

**MINUTES OF THE
FINANCE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006**

At a meeting of the **Finance Committee**, held Wednesday, April 12, 2006, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mt. Clemens, the following members were present:

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

Absent and excused were Brandenburg, Haggerty and Hill.

Also Present:

David Diegel, Director, Finance Department
John Foster, Assistant Director, Finance Department
George Brumbaugh, Director, Corporation Counsel
Frank Krycia, Assistant Corporation Counsel
Jim Meyerend, Assistant Corporation Counsel
Jill Smith, Assistant Corporation Counsel
John Anderson, Director, Risk Management & Safety Department
Lynn Arnott-Bryks, Director, Facilities & Operations Department
Rhonda Deriemaecker, Director of Board Services
Phil Frame, Director, Office of Public Affairs
Dan Dirks, Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation
Fred Barbret, Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation
Jim Lynch, Reporter, The Detroit News
Chad Selweski, Reporter, The Macomb Daily

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Slinde called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

MOTION

A motion was made by McCarthy, supported by Rengert, to adopt the agenda, as amended (to include #6a and three additional travel requests). **The Motion Carried.**

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by Szczepanski, supported by Duzyj, to approve the February 16, 2006 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

LIST OF BILLS AS PREPARED BY THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION - MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DUZYJ, SUPPORTED BY REVOIR, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE MONTHLY BILLS (WITH CORRECTIONS, DELETIONS AND/OR ADDENDA) AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT; FURTHER, TO APPROVE THE PAYROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,110,105.97, WITH NECESSARY MODIFICATIONS TO THE APPROPRIATIONS. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

PAYMENT OF INVOICE (WAIVED BY OPERATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SZCZEPANSKI, SUPPORTED BY RENGERT, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE PAYMENT TO PROJECT CONTROL SYSTEMS, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$132,455.91 FOR SERVICES PERFORMED FOR THE NEW PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING (APPLICATION NO. 11); FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

AGREEMENT FOR TITLE COMMITMENTS (TAX REVERSION PROJECT)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOHERTY, SUPPORTED BY SZCZEPANSKI, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE AGREEMENT FOR TITLE COMMITMENTS (TAX REVERSION PROJECT). **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

ADOPT SECOND AMENDMENT TO BOND RESOLUTION FOR COUNTY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY VOSBURG, SUPPORTED BY RENGERT, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPT A BOND RESOLUTION (SECOND AMENDMENT) FOR THE COUNTY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

ADOPT RESOLUTION CALLING FOR MILLAGE ELECTION FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOHERTY, SUPPORTED BY SWITALSKI, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPT A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A MILLAGE ELECTION FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.

Commissioner DeSaele asked Mr. Dirks to look into the possibility of putting this on the general election ballot rather than the primary. Mr. Dirks explained the reason they do this in August, but indicated he would try and work with the legislators to change Public Act 196.

Commissioner Doherty thanked Mr. Dirks and Mr. Barbret for working with the County regarding the transportation of veterans to the V.A. Hospital. She also expressed her appreciation that this is just a renewal and not a new tax.

Chair Slinde called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ROCCA AND SZCZEPANSKI VOTING “NO.”**

ADOPT RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING ST. VERONICA CHURCH – 80TH ANNIVERSARY (OFFERED BY DiMARIA)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DiMARIA, SUPPORTED BY McCARTHY, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPT A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING ST. VERONICA CHURCH – 80TH ANNIVERSARY. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

TRAVEL REQUESTS

MOTION

A motion was made by Doherty, supported by Gibson, to approve the travel requests as submitted.

Commissioner Doherty said she checked some of the airfares online and was able to get reduced prices for some. She urged those who are submitting requests to make sure they are getting the best price.

Mr. Foster indicated that many times the price changes between the time that the employee fills out the form and the tickets are purchased. He also noted that many employees do not book their flight until their request is approved.

Commissioner Flynn felt that each department should be able to make their own reservations and that would eliminate the charges by the travel agent.

Chair Slinde called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

Commissioner Brown asked that public participation be moved up before the executive session. There were no objections.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Doug Martz, Chairman, Macomb County Water Quality Board

Mr. Martz referred to the Prosecutor's recent decision to transfer Mr. Richardson, the Environmental Prosecutor assigned to the Water Quality Unit, to another position and said the Water Quality Board has expressed its concern. He said the members are requesting that the Board assure that the position of full-time Environmental Prosecutor be retained and filled by an individual with credentials in environmental law.

Eric Douglas, 38671 Byriver, Clinton Township

Mr. Douglas also spoke against the transfer of the Environmental Prosecutor.

Larry Grupido, 6601 Donnybrook Drive, Shelby Township

Mr. Grupido spoke against the proposed expansion of the landfill in Lenox Township and urged this Board to not grant permits to enlarge the landfill and increase tonnage fees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION

MOTION

A motion was made by Revoir, supported by Szczepanski, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Voting Yes were Brdak, Brown, Crouchman, DeSaele, DiMaria, Doherty, Duzyj, Flynn, Gibson, Gielegem, Kennard, Lund, McCarthy, Mijac, Rengert, Revoir, Rocca, Sauger, Switalski, Szczepanski, Vosburg, White and Slinde. There were 23 "Yes" votes.

The Motion Carried.

In accordance with the motion, committee entered Executive Session at 9:55 a.m., with it concluding at 11:25 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION

A motion was made by Doherty, supported by Szczepanski, to suspend the rules to add an action item to restrict the duties of the Parks and Recreation Commission from all information and action related to Hillside Productions or the Freedom Hill Amphitheater and direct that information to the Board of Commissioners' Finance Committee under Executive Session.

Mr. Brumbaugh stated that it cannot be done in Executive Session.

Commissioner Doherty withdrew that part from her motion.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Voting Yes were Doherty, Kennard, Mijac, Rengert and Szczepanski. There were 5 "Yes" votes.

Voting No were Brdak, Brown, Crouchman, DeSaele, Duzyj, Flynn, Gibson, Gielegem, Lund, McCarthy, Revoir, Rocca, Sauger, Switalski, Vosburg, White, DiMaria and Slinde. There were 18 "No" votes.

The Motion was Defeated.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by McCarthy, to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 a.m. **The Motion Carried.**

Corinne Bedard
Committee Reporter