



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 10, 2024

WORKING SESSION

I. 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 July 10, 2024.

The meeting was called to order at 05:36 PM by Comm. Somerville

Members Present: Comms. Shannon Beeman, Justin Hodge, Andy LaBarre, Crystal Lyte, Jason Maciejewski (5:41), Yousef Rabhi, Caroline Sanders, Katie Scott, Annie Somerville

Members Absent: None.

Others Present Greg Dill, County Administrator; Andrew DeLeeuw, Deputy County Administrator; Michelle Billard, Corporation Counsel; Tina Gavalier & Catherine Jones-Alther, Finance; Guillermo Hernandez, Director of Human Resources; Brady Peck, Director of Operations; Terrence Williams, Administration; Jeff Rose, ITS; Ashley Hall, BOC Communications and Operations Manager; Ashlyn Poole, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

III. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

None.

IV. REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LIAISON

None.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A.

Phil Santer, Senior Vice President of Ann Arbor SPARK provided an overview of SPARK, its mission, goals, strategic plan, and its work with Washtenaw County residents. SVP Santer also spoke about partnerships with Washtenaw Community College and their Child Care Coalition program that helps Livingston and Washtenaw counties.

Comm. Hodge commended Ann Arbor SPARK for all the work that they do.

Comm. LaBarre asked what questions the Board should be asking about childcare and asked for suggestions on future partnerships.

SVP explained that the BOC could ask people with children what their experiences have been with cost and availability and to ask businesses in the area if childcare has been a barrier to growth.

Comm. Beeman asked how the county could help to get more women into S.T.E.M. programs.

SVP gave his thoughts on addressing these issues.

Paul Krutko, the President and CEO of Ann Arbor SPARK spoke more about SPARK's goals with private sector partners and the challenges that they still face with the availability of ARPA funds.

Comm. Sanders asked for a breakdown of the demographics of the people that SPARK serves.

SVP Santer indicated that that data was available, and they would be happy to share it with the Board.

Comm. Sanders also inquired how Ann Arbor SPARK evaluates the services that they provide to the people that they have served and inquired about the availability of survey data.

Santer explained that they gather feedback from partners, and they would be open to sharing that information as well.

- B. Crystal Campbell, Public Information Officer, reported on the \$72M in American Rescue Plan Act funds that Washtenaw County received. There was a presentation on the funds at the working session meeting in January. Crystal explained that all the funds must be obligated (contract executed, memorandum of understanding, or interagency agreements) by December 31, 2024. Previous guidelines from the U.S. Department of Treasury said that those dollars had to be spent before December 2024.

Campbell shared the targeted areas of impact, according to the United States Department of Treasury.

ARPA Update Presentation:

- Overview
- Success Stories
- Actions
- Budget Breakdown
 - Internal Spending: \$42M
 - External Spending: \$31M
- Next Steps
- Questions

Campbell also supplied some key points and deadlines. Infrastructure project dollars and ARPA Administration dollars must be fully expended by December 2026. She gave updates on reallocation items that would be on the agenda for the Board's consideration.

Comm. LaBarre asked about 360 evaluations and if regulations were complied with and if there were any permanent impacts. He also asked for clarification on who would be involved in the decision-making process for continuation of programs after ARPA dollars

were all expended. He expressed the desire for the integration of ARPA funded programs and programs that were in place before the funds. Campbell clarified that the University of Michigan team was conducting an evaluation. She also stated that they will consult with many different stakeholders to get input on the continuation plan.

Comm. Scott asked for clarification on the figures provided by Crystal Campbell regarding internal and external funds as some projects and funds were included in both internal and external,. Campbell ensured that she would do a comprehensive review of the information that was provided and have the information requested by the end of the night.

Comm. Rabhi shared the concerns of Commissioner Scott and expressed some concerns about why Crystal was presenting the information.

The County Administrator stated that he asked Crystal Campbell to present the information and assured the board that there was an entire team working on the accuracy of the figures related to ARPA funds.

Comm. Rabhi asked if they knew what the total dollar amount was of all the investments that the Board made.

Comm. Somerville suggested that the numbers be updated by the end of the night so they could discuss the updated figures.

Comm. Rabhi thanked Campbell for her work in other working sessions.

VI. ITEMS FOR CURRENT/FUTURE DISCUSSION

None.

VII. ADJOURN TO NEXT SESSION

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

The meeting adjourned at 06:45 PM.

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

By: Ashlyn Poole, Deputy Clerk
Board Approved: August 7, 2024