

Jackson County Board of Commissioners Meetings Minutes
May 15, 2001 - Regular Meeting
Jackson County Commissioners Chambers: 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Robert Lacinski called the Jackson County Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner Elwell

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Present: Cmrs. Mahoney-Sherrod, McNitt, Baum, DeForest, Reynolds, Adams, Herl, Elwell, Pascal, Beardslee, Thulin, Brittain, Day, & Lacinski. Absent: Cmr. Rice.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Resolution of Retirement for Mr. Pulver will be handled under Personnel & Finance because he was unable to attend. There was also a correction to a motion on the Consent Agenda. The motion referred to Senator Hoffman, and it should have been Levin and Stabenow. *Moved by Herl, supported by Baum to Approve the Agenda.* Motion carried.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

Employee of the month of May was awarded to Renee Carroll, Reproductive Nurse Practitioner/Manager, Health Department. Presented by Lacinski, remarks by Ted Westmeier.

Prosecuting Attorney John McBain and David Lady presented an award to Sgt. Fiero for his excellent work on the Artz case.

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS: None.

SPECIAL ORDER/PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. The Presentation of the Road Commission 2000 Audit was given by Carl Schmidt, Bob Zenz, Gloria Fiero, and Doug Atkins with Markowski & Co.

Brittain questioned the line item Interest & Rentals. It was explained that the interest is what the Treasurer, on behalf of the Road Commission, invests. The rentals are mostly rental property for cell towers. It is a revenue line item.

Mr. Schmidt asked the Board to pass a Resolution putting Jackson on the funding for critical bridges list. It takes about 15 years and they could use all the political clout that they can get. They have also sent the Resolution to 4 or 5 townships.

Moved by Mahoney-Sherrod, supported by Thulin to accept the Road Commission 2000 Audit. Motion carried.

B. The Presentation of the Resource Recovery Facility 2000 Annual Report was given by Jim Glen.

Herl was concerned that from 1990 the combined boiler availability percentages were going down each year. It was explained that the trend is going down. The tubing in the boiler is getting thinner, and it is an ongoing replacement process.

Thulin asked about the outage and a timeline to get back on line? Mr. Glen reported that they were waiting for the pumps. Hopefully, they would be available by the end of this week.

Pascal had concerns about potential air pollution with discharges. Mr. Glen explained that back when the incinerator was built, it was very high tech and that more than 90% of the pollutants are screened out.

Elwell commented that it would have been helpful to have this report before tonight's meeting in order to absorb it. He wanted to know where the contaminated dirt came from? Mr. Glen said that the City of Jackson uncapping the river and the Wolverine leak comprised the largest portion of the contaminated dirt.

Brittain asked about the Revenues, Steam, Electric and Tipping. Is the 17.7% charge to the Prison, and do you get the natural gas price for the steam you provide to the Prison for heating? Mr. Glen answered that they receive is the Prison avoided fuel cost. Brittain asked if there should be an increase in that line item since the price of natural gas is going up. Mr. Glen said that the Prison is not subject to price caps and their cost of natural gas has tripled over the last year.

Brittain also asked about a metal separator. Mr. Glen explained that it separates the metal from the ash after incineration. Using it on the front end is too difficult to get the scrap clean enough for the scrap market. Thulin asked what was done with the ash afterwards? Mr. Glen advised that it is taken to the McGill Rd. Landfill. *Moved Mahoney-Sherrod supported by Reynolds to receive the Jackson County Resource Recovery 2000 Annual Report.* Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Curt Carpenter, owner of Tri-County Septic Service voiced his concerns over the Ordinance that was passed 2 months ago pertaining to the hauling of septage. He felt that the Commissioners have been misled by false information. There should have been a meeting with haulers, The Health Department and Commissioners for clarification. Mr. Carpenter feels that residents will have to pay the additional cost of hauling the septage to the waste facility. Mr. Carpenter also stated that spreading septage on farmlands is not a health hazard. He subjected himself to blood tests, and the results were clean. He has been hauling septage for 5 years and has no health hazard. One of the rumors that he checked on was that within 2 years State DEQ would make it mandatory to haul to waste facilities. He spoke to Matt Campbell of the DEQ who stated that the DEQ would not be mandating statewide.

Last month, Mr. Carpenter presented 130 signatures of residents who don't want to pay the additional costs of hauling. Included with the signatures were comments from residents.

Mr. Carpenter feels that there are other options. Liquid lime could be mixed with septage. This would raise the Ph to kill the organisms and neutralize the smell. He is asking the Commission to rethink the ordinance.

