

**MINUTES OF THE
FINANCE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2007**

At a meeting of the **Finance Committee**, held Wednesday, September 26, 2007, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mt. Clemens, the following members were present:

Slinde-Chair, Brdak, Brown, Bruley, Camphous-Peterson, Crouchman, DeSaele, DiMaria, Doherty, Duzyj, D. Flynn, J. Flynn, Gielegem, Haggerty, Lund, Mijac, Rengert, Roberts, Rocca, Sauger, Switalski, Szczepanski, Tocco and Vosburg.

Absent and excused were Drolet and Torrice.

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Slinde called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

Commissioner Bruley objected to #6a (Approve Exemptions to Living Wage Policy) because it was not mailed with the meeting notice.

MOTION

A motion was made by Vosburg, supported by DeSaele, to adopt the agenda, as amended (and to include #6a, #12g, h and i (resolutions) and two additional travel requests).

Commissioner Bruley requested the separation of #6a.

Commissioner Lund asked if there is a need for this to be done today. Chair Slinde stated that the contracts are due October 1.

Commissioner Doherty said she thought that the existing contract continues if the contract is not renewed.

AMENDMENT

A motion was made by Lund, supported by Szczepanski, to allow a 30-day extension to all the companies requesting a waiver under #6a.

Chair Slinde asked for an opinion from Corporation Counsel. Mr. Brumbaugh stated that the contracts can be extended and reviewed at that time.

Commissioners Lund and Szczepanski withdrew their amendment.

Commissioner Gielegghem felt that time is needed to review the applications and talk to the providers.

Chair Slinde asked Mr. Habkirk if he felt it would cause any problems to extend the contracts for one month. Mr. Habkirk replied no and said they can send out extension letters.

A vote was taken on the motion to adopt the agenda, as amended, excluding #6a and **The Motion Carried.**

A roll call vote was taken on #6a as follows:

Voting Yes was Rengert. There was 1 "Yes" vote.

Voting No were Brdak, Brown, Bruley, Crouchman, DeSaele, DiMaria, Doherty, Duzyj, D. Flynn, J. Flynn, Gielegghem, Haggerty, Lund, Mijac, Roberts, Rocca, Sauger, Switalski, Tocco, Vosburg, Szczepanski and Slinde. There were 22 "No" votes.

The Motion was Defeated.

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by Vosburg, supported by Haggerty, to approve the July 25 and August 16, 2007 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Kathleen Kunz-Pielack, 10165 St. John Drive, Algonac

Ms. Kunz-Pielack spoke on behalf of Creative Employment Opportunities, a Community Mental Health provider, and asked for support of their request for an exemption from the Living Wage Policy.

LIST OF BILLS AS PREPARED BY THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION - MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SZCZEPANSKI, SUPPORTED BY DUZYJ, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE MONTHLY BILLS (WITH CORRECTIONS, DELETIONS AND/OR ADDENDA) AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT; FURTHER, TO APPROVE THE PAYROLL IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$15,878,456.46, WITH NECESSARY MODIFICATIONS TO THE APPROPRIATIONS. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVE PHARMACY INITIATIVES FOR 2007

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BROWN, SUPPORTED BY DOHERTY, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONCUR IN THE RECOMMENDATION OF JOHN ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF RISK MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY DEPARTMENT, DAVID DIEGEL, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT, AND ERIC HERPPICH, ACTING DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, TO OPT-IN THE (6) PHARMACY INITIATIVES OF 2007 PROPOSED BY BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF MICHIGAN.

Mr. Anderson explained that Blue Cross has proposed nine new pharmacy initiatives and the County has the option to opt-in on six of the initiatives and the other three will be implemented across Michigan without the opt-in/opt-out option. He said this program was discussed with the Finance and Human Resources Departments and they feel it is a valuable product that will save the County money and does not have to be negotiated.

He introduced Brian Hardy, a pharmacist from Blue Cross and Blue Shield, who provided an explanation of the initiatives. Mr. Hardy indicated that these initiatives are not about preventing access, but managing costs and allowing for medical necessity when certain drug therapies are required by the member.

Chair Slinde called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVE MERCURY DEPENDENT AUDIT SERVICES FOR INDEPENDENT AUDIT

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY J. FLYNN, SUPPORTED BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONCUR IN THE RECOMMENDATION OF JOHN ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF RISK MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY DEPARTMENT, DAVID DIEGEL, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT, AND ERIC HERPPICH, ACTING DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, TO HIRE MERCURY DEPENDENT AUDIT SERVICES TO PERFORM A DEPENDENT AUDIT.

Mr. Anderson and Mr. Wally Thursam, Vice-President of Mercury Dependent Audit Services, provided an overview of the program being proposed.

Commissioner Vosburg questioned what will be done with the information if fraud is discovered and whether the claims will be paid.

Mr. Anderson stated that the Human Resources Department will be involved with the upcoming open enrollment process and part of the packet that will be sent to employees was going to include a healthcare eligibility amnesty letter. Mr. Fouty spoke briefly about that and indicated that it is not part of today's recommendation, but was going to be brought forward if the program was approved.

Further discussion took place regarding the amnesty issue, addressing those employees who do not respond to the dependent eligibility verification submission form, current policy for fraudulent behavior, current verification process and continuation of the program.

Commissioner Doherty said she wants to make sure employees are informed that this audit is taking place, but she is not in favor of the amnesty process, and hoped those issues will come back to the Board.

Commissioner Bruley felt this should be done by the Human Resources Department and a process put in place so this is done every year. He also thought this should be delayed until the new Human Resources Director is hired.

