

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022

9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Joe Brehler, Brian Droscha, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott and Jeanne Pearl-Wright.

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Jeremy Whittum and Barbara Rogers; John Fuentes and Connie Sobie.

The February 11, 2022, regular meeting of the Ways and Means Committee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Mulder.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2022, Ways and Means Committee meeting. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

No Limited Public Comment.

An updated Personnel Policy was provided and discussed (attached). The updated policy included the previously discussed Employee Recruitment and Retention Program. Letters of understanding with the bargaining units have been approved by the units. There was discussion regarding recruitment initiatives related to the visibility of job openings. Discussion held regarding the advertising done by the County for positions. Commissioner Whittum discussed the work the Sheriff does to create partnerships with local colleges, such as Olivet College.

Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval for the amended Personnel Policy, including the Employment Recruitment and Retention Initiative for general employees and letters of understanding with all bargaining units. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The positions update was presented for review (attached). Commissioner Brehler moved to refill the position vacancies as presented. Commissioner Mott seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The December Health Insurance Expenditure report was presented (attached). The report indicates an unfavorable variance of (\$144,193) compared to the budget projection for both the County and Health Department. The County's portion is an unfavorable variance of (\$129,454). The County's active employees' unfavorable variance is (\$191,576) and the retirees' favorable variance is \$62,121. Mr. Fuentes noted this was the first time during the self-insurance program was initiated that the expenditures exceeded the projected budget. This generally implies a larger number or claims which did not reach the stop loss insurance level. This variance does not affect the general fund contribution because there is a reserve in the self-insurance fund that is maintained for this occurrence. Discussion held.

Mr. Fuentes provided an update to the Public Improvement project expense and an update of project schedules (attached). Mr. Fuentes and Mr. Barnett met with representatives from Johnson Controls regarding the guaranteed savings program and components anticipated to be included in the program. One project was the replacement of two chillers in the Courthouse. Johnson Controls advised there is a minimum of a twenty week lead time to acquire the chiller units. This proposed amendment allows Johnson Controls to place the order for the two chillers to be acquired so they are able to be installed during this heating and cooling season. The amendment is a commitment that the chillers will be part of the completed project and contemplated. It does not increase the total budget. Commissioner Augustine moved to approve the addendum to the Performance Contracting Project Development Agreement with Johnson Controls. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget amendments were presented and discussed (attached). Commissioner Brehler moved to recommend approval of the 2021/22 budget amendments to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fuentes prepared a list of the voter approved millages due to this 2022 being an election year and there are two expiring millages, one for the 911 Emergency Dispatch Operation as well as Juvenile Justice (attached). Chairman Mulder indicated part of this discussion is the result of the Friends of the Eaton County Parks discussing a parks and recreation millage at the Public Works and Planning Committee based on public polling commissioned by the organization. Mr. Fuentes explained the County is limited in the availability of placing a millage on the ballot to county-wide elections in August and November of even numbered years, without incurring the cost to administer a county-wide special election. Any consideration for a millage to be included on the August ballot would need to be approved by April based on the current meeting schedule. Discussion held.

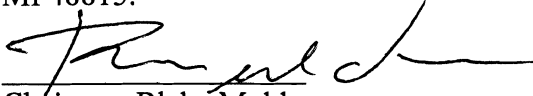
Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the payment of the claims against the County in the amount of \$663,841.14 and immediate claims in the amount of \$7,566,989.17 to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The 2022/2023 Budget Schedule was presented for review. Discussion held. Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the 2022/2023 Budget Schedule as presented, to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

No limited public comment.

Chairperson Mulder adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Way and Means Committee will be held on March 11, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room at the County Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd., Charlotte, MI 48813.


Chairman Blake Mulder