Bill Bendele is a licensed hauler. He also thinks there has been much misinformation about dumping in fields. It should be the haulers option to haul to the treatment plant or dump in the fields if they meet requirements. Mr. Bendele said that a Commissioner told people there were 3 dumpsites on Jefferson Rd. There is only his and it had been checked by the DEQ.

Alfred Heywood, of Heywood Sanitation said that he doesn't have any physical problems from hauling septage. He was ousted from the Jackson Sewage plant because it was overloaded. He is concerned that senior citizens will not be able to afford to dump their tanks.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Mahoney-Sherrod, supported by Pascal to accept the Consent Agenda as written. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. Approve the Minutes of the April 17, 2001 Regular Board Meeting.
- B. Approve the Minutes of the April 30, 2001 Special Board Meeting.

County Affairs:

County Agencies:

Human Services:

- C. Approve the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program Grant Budget Adjustment.
- D. Approval for the Department on Aging to Apply for a Grant from the Jackson Community Foundation Healthy Seniors/Healthy Children Funds.
- E. Authorize a Letter of Support to Senator Hoffman from the Chairman Regarding Increased Funding for Workforce Investment Act Programs.
- F. Approve the Low Bid from Belden Asphalt Company for Paving and Excavation Work at Swain's Lake County Park and the Low Bid from Pine Ridge Construction for Electrical Work and a New Picnic Shelter at Swains Lake County Park.
- G. Approve the Low Bid from Van Belkum Voice & Data Services for a New Recording System in the E-9-1-1 Center.
- H. Award the Cafeteria Plan Third Party Administrator Bid to Weyco.
- I. Approve a Modification to the Nonunion Performance Evaluation Policy.
- J. Require Performance Evaluation Training on the New Procedures be Mandatory for all who Conduct Employee Performance Evaluations.
- K. Award the Bid for the Preparation of the Cost Allocation Plans for 2000, 2001, and 2002.
- L. Approve the 2000 Carryovers for the Equipment Fund and Public Improvement Fund.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

County Affairs:

- a. *Moved by Day, supported by Reynolds to Approve the Chairman's Reappointment of Commissioner Gail Mahoney-Sherrod to the Retirement Board for another three-year term upon the Recommendation.* Motion carried.
- b. *Moved by Day, supported by Brittain to Adopt the Resolution Establishing a Public Hearing on June 19, 2001, at 7:05 p.m., on the Project Plan and Issuance of Bonds for the American Tooling Center, Inc. Project.* Roll call: (14) Yeas. The Motion carried unanimously.

County Agencies:

McNitt had nothing to report under County Agencies, but he did want to comment on the meeting about Jail Overcrowding. At the meeting they agreed on 2 sites that they will be looking into further.

Human Services:

Moved by DeForest, supported by Beardslee to Adopt the Resolution Declaring Thursday, May 31, 2001 as Clean Indoor Air Day in Jackson County. Roll call: (14) Yeas. Motion carried unanimously. DeForest also announced that the Commissioners are invited to Cascade Fall on May 26, 2001 at 1:45 p.m. to sign the Declaration. All Commissioners attending will be offered free registration to the Tobacco Coalition Conference that will be held this summer.

Personnel & Finance:

Moved by Mahoney-Sherrod, supported by Elwell to Adopt a Resolution honoring Douglas Pulver, Fleet Management Mechanic upon his retirement from the County with 21 years, 1 month of service. Roll call: (14) Yeas. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Day thinks the Commission owes the haulers a response. Day also thinks the Commissioners were misled. He has investigated since, and talked with Matt Campbell, Director of DEQ septage. Mr. Campbell would be willing to meet with haulers and go over rules and regulations.

Moved by DeForest, supported by Mahoney-Sherrod to refer back to Human Services. The Chair concurred with this motion. Herl feels that Leoni went out on a limb and should be notified. They are proceeding full speed ahead. Day talked with Jim Phelps, Supervisor of Leoni, and he is aware and very much in favor of talking with Mr. Campbell. Motion carried.

Reynolds reported that they have raised \$9000 throughout the County for the World Changers. There are still some vacancies for painting, if anyone knows of someone in their District that needs the help. The kids will be coming in June.

CONSIDERATION & ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS:

Moved by McNitt, supported by DeForest to allow the Claims. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

Moved by Mahoney-Sherrod, supported by Day to adjourn to the call of the Chair. Motion carried.

The May 15, 2001 meeting of the Jackson County Board of Commissioners was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Robert Lacinski – Chairman, Jackson County Board of Commissioners
Sandy Crowley – County Clerk
Respectfully submitted by Erin Foster, Chief Deputy County Clerk.