

1. A Regular Meeting of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners was held in the City of Monroe on Tuesday, March 9, 2010, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Sisk at 7:00 p.m. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

PRESENT

ABSENT

Dale Zorn	Jerry Oley	Henry Lievens
Albert Potratz	John Fowler	(excused)
Floreine Mentel	LaMar Frederick	Connie Velliquette
William Sisk		(excused)

A quorum being present, the Board proceeded to transact business.

2. Commissioner Jerry Oley led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Vickie Koczman, Deputy Clerk, Monroe County Board of Commissioners led the Opening Prayer.
4. Motion by Commissioner Oley to approve the Agenda for the Tuesday, March 9, 2010, Regular Meeting as amended. Supported by Commissioner Mentel. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAYS

ABSENT

Dale Zorn	Jerry Oley	Henry Lievens
Albert Potratz	John Fowler	(excused)
Floreine Mentel	LaMar Frederick	Connie Velliquette
William Sisk		(excused)

Motion carried.

5. Motion by Commissioner Frederick to approve the Minutes for the Tuesday, February 23, 2010, Regular Meeting and waive the reading of the minutes. Supported by Commissioner Fowler.

Motion carried.

6. Resolutions, Special Tributes & Presentations –

Resolution Recognizing The Retirement Of Aaron P. Simonton, Executive Director, Monroe Center For Healthy Aging Read:

WHEREAS, Aaron P. Simonton has faithfully served as Executive Director of the Monroe Center for Healthy Aging (formerly known as the Monroe Senior Citizens Center) for 35 years; and

WHEREAS, Aaron P. Simonton has been a strong and assuring voice for the senior citizens of Monroe County for 35 years; and

WHEREAS, Aaron P. Simonton has made Monroe County a better place in which to live and made a difference in the lives of countless people through his unselfish commitment to serve others; and

WHEREAS, Aaron P. Simonton has been a visionary leader in developing services as well as funding for those services by promoting one of the first millages in the State specifically dedicated to the funding of senior centers and their services and has been widely supported by tax payers; and

WHEREAS, Aaron P. Simonton has been recognized locally as well as on the state and national levels for his advocacy for healthy living and quality services for our increasingly aging population; and

WHEREAS, Aaron P. Simonton has elected to retire after 35 years of dedicated service to the senior citizens of this community, state and nation as well as well as 35 years of service as the Executive Director of the Monroe Center for Healthy Aging;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that on this 9th Day of March, 2010, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners hereby recognize and applaud Aaron P. Simonton for his years of visionary and dedicated service to the elderly citizens of Monroe County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Aaron P. Simonton be congratulated and extended best wishes on his retirement and 35 years of service as Executive Director of the Monroe Center for Healthy Aging.

Motion by Commissioner Frederick to adopt the Resolution Recognizing the Retirement of Aaron P. Simonton, Executive Director, Monroe Center for Health Aging. Supported by Commissioner Fowler. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Dale Zorn	Jerry Oley	Henry Lievens
Albert Potratz	John Fowler	(excused)
Floreine Mentel	LaMar Frederick	Connie Velliquette
William Sisk		(excused)

Motion carried.

7. Resolution Allocating Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Volume Cap Read:

WHEREAS, Division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the "ARRA") added sections 1400U-1 through 1400U-3 to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, to provide for the issuance of Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds by states and local units of government for purposes described in the ARRA; and

WHEREAS, the ARRA provides a national Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond volume cap of \$10,000,000,000 to be allocated among the states and suballocated to counties and certain large municipalities for use in financing governmental projects; and

WHEREAS, under the allocation formula determined by the United States Department of the Treasury, the County of Monroe (the "County") has received an allocation of \$13,237,000 in Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond volume cap ("Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Volume Cap"); and

WHEREAS, by resolution adopted December 15, 2009 (the "Designation Resolution"), the County Board of Commissioners (the "Board") made certain findings and designated the entire County as a "Recovery Zone" as described in the ARRA, thereby enabling the proceeds of Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds to be spent on qualified projects anywhere within the County; and

WHEREAS, the County is authorized to allocate its Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Volume Cap to ultimate beneficiaries for eligible costs in any reasonable manner as it shall determine in good faith in its discretion; and

WHEREAS, the Designation Resolution provided that the method of allocating the County's Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Volume Cap would be determined by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined to allocate the County's Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Volume Cap directly by resolution; and

WHEREAS, The Economic Development Corporation of the County of Monroe (the "EDC") has reviewed applications for Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Volume Cap allocation and has recommended that the Board allocate \$5,000,000 to the County for wastewater treatment improvements in the Township of Bedford (the "Township Project") and \$8,237,000 to be utilized by the City of Monroe (the "City") in its discretion for rehabilitation of the Winchester Street bridge, water distribution system improvements and updates and replacement of City Hall windows (collectively, the "City Projects").

