

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2022

9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

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

ALSO PRESENT: Tom Reich, Tim Vandermark, Chad Powers, John Fuentes and Connie Sobie.

The November 10, 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 as presented. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Sheriff Tom Reich was present to request consideration for the creation of a program for cadets within his office. Sheriff Reich explained the need to develop a program that will encourage individuals to join the Sheriff's Office. There was discussion regarding job responsibilities of a cadet. Controller Fuentes indicated this was a previous request through the budget process that required additional information related to the job responsibilities and potential impact on the collective bargaining agreements. The Committee requested the Sheriff provide additional information and clarification for the request to go to the Public Safety Committee in December.

No Public Comment.

Equalization Director Tim Vandermark presented and reviewed the 2022 Apportionment Report. Discussion held. Commissioner Droscha moved to recommend approval of the 2022 Apportionment Report to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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

A Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan Adoption Agreement was presented (attached). Deputy Controller Sobie discussed the plan and gave detailed information regarding the plan and coverage requirements. The County currently has a Section 125 Plan that covers American Fidelity as the Flexible Spending Account administrator and for other employee elected benefits. This updated agreement maintains coverage through American Fidelity, but also adds Advantage Group to provide additional selections for employee elected benefits. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval of the Section 125 Plan to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

The September Health Insurance Expenditure report was presented (attached). The report indicates an unfavorable variance of (\$759,636) compared to the budget projection for both the County and Health Department. The County's portion is an unfavorable variance of (\$660,081). The County's active employees' unfavorable variance is (\$489,420) and the retirees' unfavorable variance is (\$170,661). Based on the County's annual review of its claims and chronic health conditions. Livongo has expanded its services to assist in managing additional chronic conditions. These service are not fee based, but are included in claims based on usage. Along with these services, it was also reported that the County added lifestyle prescription medication, in its most recent renewal, to assist with weight management. These services are elective benefits.

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 \$189,396.

Controller Fuentes provided an update to the status of the 2022/2023 Public Improvement project expenditures (attached). A Request for Proposal for the Raise the Age grant proposal for Youth Facility modification was distributed on November 1, 2022 with a due date of December 8, 2022. Facilities Manager Chad Powers was present to provide an update on the public improvement projects. Mr. Powers indicated the parking structures at the Courthouse are complete with the solar arrays attached. The parking structure at the Health Department is completed and solar arrays will be added. The Courthouse rooftop solar arrays installation is progressing. As part of the Johnson Control's project, the interior lighting is being updated with more efficient lighting. The building management software is being updated to run more efficiently and provide better monitoring for the facility systems. Discussion held.

A resolution to approve an application for extension of the Prosecuting Attorney Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant not to exceed \$135,715 was presented (attached). Commissioner Augustine moved to recommended approval of the CESF grant application extension for the Prosecutor. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

An update of the American Rescue Plan identified uses and allocations was presented (attached). Controller Fuentes noted today is the deadline for the submission of the Requests for Proposal for the broadband project. The proposals will be opened by the Broadband Action Team on Monday, November 14. The intent is to present a recommendation at the December Information Technology and Communications Committee for consideration by the Board of Commissioners.

Budget amendments were presented (attached). Mr. Fuentes provided a detailed explanation of the amendments. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval of the 2021/22 budget amendments, to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Mott seconded. Discussion was held regarding the contract for a Waverly Schools resource officer. Commissioner Brehler moved to amend the motion and move to approve the budget amendments, excluding the amendment for the Waverly Schools resource officer. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval of the budget amendment to increase total expenditures and amend the position allocation list to add (1) deputy sheriff full-time equivalent position to be assigned as a School Resource Officer to Waverly Community Schools. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried. Commissioner Brehler opposed.

Mr. Fuentes presented the list of expiring citizen appointment for the Eaton County Building Authority (attached). Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend the appointment of Treasurer Bob Robinson to the Building Authority to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Controller Fuentes discussed a recommendation to approve the levy of the Parks Millage pending legal advice regarding whether the certification of the election is finalized. Commissioner Droscha moved to consider the Parks Millage levy to be authorized, to the Board of Commissioners, pending legal advice regarding the certification of the election. 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 \$775,196.14 and immediate claims in the amount of \$21,420,206.32 to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Controller Sobie requested approval to fill a new vacancy for an assistant public defender that was just reported by the Public Defender. Commissioner Augustine moved to approve refilling the vacancy for the assistant public defender. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

No Public Comment.

Commissioner Pearl-Wright thanked the Controller's Office for including the cost of fringe benefits on payroll check information.

Chairperson Mulder adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Way and Means Committee will be held on Friday, December 16, 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