

**MINUTES OF THE
BUDGET COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006

At a meeting of the **Budget Committee**, held Tuesday, March 21, 2006, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mt. Clemens, the following members were present:

Crouchman-Chairman, Brandenburg, Brdak, Brown, DeSaele, DiMaria, Doherty, Duzyj, Flynn, Gieleghem, Kennard, Lund, McCarthy, Mijac, Rengert, Revoir, Rocca, Sauger, Slinde, Switalski, Szczepanski, Vosburg and White.

Absent and excused were Gibson, Haggerty and Hill.

Also Present:

David Diegel, Director, Finance Department
John Foster, Assistant Director, Finance Department
George Brumbaugh, Director, Corporation Counsel
John Anderson, Director, Risk Management and Safety Department
Chief Circuit Court Judge Antonio Viviano
Circuit Court Judge James Biernat
Circuit Court Judge Richard Caretti
Circuit Court Judge Mary Chrzanowski
Circuit Court Judge Edward Servitto
Patricia McKay, General Counsel to the Circuit Court
Rhonda Deriemaecker, Director of Board Services
Phil Frame, Director, Office of Public Affairs
Josephine Savalle-Dunn, Administrator, Martha T. Berry
Stephen Cassin, Executive Director, Planning and Economic Development Dept.
Donald Morandini, Deputy Director, Planning and Economic Development Dept.
Cynthia Zerkowski, Director, Information Technology Department
James Langtry, Prosecuting Attorney's Office
Anthony Casasanta, Administrator, County Park
Keith Beasley, Court Administrator
Gerald Alsip, Administrator, Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court
Thomas Blohm, Friend of the Court
Charles Seidelman, Director, Juvenile Justice Center
Chad Selweski, Reporter, The Macomb Daily
Steve Neavling, Reporter, The Detroit Free Press
Jim Lynch, Reporter, The Detroit News

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chairman Crouchman called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

MOTION

A motion was made by Brandenburg, supported by McCarthy, to adopt the agenda, as amended (to include items #6A(a) through (c)). **The Motion Carried.**

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by Vosburg, supported by Revoir, to approve the January 24, 2006 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Kathleen Swantek, Blue Water Development Housing, 1600 Gratiot, Marysville

Ms. Swantek represents the Provider Alliance of Macomb County. She expressed concern regarding the ordinance for the living wage. She felt it needs to be reduced or modified and stated her proposed options.

Karen Harris, Director, Integrated Living, 42452 Hayes Road, Suite 2A, Clinton Township

Ms. Harris is part of the Macomb County coalition that Ms. Swantek just spoke about. Their huge concern is the funding issue. They cannot absorb the living wage in their budget.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING OF 03-13-06

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RENGERT, SUPPORTED BY McCARTHY, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:

PURCHASE OF TWO PATROL DOGS FOR TRACKING/NARCOTIC DETECTION INCLUDING HANDLER ACADEMY AND ONE K9 VEHICLE AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT. FUNDING TO BE PROVIDED BY COMET (COUNTY OF MACOMB ENFORCEMENT TEAM) FROM THEIR DRUG FORFEITURE FUNDS, NOT TO EXCEED \$55,000;

PURCHASE OF 10 TASER “LESS THAN LETHAL” DEVICES AT A COST OF \$14,073.39 TO BE DEPLOYED TO SUPERVISORS AT THE MACOMB COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE. THE TASER DEVICES HAVE BEEN RESEARCHED IN COLLABORATION WITH RISK MANAGEMENT. FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT APPROPRIATION; AND

DISBURSEMENT OF WIRELESS E-911 FUNDS PURSUANT TO MACOMB COUNTY'S AMENDED 911 PLAN PER SCHEDULE B (ATTACHED) UTILIZING POPULATION FIGURES SUPPLIED BY SEMCOG.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF 03-16-06

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY REVOIR, SUPPORTED BY SWITALSKI, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:

PAYMENT OF \$25,000 TO CLINTON TOWNSHIP FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS: LAKE/RIVER FUND FOR ILLICIT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION PROGRAM (IDEP) ACTIVITIES AS APPROVED MAY 13, 2004;

PAYMENT OF \$5,619.36 TO CLINTON TOWNSHIP FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS: LAKE/RIVER FUND FOR LOG JAM REMOVAL AS APPROVED MAY 19, 2005; AND

2006 WEST NILE VIRUS COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE FUND AND ALLOCATION SCHEDULE AT THE CONTINUATION LEVEL OF \$250,000.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

REVIEW OF COUNTY LIBRARY (referral from 2/15/06 Budget Committee meeting)

Contained within committee packets was an extensive Library report that was prepared by Ms. Darlene LaBelle, Director, Macomb County Library, outlining potential savings if the Library's hours were reduced. The report also addressed specific questions that several Commissioners had asked at the February 15, 2006 Budget Committee meeting. It was noted that Ms. LaBelle was unable to attend today's committee meeting and that Commissioner Switalski agreed to answer any questions on Ms. LaBelle's behalf.

