

# WORKING MEETING

August 4, 2020

Convened: 9:00 AM

Present: Commissioner Gordon, Commissioner Matthew, Commissioner Kolcz and Commissioner Hazelbaker, via Video conference call.

Also Present: Undersheriff Eichler, Sheriff Pollack, Amy Duff-COA, Scott Walls-Complex Mgr., Kurt Spalding-911 Director, Julie Pioch-MSUE, Jim Measel-WTVB, Don Reid-Daily Reporter, Matt Fosdick-IT Director, ROD Nancy Hutchins, Michelle Williamson-CAA, Aaron Stevens-Maner Costerisan, Sean Watson-CCS, via Video conference call.

Commissioner Norris, Treasurer Ann Vrablic, County Clerk Terry Kubasiak and Administrator Norman in the Commissioners Boardroom.

## **Public Comment:**

Bob Mullaly and Mike Murphy – spoke in support of the CAA millage proposal.

The agenda was approved.

## **PERSONNEL, PLANS & POLICY**

**(Commissioner Norris)**

### **Resolution - CAA Millage**

The Community Action Agency (CAA) is requesting to put a millage proposal on the November 3, 2020 ballot. The proposal is for .15 mills for 5 years to be used to fund the senior meals program. There was a question as to who would handle the funds if the millage was passed. Michelle Williamson of the CAA explained the program, the need for funds and that CAA wanted to be the funds provider. She provided a budget showing current AAA funding and projected funds if the millage was passed. Several concerns were raised by the Committee noting that approximately \$114,000 of the projected yearly millage funds would be used for administrative fees; that \$10,000 could go to TIFA; that the language stated in part that the millage was “For the sole purpose of funding the operation of a food service program providing meals for senior citizens...” when not all funds would be going to the program. After discussion it was moved and seconded to suspend board rules to act on the resolution. The motion passed. It was then moved and seconded to put the CAA proposal on the November ballot. The motion was defeated 3-NO, 2-YES.

### **Intergovernmental Agreement – Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health**

The Administrator spoke about the renewal of the intergovernmental agreement with Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health (SWMBH). The Board had already approved this agreement, but an error was made in the expiration date of the agreement. The new expiration date would be 12/31/2023. The Committee recommends:

**Motion by \_\_\_\_\_ seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the change in expiration date of the Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health agreement to 12/31/2023.**



**Jail Project Bids**

The Administrator presented the asphalt bids for the jail. There were five bids received with the Branch County Road Commission submitting the lowest bid at \$146,767. The highest bid was from Michigan Paving at \$173,717. He noted that Clark Construction had reviewed the bids and recommended that the contract go to the Branch County Road Commission. It was asked if alternate bids would be submitted for the paving of the other parking lots adjacent to the jail. The Administrator stated that this will be addressed at a later date, when financing can be determined. The Committee recommends:

**Motion by \_\_\_\_\_ seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to accept the asphalt bid from the Branch County Road Commission in the amount of \$146,767.**

**Hazard Pay**

The Administrator spoke about the First Responder Hazard Pay Premiums Program. Counties are eligible. This is a Federal program and applies to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, EMT’s, Paramedics, 9-1-1 Operators and Local Unit of Government Correction Officers. The Sheriff’s department submitted 39 employees, but all are not certified. 9-1-1 submitted 7 employees and Home Health submitted 18 employees. The maximum limit is \$1000 per employee. Program applications must be received by September 30, 2020. We must be sure that what is submitted is correct and that all employees are eligible to receive funds, or a Federal audit could be triggered. Payments will be made no later than November 14, 2020. The Committee recommends:

**Motion by \_\_\_\_\_ seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to move forward with the First Responder Hazard Pay Program submission, with the non-certified employees removed.**

**Liability Costs - Airport**

There was a question about an increase in liability costs. The Administrator reviewed this and it was determined that expenses had increased and the airport budget decreased. He will discuss this further with the airport manager.

**LEGISLATIVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Commissioner Gordon)**

None

**Other**

It was moved and seconded to go into closed session to discuss the attorney/client privileged letter dated 07/23/2020.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

Yes: Norris, Hazelbaker, Kolcz, Matthew, Gordon - 5

No – 0

The Committee went into closed session at 10:42 am and returned to open session at 11:04 am

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 am.

Submitted by: Commissioner Matthew      Commissioner Kolcz      Commissioner Gordon  
                         Commissioner Hazelbaker      Commission Norris