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board to allocate the County's Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Volume Cap to the County for the purpose of financing all or part of the Township Project and to the City for the purpose of financing all or part of the City Projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. There is hereby allocated to the County Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) of the County's Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Volume Cap for the County's issuance of Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds on or before December 31, 2010 for the benefit of the Township for purposes of paying all or part of the cost of the Township Project.

2. There is hereby allocated to the City Eight Million Two Hundred Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$8,237,000) of the County's Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Volume Cap for the City's issuance of Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds on or before December 31, 2010 for purposes of paying all or part of the cost of the City Projects.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with this resolution are hereby rescinded.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Zorn to adopt the Resolution Allocating Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Volume Cap. Supported by Commissioner Frederick. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Dale Zorn	Jerry Oley	Henry Lievens
Albert Potratz	John Fowler	(excused)
Floreine Mentel	LaMar Frederick	Connie Velliquette
William Sisk		(excused)

Motion carried.

8. Resolution In Support Of Taking Measures To Prevent Asian Carp From Passing Into The Great Lakes Read:

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan, through its Attorney General Michael A. Cox, on February 4, 2010, filed a Renewed Motion for Injunctive Relief before the United States Supreme Court for specific action to prevent Asian carp from entering Lake Michigan and in turn the remainder of the Great Lakes; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan through the Renewed Motion for Injunctive Relief has offered new DNA evidence regarding the site or sites that Asian carp may be present in the Illinois waterways and such sites appear to be within reach of Lake Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, if the injunction requested by the State of Michigan is not granted, the State of Michigan, a state totally within the basin of the Great Lakes, will more than likely suffer substantial permanent injury from the infestation of the predatory fish species; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Monroe is immediately adjacent to one of the Great Lakes, to wit: Lake Erie; and,

WHEREAS, if the predatory Asian carp is permitted to enter the Great Lakes, the potential injury to native fish species in the Great Lakes including those found in Lake Erie is substantial; and,

WHEREAS, the potential injury to native fish species in Lake Erie will concurrently cause permanent damage and injury to the County of Monroe, its citizens and businesses as a tourist destination, fishing port and recreational facility; and

WHEREAS, the if the predatory Asian carp is permitted to enter the Great Lakes and in particular Lake Erie, there exists the potential for severe, everlasting devastation to the ecological systems in Lake Erie; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Monroe County, Michigan, concludes that infestation of the Great Lakes by the Asian carp, and particularly Lake Erie, based on information currently available, will bring immediate and permanent damage and injury to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens and business of Monroe County and the ecology of the Great Lakes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this 9th day of March, 2009, the Board of Commissioners of Monroe County, Michigan supports the State of Michigan Attorney General Michael A. Cox refiling a Motion for Preliminary Injunctive Relief before the United States Supreme Court including therein a request of the State of Michigan that an order be entered by the United States Supreme Court requiring temporary and permanent control structures and/or devices be installed or constructed in Illinois waterways that will not permit the Asian carp to pass beyond such structures and/or devices; that active measures be taken to eradicate all Asian carp in close proximity to Lake Michigan until permanent structures and/or devices are installed or constructed in such waterways; that other temporary and/or permanent measures be taken to prevent Asian carp from passing into the Great Lakes; and, that the United States Supreme Court consider the potential for substantial and permanent economic harm to be suffered by Michigan citizens and businesses in the event of the infestation of the Great Lakes by the predatory fish species, each in accordance with the issues briefed and explained in the Motion by the State of Michigan.

Motion by Commissioner Frederick to adopt the Resolution in Support of Taking Measures to Prevent Asian Carp from Passing into the Great Lakes. Supported by Commissioner Mentel. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Dale Zorn	Jerry Oley	Henry Lievens
Albert Potratz	John Fowler	(excused)
Floreine Mentel	LaMar Frederick	Connie Velliquette
William Sisk		(excused)

Motion carried.