MOTION

A motion was made by Switalski, supported by Doherty, to receive and file the information provided by the Finance Department regarding the Macomb County Library Department.

Commissioner Szczepanski wanted to bring this agenda item back next month, since no one was in attendance from the County Library.

MOTION

A motion was made by Lund, supported by DeSaele, to **postpone** this agenda item until

next month. **The Motion Carried** with Flynn voting “No.”

RECEIVE AND FILE 5-YEAR HISTORY OF OVERTIME (from 2/15/06 Budget Committee meeting)

Contained within committee packets was a five-year history of overtime hours and overtime dollars for the top five departments. The departments listed were as follows: Facilities & Operations, Information Technology, Juvenile Justice Center, Martha T. Berry, and Sheriff.

MOTION

A motion was made by Slinde, supported by Revoir, to receive and file the information provided by the Finance Department regarding the five-year history of overtime usage for the top five departments.

A lengthy discussion ensued with Mr. Diegel regarding the 24/7 operations in the County; the concern that most of the overtime relates to the Sheriff’s Department; the possibility of doing a space and time study in relation to jail operations; the need to address overtime and curtail it; providing a summary of all line items such as total personnel and total overtime and possibly publishing that in the budget; the possibility of offering comp time instead of paying overtime.

After further discussion, Commissioners requested that Mr. Diegel provide a further breakdown of overtime at the Sheriff’s Department. Commissioner Lund asked Mr. Diegel to also bring back the use of sick and vacation days.

Commissioner Slinde offered a **substitute motion**; it was supported by Commissioner Lund. The motion reads as follows:

MOTION

A motion was made by Slinde, supported by Lund, to bring this agenda item back next month with the understanding that a report will be provided from the Finance Department. **The Motion Carried.**

REVIEW OF LAW LIBRARY (postponed from 2/15/06 Budget Committee meeting)

Contained within committee packets was a memorandum dated March 14, 2006 from Ms. Patricia McKay, General Counsel, which addressed the 2006 Law Library Budget – Reduced Expenditures, that had attached to it a listing of a core collection of Michigan legal books for the Circuit Court’s legal research staff. Other listings included: Eliminate books which duplicate collection at the Macomb County Library; Transfer federal collection to Macomb County Library or eliminate; Eliminate ancillary collection.

Also contained within committee packets was a memorandum dated March 14, 2006 from Ms. McKay, which addressed the 2006 Judicial Libraries Budget – Reduced Expenditures, that had attached to it a listing of titles to cancel from judicial libraries.

A lengthy discussion ensued with Mr. Beasley and Ms. McKay regarding their proposal. It was noted this proposal would cut the Law Library budget to \$40,000; the current budget is \$112,500.

Commissioners discussed whether they want to restrict public access to the Law Library in the Court Building and transfer the materials to the County Library on Hall Road. If that happened, then at what level. It was noted that Mr. Beasley would have to address the savings and would need to come back before this committee. Several questions were directed to Mr. Beasley, in which he answered those inquiries. Mr. Beasley was directed to supply additional information that was requested, so it could be reviewed at next month's committee meeting.

Commissioner DeSaele suggested dedicating a computer in the library, so the public would be able to look at court references.

After further discussion, the following action was taken:

MOTION

A motion was made by Vosburg, supported by Doherty, to **refer** this agenda item to April's Budget Committee meeting and to request that the Court, Finance, and Library departments review this recommendation and come back before this committee with a recommendation. **The Motion Carried.**

REVIEW FUNDING OF ADDITIONAL CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, EFFECTIVE 01-01-07

On March 13, 2006, the Justice and Public Safety Committee recommended the addition of a new Circuit Court Judge effective January 1, 2007. The resolution that was provided in committee packets offered the sources to fund a new judge via increases in Court revenue and expenditure reductions as well as the reasons for creation of a new Circuit Court judgeship in 2007 which were provided in supporting letters and proposal for a new judge.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SZCZEPANSKI, SUPPORTED BY McCARTHY, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONCUR WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF CHIEF JUDGE ANTONIO VIVIANO AND APPROVE FUNDING OF THE MACOMB COUNTY EXPENSES FOR THE ADDITIONAL CIRCUIT JUDGE TO THE MACOMB COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2007, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE AND CONTAINED IN JUDGE VIVIANO'S MARCH 14, 2006 MEMORANDUM TO THE BUDGET COMMITTEE. THIS ACTION IS PENDING FINAL STATE APPROVAL OF STATE FUNDING FOR THE JUDGE.

