund is to one day be able to support at least 60 days of operations using the fund. (FIX)

Comm. LaBarre asked about the gap between the County's actual financial reserves and the amount of reserves that County policy stipulates the organization should maintain.

Comm. Scott asked about the recommendation to hire a Labor Relations attorney in light of the newly approved contract for Corporation Counsel, which stipulates that Corp. Counsel will maintain certain duties pertaining to labor relations.

Michelle Billard, Corporation Counsel, stated that the County's Labor Relations team requires additional support due to a lack of institutional knowledge within the organization. Billard said that the County also makes significant expenditures on outside Counsel for labor relations support and that this hire should help to reduce those costs. Billard stated that she will continue to be involved in labor relations.

Jones-Alter gave a breakdown of the County's recommended health and human services budget.

Comm. LaBarre asked to see a report indicating how much the of the general fund allocation to CMH is used towards maintenance of effort.

Jones-Alther gave a breakdown of general fund allocations to public safety and justice.

Comm. Hodge thanked the budget team for the detailed breakdown of public safety allocations; noted that a large portion of funds earmarked for public safety go towards non-police services.

Jones-Alther reported on the BOC budget adjustment request process.

VI. ITEMS FOR CURRENT/FUTURE DISCUSSION

VII. ADJOURN TO NEXT SESSION

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

The meeting adjourned at 06:37 PM.

Annie Somerville, Chair of the Working Session
Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Bryce Allmacher, Deputy Clerk

Board Approved: October 18, 2023