9. Resolution Recognizing March 14 – 20, 2010, As National Agriculture Week Read:

WHEREAS, American agriculture provides almost everything we eat, wear and use on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, agriculture, America's number one industry, provides 21 million jobs and is the single largest contributor to our net trade balance -- the farmers, farm workers, scientists, processors, shippers, retailers, and others who spend their days providing us with the basics of a good life; and

WHEREAS, each year one American farmer provides food and fiber for over 144 people; and

WHEREAS, Monroe County farmers uphold the fine tradition of American farming and ensure a healthy, safe and abundant food and fiber supply for our citizens of this county, United States and for people across the globe; and

WHEREAS, thoughtful practices and careful stewardship of America's agricultural resources provide a healthy and sustainable environment; and

WHEREAS, American agriculture enhances its long standing tradition by adopting the latest advances in technology, production and marketing in order to meet ever-changing consumer needs; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this 9th day of March, 2010, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners hereby recognize the importance the agriculture industry plays in assuring the future progress and prosperity of our county and nation's economy and to advance the greater appreciation of farmers and ranchers across the nation and hereby proclaims the week of March 14 - 20, 2010, as National Agriculture Week and recognize March 20, 2010 as National Agriculture Day. We call upon all Americans to celebrate the contribution agriculture makes to our lives yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Zorn to adopt the Resolution Recognizing March 14 – 20, 2010, as National Agriculture Week. Supported by Commissioner Mentel. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Dale Zorn	Jerry Oley	Henry Lievens
Albert Potratz	John Fowler	(excused)
Floreine Mentel	LaMar Frederick	Connie Velliquette
William Sisk		(excused)

Motion carried.

10. Monroe County Emergency Medical Authority's 2009 Annual Report – Troy Goodnough, Chairman.
11. Monroe County Community Mental Health Authority 2009 Annual Report – Jane Terwilliger, Director And Gregory Lane, Chairman.
12. The following items were listed on the Consent Agenda:
 - A. Monroe County Retiree Health Care Board Report (02/22/10)
 1. The Monroe County Retiree Health Care Board Recommends To The Full Board To Appoint Scott Atkinson As The Citizen-At-Large Representative.

Item pulled by Chairman Sisk; requested a legal opinion as to whether the appointment would be a conflict of interest.
 - B. Monroe County Economic Development Corporation Report (02/26/10)
 1. The Monroe County Economic Development Corporation Recommends To The Full Board To Appropriate The County's \$13,237,000 Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Allocation As Follows:

Bedford Township Wastewater Treatment Improvements - \$5,000,000 And The Remaining Appropriation Of \$8,237,000 To Be Utilized At The City Of Monroe's Discretion For The Three Projects The City Remitted: Rehabilitation Of The Winchester Street Bridge, Water Distribution System Improvements And Updates And Replacement Of City Hall's East Side Windows.

Whiteford Township Withdrew Their Application For \$200,000 For A Portion Of A New Water And Sewer System Within Brown Street Of The Ottawa Lake Area.

Bedford's Senior Center Application For \$1,990,000 For A New Senior Citizens Center Was Received After The January 29, 2010, Deadline And Was Not Considered (They Were Of The Understanding That This Was A Grant Program; A Funding Mechanism Was Not In Place.)

C. Finance Committee Report (03/09/10)

1. The Finance Committee Recommends To The Full Board To Approve The 03/09/10 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report In The Amount Of \$628,272.29.

D. Approval Of Non-Claims Against The County

1. Check Register Dated 02/26/10 In The Amount Of \$270,455.71.
2. Check Register Dated 03/05/10 In The Amount Of \$1,051,236.05.

Motion by Commissioner Potratz to approve the Consent Agenda with item 12A(1) pulled. Supported by Commissioner Fowler. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Dale Zorn	Jerry Oley	Henry Lievens
Albert Potratz	John Fowler	(excused)
Floreine Mentel	LaMar Frederick	Connie Velliquette
William Sisk		(excused)

Motion carried.

13. Letter From Kay Sisung, Treasurer Read Requesting Permission To Issue Delinquent Tax Anticipation Notes In An Amount Not To Exceed \$15,000,000 To Fund The Purchase Of The 2009 Delinquent Taxes.

Motion by Commissioner Oley to approve the treasurer issuing delinquent tax anticipation notes in an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 to fund the purchase of the 2009 delinquent taxes. Supported by Commissioner Fowler. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Dale Zorn	Jerry Oley	Henry Lievens
Albert Potratz	John Fowler	(excused)
Floreine Mentel	LaMar Frederick	Connie Velliquette
William Sisk		(excused)

Motion carried.