Commissioner Doherty wanted Judge Viviano to track the purposes of using a visiting judge. She wanted to make sure the resources that are being used are being used appropriately.

Chairman Crouchman called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVE CIRCUIT COURT SUMMER PROGRAM – LAW CLERKS

Judge Viviano presented his proposal.

Commissioner DiMaria asked for a list of previous law students that have been used.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RENGERT, SUPPORTED BY SAUGER, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE HIRING UP TO 12 LAW STUDENTS TO WORK FOR THE MACOMB COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES DURING THE SUMMER OF 2006 AND APPROPRIATE \$25,920 IN FUNDING FOR THIS PURPOSE. **THE MOTION CARRIED WITH BRDAK, BROWN, DiMARIA AND GIELEGHEM VOTING “NO.”**

CONTRACT WITH MAXIMUS TO PERFORM A FULL COST ALLOCATION PLAN AND USER FEE ANALYSIS FOR THE DEPARTMENTS OF HEALTH, PLANNING, SHERIFF, CLERK AND REGISTER OF DEEDS

Mr. Diegel provided an overview of this request.

After a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

MOTION

A motion was made by Doherty, supported by Gieleghem, to put this item out to bid and bring it back before this committee. **The Motion Carried.**

3% REDUCTION RECOMMENDATION – JUVENILE COURT

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOHERTY, SUPPORTED BY SLINDE, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IMPLEMENT THE 3% REDUCTION IN THE 2006 JUVENILE DIVISION OF THE CIRCUIT COURT TRANSFERRING THREE POSITIONS, 2 PROBATION OFFICERS AND ONE THERAPIST POSITION, FROM THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO THE CHILD CARE BUDGET AND RECEIVING 50% REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE STATE CHILD CARE FUNDING. THESE CHANGES HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE STATE IN THE 2006 CHILD CARE BUDGET. THE COUNTY IS STILL AWAITING APPROVAL FROM THE STATE ON TRANSFERRING THE PSYCHOLOGIST POSITION TO THE CHILD CARE FUND. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

3% REDUCTION RECOMMENDATION – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Zerkowski was called upon to answer specific questions relating to her 3% reduction recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BRANDENBURG, SUPPORTED BY McCARTHY, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IMPLEMENT THE 3% REDUCTION IN THE 2006 BUDGET AS PRESENTED BY THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) DIRECTOR. FURTHER, TO CORRECT THE IT INTERNAL SERVICES ALLOCATIONS. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE OUTLINED IN THE IT DIRECTOR'S MEMO DATED MARCH 13, 2006.

Chairman Crouchman stepped down from the Chair at 10:50 a.m.

Vice Chairman Revoir took the Chair.

Commissioner Brandenburg requested a report on which departments are over and which one's are under in cell phone minutes, when the contracts will be expiring, and what kind of revenue savings the County will achieve.

Vice Chairman Revoir called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Chairman Crouchman took Chair at 10:55 a.m.

3% REDUCTION RECOMMENDATION – MSU EXTENSION SERVICES

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY VOSBURG, SUPPORTED BY FLYNN, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IMPLEMENT THE 3% REDUCTION IN THE 2006 BUDGET AS PRESENTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF MSU EXTENSION SERVICES. THIS REDUCTION ELIMINATES .9 POSITIONS FROM THE MSU EXTENSION SERVICES BUDGET; .7 PART-TIME EDUCATOR – FOOD SAFETY/NUTRITION AND A .2 PART-TIME EDUCATOR-MENTOR. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE OUTLINED IN THE MSU EXTENSION SERVICES DIRECTOR'S MEMO DATED JANUARY 10, 2006. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

IMPLEMENT REMAINDER OF 3% REDUCTION RECOMMENDATION – PLANNING DEPARTMENT

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY VOSBURG, SUPPORTED BY SWITALSKI, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IMPLEMENT THE REMAINDER OF THE 3% REDUCTION, \$50,000 TRANSFER FROM THE CDBG PROGRAM, IN THE 2006 PLANNING DEPARTMENT AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMO FROM THE EXECUTIVE

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING DATED JANUARY 10, 2006.

Commissioner Kennard said she was having a hard time supporting this until funds are in place for the Homeless Coordinator. She distributed a letter from Mrs. Clara Ryan who is a member of the MCCSA Advisory Committee. Mrs. Ryan's family had fallen on hard times and because of the help she received, she is now contributing.

