

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

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

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Jim Mott, Scott Hansen, Frank Holmes, Mark Mudry; Connie Sobie, Bob Robinson, Ben Dawson, Melissa Ballard, Logan Bailey, and Chad Powers.

The September 15, 2023 meeting of the Ways and Means Committee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Mulder.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Chairperson Mulder requested item #9 Public Improvement Update be moved to after item # 6 Treasurer's Update as well as to remove item #12 Resolution to Extend the Westside Residential Alternative to Prison (WRAP) Agreement. Commissioner Augustine moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to approve the August 11, 2023 minutes. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

No limited public comment.

Treasurer Bob Robinson presented a report of the Foreclosure Stabilization Fund Proceeds Account and provided detail regarding the report. There was discussion held regarding the pending tax foreclosure litigation. Treasurer Robinson provided the most updated status on the pending litigation.

Treasurer Robinson provided an update on the class action lawsuit regarding tax foreclosure. It was found by the United States Supreme Court that all surplus revenue from tax foreclosure sales must be paid back to the previous owners. It was also reported that there are several additional pending suits that may impact tax foreclosure funding. Treasurer Robinson will keep the committee apprised of the status of these pending legal matters.

Treasurer Robinson presented the quarterly investment report and provided an update of the financial activities. Treasurer Robinson indicated that he would present an additional quarterly investment report next month due to the delay in presenting the current update.

Facilities Management Director Chad Powers provided an update on the public improvement projects. Mr. Powers updated the committee on impact to the facilities of the local emergency event on August 24th as well as the cleanup efforts of his staff after the event.

Human Resources Director Ben Dawson presented the positions update. Commissioner Brehler moved to refill the position vacancies as presented. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dawson presented a resolution to approve letters of agreement with unions related to pay treatment around the local and state emergency declaration. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend the approval of the resolution to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

The health insurance report for calendar year 2023 was presented. The report indicates an unfavorable variance of (\$710,074) compared to revenues received. Finance Director Melissa Ballard indicated there is a pending quarterly settlement that should help defray the variance. The Controller's Office will continue to monitor the fund balance. Discussion held.

The Child Care Fund update was presented. Based on the updated projection of revenues and expenditures, the estimated fund balance at September 30, 2023 is \$835,848. Discussion held.

A resolution to approve the Education Services Agreement with Grand Ledge Public Schools and the Eaton County Youth Facility was presented. Commissioner Brehler moved to recommend the contract to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance Director Melissa Ballard presented the projected quarterly financial report for fiscal year 2022/23. Discussion held.

Controller Sobie gave a report on the MMRMA Renewal.

The 2022/23 budget amendments were presented. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend the budget amendments as presented to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Brehler seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

A resolution to approve an intergovernmental agreement with Maple Valley Schools for a School Resource Officer was presented.

A resolution to approve an intergovernmental agreement for police services for Oneida Charter Township was presented.

A resolution to approve an intergovernmental agreement for police services for the Village of Vermontville was presented.

Discussion was held. Commissioner Droscha moved to recommend approval of all three agreements to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Rogers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A resolution to approve Carmel Township Hall Usage Agreement for early voting use was presented. Commissioner Brehler moved to recommend approval of this agreement to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend the approval of the payment of claims against the County in the amount of \$464,418.71 and immediate claims in the amount of \$6,394,941.72 to the Board of Commissioners as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Pearl-Wright. Motion carried unanimously.

Human Resources Director, Ben Dawson, presented a report on reclassifications. Discussion was held. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend the reclassification requests to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications Director, Logan Bailey, was present to give a departmental report. A request was made to give permission to the Controller's Office to review final public relations/communication firm's proposals and make a recommendation directly to the full Board of Commissioners at their September 20th, 2023 meeting due to time constraints. The Committee approved this request.

A resolution to approve the 2023/2024 Eaton County Budget and Winter Tax Rates was presented. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval of the resolution as presented to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Brehler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

No limited public comment.

Chairperson Mulder adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Ways & Means Committee will be held on Friday, October 13, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioner Room of the Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte, MI 48813.



Blake Mulder, Chairperson