14. Letter From Philip Goldsmith, Lennard, Graham & Goldsmith Regarding Proposed Interim Agreement With Cadillac Insurance.

According to Mr. Goldsmith's letter, "upon his analysis, it is his legal opinion that entry into an agreement for insurance counseling services with a licensed insurance counselor associated with Cadillac Insurance Center would not violate State law, but would, violate County Policy 305, without first developing a request for proposal which closely defines the scope of work to be performed by the insurance counselor and addresses the various needs of the County and its employees. As previously indicated, the involved County staff members have stated that they would work expeditiously to assemble an appropriate RFP document that could be released to solicit proposals for the specific services desired."

Motion by Commissioner Frederick to refer preparing an RFP document for an employee benefits counselor to staff and bring back the RFP in two weeks. Supported by Commissioner Potratz. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAYS

ABSENT

Dale Zorn

Jerry Oley

Henry Lievens

Albert Potratz

John Fowler

(excused)

Floreine Mentel

LaMar Frederick

Connie Velliquette

William Sisk

(excused)

Motion carried.

15. Old Business –

- A. Fairview Contingency Plan Should The Millage Not Pass In August Of 2010.

Staff is in the process of drafting the plan; will give an updated report at the next meeting.

- B. Consideration Of Offering A Retiree Health Care Buy-Out.

Presentation will be given at the next meeting.

- C. Updated Report – Purchase Of Universal Time And 2010 Voluntary Early Retirement Program.

Parameters have been set for the programs and the pension attorney and legal council has reviewed the proposal and will prepare a retirement ordinance amendment for the Board to consider in two weeks.

- D. Develop A Request For Qualifications (RFQ) For A Consultant To Address The County's Immediate Health Care Benefit Needs.

Legal opinion was given this evening.

- E. Appoint Three Board Members To Work With The Purchasing Department To Create A Buy Local Policy By Amending The County's Purchasing Policy.

Chairman Sisk appointed Vice-Chairman Zorn, Commissioner Fowler and Commissioner Velliquette to meet with the Purchasing Department.

F. Appoint A Retiree Health Care Committee Chairman.

To be discussed with staff.

G. Appoint Four (4) Compensation Commission Members.

There are now five vacancies that will need to be filled.

16. Citizens Time –

Chad Jagotka, Sheriff's Office spoke regarding the potential risk of laying off deputies to the general public.

Samuel Freimark, Frenchtown Charter Township spoke regarding his mother-in-law being a robbery victim.

Mike Grodi, President, Correction's Officer Association thanked the Board for offering the universal buy-out and early retirement programs and spoke regarding running transports to Calhoun County, utilizing the recreation area of the main jail to house inmates and utilizing dorm A to house "aliens" as sources of revenue.

Dave LaMontaine spoke regarding the necessity of having an insurance counselor.

17. Administrator's Report –

Royce Maniko, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer reported the following:

LETC is partnering with Crime Stoppers, received Energy Block Grant funds to replace various equipment and on Friday, March 12, 2010, SMART will receive new vans for senior citizens, the disabled and Head Start.

18. Members Time –

Commissioner Frederick reported the Bedford Trade Show was well attended and stated he is pleased the Board discussed service priorities.

Commissioner Oley requested an update on the cost of the voluntary early retirement program.

Chairman Sisk stated employees have until the end of April to express their intentions and most likely won't have the financial information until the end of May.

Commissioner Oley noted five deputies will most likely lose their jobs at the end of April and stated the voluntary early retirement program financial information could potentially prevent lay-offs.

Commissioner Mentel stated the voluntary early retirement program meetings were well attended, the program may free up some money and the county can't replace all positions that will be vacated due to the program.

Commissioner Potratz stated the Board will do the best they can do with the resources that are available during these tough times.

Vice-Chairman Zorn stated we are in a deep recession and will take time to get out, increasing the county economic base will also take time, the voluntary early retirement program could potentially prevent five deputies from being laid off in April and Lansing is stripping more and more funds from counties.

19. Motion by Commissioner Mentel to adjourn. Supported by Commissioner Frederick.

Motion carried.

20. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

William Sisk, Chairman

Sharon D. Lemasters, Monroe County Clerk