

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2022

9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Brian Droscha (participated virtually).

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Jeremy Whittum and Barbara Rogers; Riley Spayde, Sheriff Tom Reich, Tim Vandermark, John Fuentes and Connie Sobie.

The July 15, 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 Augustine moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2022 Ways and Means Committee meeting. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Riley Spayde, Friends of the Eaton County Parks, was present to express appreciation for the upcoming action on the parks millage ballot proposal.

Sheriff Tom Reich discussed a communication received by a constituent regarding access concerns at the gun range. The Sheriff explained the gun range is on Road Commission property and the range is also used by other police agencies. The Sheriff is recommending the site be fenced and gated to improve access security. The Sheriff will work with the Road Commission to develop a project for consideration.

A resolution to submit for a vote of the electorate for a County Parks and Open Space Millage was presented and discussed (attached). It was reported that the language has been reviewed and recommended by legal counsel. The millage ballot language provides for funding for operations, maintenance, acquisition, improvements and/or development of parks and open spaces within the County. A sample of a parks millage conceptual program was presented and discussed (attached). Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the resolution to submit to a vote of the electorate for a Parks and Open Space Millage to the November 8, 2022 general election to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Brehler seconded. Discussion held. Commissioner Mulder opposed. Motion carried.

A request was presented from the Drain Commissioner for the pledge of the County's Full Faith and Credit for the Woodview Estates Drain Drainage District (attached). Chairman Mulder moved to recommend approval of full faith and credit for Woodview Estates Drain Drainage District in an amount not to exceed

\$735,000 to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Brehler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The positions update was presented and reviewed (attached). Commissioner Augustine moved to refill the vacancies as presented. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The 2021 Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) annual actuarial valuation was presented and discussed (attached). It was reported that the funded ratio increased from 59% to 63% and the unfunded accrued liability was calculated to be approximately \$68 million. Discussion held.

A Municipal Employees' Retirement System resolution to certify the officer and employee delegate for the 2022 Annual Meeting was presented (attached). It was reported that Amy Griffith was elected as the employee delegate and Aaron Gibson as the employee alternate. Commissioner Jeanne Pearl-Wright agreed to attend as the officer delegate. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval of the resolution to certify Aimee Griffith as Employee Delegate, Aaron Gibson as Employee Alternate, Jeanne-Pearl Wright as Officer Delegate for the MERS annual meeting to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried.

The May Health Insurance Expenditure report was presented (attached). The report indicates an unfavorable variance of (\$446,288) compared to the budget projection for both the County and Health Department. The County's portion is an unfavorable variance of (\$392,422). The County's active employees' unfavorable variance is (\$263,021) and the retirees' unfavorable variance is (\$129,401). It was reported that claims are continuing to exceed the estimated budget likely being related to an increase in the number of claims spread out over the larger population of employees resulting in a greater number of claims not reaching stop loss coverage. If the claims continue at this level, a supplemental appropriation may be necessary. There was discussion regarding the appropriation of ARP funds, which will be evaluated for further discussion at the next regular meeting.

An update of the Child Care Fund was presented and discussed (attached). Based on the updated projection of revenues and expenditures the estimated fund balance at September 30, 2022 is \$393,791.

A resolution to approve an application for the Raise the Age Grant was presented (attached). Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the resolution to approve the Raise the Age Grant application. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A resolution to approval an application for Title IV-E Child and Parent Legal Representation Grant. Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the resolution to approve Title IV-E Child and Parent Legal Representation Grant application. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Equalization Director, Tim Vandermark, was present to discuss a proposal to adopt a fee for land division applications related to the processing of property splits and lot line adjustments (attached). The proposal includes a 50% distribution of the applicable fee to the local unit in which the property is located. Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the resolution to adopt an Equalization Land Division Fee to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fuentes provided an update to the status of the current Public Improvement projects (attached). Discussion held.

An update of the American Rescue Plan requests and allocations was presented reviewed (attached). It was reported that the Trial Court has requested to meet with the Resolution Services Center to discuss their request and receive additional information regarding service levels for cases with Eaton County Courts.

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

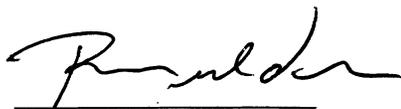
Resolutions to approve applications for Byrne Memorial Justice Grant, Byrne Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Grant and Crime Victims Rights Services Program Grant for the 2023 fiscal year were presented and discussed (attached). Commissioner Brehler moved to recommend approval of the Byrne Memorial Justice Grant, Byrne Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Grant and Crime Victims Rights Services Program Grant resolutions to the Board of Commissioners as a slate, as presented. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the payment of the claims against the County in the amount of \$543,925.69 and immediate claims in the amount of \$8,797,781.73 to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Mott seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

The 2022/2023 updated revenue and expenditure projections were presented and reviewed (attached). The current budget proposal includes a 2% salary scale adjustment for non-represented employees and includes the represented employees' salary increases ranging from 2% to 2.75%, in accordance with the collective bargaining agreements. Budget discussion items were presented for the cost of an additional 1% salary increase for review, the offsetting revenue increases and the expense to include the Sheriff Cadet Program. Discussion held. The Committee requested a multi-year projection that includes the additional 1% salary increase for review at the August meeting.

Chairperson Mulder adjourned the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Way and Means Committee will be held on August 12, 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