Chair Slinde called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED WITH BRULEY VOTING “NO.”**

ADJUSTMENT OF MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE AND MEAL ALLOWANCE

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY VOSBURG, SUPPORTED BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE AN ADJUSTMENT TO THE MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE AND MEAL ALLOWANCE TO EQUATE THE RATES PAID BY THE STATE OF MICHIGAN EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1ST OF EACH YEAR; THEREFORE, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2007, THE MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE WILL INCREASE TO FORTY-EIGHT CENTS PER MILE AND THE DAILY MEAL ALLOWANCE FOR EMPLOYEES WILL REMAIN THE SAME AT \$31.00 PER DAY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OF MICHIGAN RATES; FURTHER, THE FINANCE DIRECTOR IS DIRECTED TO NOTIFY EACH ELECTED OFFICIAL AND DEPARTMENT HEAD OF THE ABOVE-NOTED RATES. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

APPOINTMENTS OF LAW FIRMS

MOTION

A motion was made by Haggerty, supported by Doherty, to appoint the following law firms:

Plunkett Cooney, P.C. in regard to the case of Andrew Arnold vs. County of Macomb, et al and

Plunkett Cooney, P.C. in regard to the case of Charlie Floyd vs. Macomb County Sheriff's Department, et al.

The Motion Carried.

**ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS OVER INTERNET FOR MACOMB TOGETHER
(REFERRED FROM 8-16-07 FULL BOARD MEETING)**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DiMARIA, SUPPORTED BY VOSBURG, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS OVER THE INTERNET FOR MACOMB TOGETHER

Commissioner Doherty offered a friendly amendment that the credit card feature will only be used in conjunction with Macomb Together and County-run programs. That was accepted by the maker and supporter.

Commissioner DeSaele asked about any fees associated with the use of the card and who will be responsible for those. Mr. Krycia stated that a meeting was held at the Treasurer's Office to discuss this issue and he had received a Chase Merchant Bank application and agreement that would be used. He said the agreement has not been finalized, but it is his understanding that the bank will be giving a break on how the fees are handled.

Commissioner DeSaele offered a friendly amendment that this be contingent upon information being provided regarding fees and the contract. That was accepted by the maker and supporter.

Chair Slinde called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

The motion now reads as follows:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DiMARIA, SUPPORTED BY VOSBURG, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS OVER THE INTERNET FOR MACOMB TOGETHER, BUT THAT THE CREDIT CARD FEATURE WILL ONLY BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH MACOMB TOGETHER AND COUNTY-RUN PROGRAMS; FURTHER, THIS IS CONTINGENT UPON INFORMATION BEING PROVIDED REGARDING FEES AND THE CONTRACT. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DiMARIA, SUPPORTED BY SAUGER, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

COMMENDING COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT REFERRAL & EDUCATION, INC. FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY (OFFERED BY TOCCO);

HONORING STERLING HEIGHTS FIRE CAPTAIN PATRICK O'LEAR – RETIREMENT (OFFERED BY MIJAC AND D. FLYNN);

IN SUPPORT OF NORTHWEST AIRLINES ROUTE TO CHINA (OFFERED BY BRULEY);

COMMENDING THOMAS SWAIN – 50 YEARS WITH MAYFAIR CAMERA SHOP (OFFERED BY BRULEY AND BRDAK);

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2927, WHICH RESPONSIBLY BALANCES ACHIEVABLE FUEL ECONOMY INCREASES WITH IMPORTANT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONCERNS, INCLUDING CONSUMER DEMAND (OFFERED BY BOARD CHAIR);

IN HONOR OF THE RIBBON CUTTING FOR THE SANCTUARY AT FRASER VILLA LIVING CENTER (OFFERED BY TOCCO);

PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 6, 2007 AS GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY IN MACOMB COUNTY (OFFERED BY BRULEY, D. FLYNN AND MIJAC);

COMMENDING SOUTH RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON THE DEDICATION OF THE NEW BUILDING (OFFERED BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON) AND

HONORING MARILYN ELDER – 80th BIRTHDAY (OFFERED BY SLINDE).

THE MOTION CARRIED.

TRAVEL REQUESTS

MOTION

A motion was made by Vosburg, supported by Haggerty, to approve the travel requests as submitted. **The Motion Carried with Duzyj voting “No.”**

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION

MOTION

A motion was made by Vosburg, supported by DeSaele, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Voting Yes were Brdak, Brown, Bruley, Camphous-Peterson, Crouchman, DeSaele, DiMaria, Doherty, Duzyj, D. Flynn, J. Flynn, Gielegem, Haggerty, Lund, Roberts, Rocca, Sauger, Switalski, Vosburg, Szczepanski and Slinde. There were 21 “Yes” votes.

The Motion Carried.

In accordance with the motion, committee entered Executive Session at 10:58 a.m., with it concluding at 11:41 a.m.

CONCUR IN RECOMMENDATION OF CORPORATION COUNSEL RE: CASE OF ELLIS DON VS. MACOMB COUNTY, ET AL

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY VOSBURG, SUPPORTED BY SAUGER, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONCUR IN THE RECOMMENDATION OF CORPORATION COUNSEL CONCERNING THE CASE OF ELLIS DON VS. MACOMB COUNTY, ET AL. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Vosburg asked that a future agenda include a response to the results of the Mercury Dependent Audit.

Commissioner Lund stated that the Ad Hoc Committee to Select the Human Resources Department Director will be recommending Maureen Henson for the position and it will be on the Full Board agenda tomorrow evening. He said it was a long and difficult process and he thanked the committee members.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mark Hackel, Macomb County Sheriff, 43565 Elizabeth Road
Carmella Sabaugh, Macomb County Clerk
Eric Smith, Macomb County Prosecutor, Chesterfield Township

Spoke about working with Eric Herppich and expressed their support of him for the position of Human Resources Department Director.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by Camphous-Peterson, to adjourn the meeting at 11:54 a.m. **The Motion Carried.**