After further discussion, the following action was taken:

MOTION

A motion was made by Flynn, supported by Kennard, to **postpone** this agenda item, until the Board has it legally in writing to fund \$50,000 for the Macomb County Homeless Coordinator position.

A lengthy discussion ensued with Mr. Cassin about this particular use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds; the amount of homeless in Macomb County; CDBG funds and allocations that go to the 21 communities. Mr. Cassin noted the \$25,000 they have been taking out for the Homeless Coordinator position, they have been absorbing out of the administrative side, which is actually part of the cost of running the program that the department and the County is allowed to take. Commissioners questioned how much the other five communities give to the homeless.

Commissioner Rengert thought the funding issue of the Homeless Coordinator belonged back at the Community Services Committee, so they could discuss a possible means to fund the position.

After further discussion, **Commissioner Flynn withdrew her postponement motion**, only if the Board can get something drawn up to keep the Homeless Coordinator so this does not have to be done every year. She expressed concern that the other five communities, like Warren, Sterling Heights, and Roseville give money to the Coalition, and the Coalition in turn gives money to MCREST, to Turning Point, and to all these other charities, but they do not give money to fund the Homeless Coordinator. **Commissioner Kennard withdrew her support.**

Chairman Crouchman called for a vote on the **main motion** and **THE MOTION CARRIED WITH FLYNN VOTING "NO."**

3% REDUCTION RECOMMENDATION – FRIEND OF THE COURT

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BRANDENBURG, SUPPORTED BY SAUGER, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IMPLEMENT THE 3% REDUCTION IN THE 2006 BUDGET AS PRESENTED BY THE FRIEND OF THE COURT. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE OUTLINED IN THE FRIEND OF THE COURT'S MEMO DATED JANUARY 9, 2006. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

3% REDUCTION RECOMMENDATION – MARTHA T. BERRY

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DiMARIA, SUPPORTED BY SAUGER, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IMPLEMENT THE 3% REDUCTION IN THE 2006 BUDGET PER THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE 1-B AS PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARTHA T. BERRY. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

3% REDUCTION RECOMMENDATION – PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SAUGER, SUPPORTED BY DiMARIA, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IMPLEMENT THE 3% REDUCTION IN THE 2006 PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET AS OUTLINED IN THE FEBRUARY 9, 2006 MEMO FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION AND CONTAINED ON SCHEDULE 1-B.

Commissioner Brandenburg inquired if the Board received allocations from Hillside for the facility there. Mr. Casasanta said they are still in arrears.

Chairman Crouchman called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

RECEIVE AND FILE 2006 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT UPDATE

MOTION

A motion was made by Doherty, supported by Brdak, to receive and file the 2006 Contingency Account Update. **The Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Rocca announced that on Friday, March 31st, the Official Medicare Rx Bus Tour is coming to Freedom Hill. A flyer was placed in the Board Office and all Commissioners are invited to attend.

Commissioner Vosburg requested that an agenda item be placed on next month's committee meeting agenda as to the Retirees bonus, a/k/a the 13th check. She recalled there was interest in perhaps reducing that and if there is a reduction these individuals can be notified.

Commissioner Vosburg announced that the Shelby Township Optimist Club will be hosting a delegation of business owners from Russia who will be here for three weeks to learn about our culture and business. The Macomb County Planning and Economic Development (PED) Department is hosting this delegation on Monday, March 27th. Commissioners are

invited to attend the reception. For further information, call the PED Department.

Commissioner Szczepanski thought that the two individuals who spoke under Public Participation were under the assumption they have to absorb these costs now. The current contracts are good until they expire and then they will have to factor in costs. Mr. Diegel assumed they knew that. He assumed Community Mental Health has been having ongoing discussions with the providers.

Commissioner Doherty asked that all Commissioners keep the information supplied in today's committee packets pertaining to the County Library, because of the large volume of information that was supplied. Therefore, it would not be necessary to recopy it for next month's meeting.

Chairman Crouchman announced that on March 29th, there will be a Budget Committee meeting.

Commissioner Flynn inquired about the funding for the Homeless Coordinator. Chairman Crouchman thought she should speak to the Chair of Community Services Committee and possibly that item could be waived to this committee.

Commissioner Rengert advised Commissioners that he contacted Sheriff Hackel after the Justice and Public Safety Committee meeting about the RFP for the DVR Project. If there are any recommendations, he will waive it to this committee.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

A motion was made by Revoir, supported by Brandenburg, to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 a.m. **The Motion Carried.**

**Denise M. Jacks
Committee Reporter**