

1. A Regular Meeting of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners was held in the City of Monroe on Tuesday, March 23, 2010, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Sisk at 7:00 p.m. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

PRESENT

ABSENT

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

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

2. Commissioner Connie Velliquette led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Vickie Koczman, Deputy Clerk, Monroe County Board of Commissioners led the Opening Prayer.
4. Motion by Commissioner Potratz to approve the Agenda for the Tuesday, March 23, 2010, Regular Meeting as presented. Supported by Commissioner Fowler. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAYS

ABSENT

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

Motion carried.

5. Motion by Commissioner Frederick to approve the Minutes for the Tuesday, March 9, 2010, Regular Meeting and waive the reading of the minutes. Supported by Vice-Chairman Zorn.

Motion carried.

6. The following items were listed on the Consent Agenda:

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

1. The Finance Committee Recommends To The Full Board To Amend County Policy 301 As Follows:

2.2 The Unreserved Fund Balance Of The General Fund Shall Not Be Less Than One Twelfth Of The Annual General Fund Operating Budget **Unless Otherwise Approved By The Board Of Commissioners.....**

2. The Finance Committee Recommends To The Full Board To Amend County Policy 301 As Follows:

2.4 A General Fund Contingency Account Shall Be Established In The Annual County Budget To Be Used To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Emergency Matters Brought To The Board Of Commissioners That Require Emergency Consideration. The Annual Budget Contingency Account Shall Not Be Less Than Two Percent Of The Total Annual General Fund Budget **Unless Otherwise Approved By The Board Of Commissioners.**

B. Monroe Community Mental Health Authority Report (03/12/10)

1. The Monroe Community Mental Health Authority Recommends To The Full Board To Re-Appoint Donna Freimark, William Henning, Gregory Lane and Pamela Ray Expiring March 31, 2013.

C. Finance Committee Report (03/23/10)

1. The Finance Committee Recommends To The Full Board To Approve The 03/23/10 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report In The Amount Of \$415,353.02.

D. Approval Of Non-Claims Against The County

1. Check Register Dated 03/12/10 In The Amount Of \$1,023,054.70.

2. Check Register Dated 03/19/10 In The Amount Of \$585,455.84.

Commissioner Frederick pulled item 6B (1).

Motion by Commissioner Velliquette to approve the Consent Agenda with item 6B (1) pulled. Supported by Commissioner Fowler. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAYS

ABSENT

Henry Lievens

Jerry Oley

Dale Zorn

John Fowler

Albert Potratz

Connie Velliquette

Floreine Mentel

LaMar Frederick

William Sisk

Motion carried.

7. Monroe Community Mental Health Authority Report (03/12/10)

The Monroe Community Mental Health Authority Recommends To The Full Board To Re-Appoint Donna Freimark, William Henning, Gregory Lane and Pamela Ray Expiring March 31, 2013.

Commissioner Frederick introduced Donna Freimark, Gregory Lane and Pamela Ray.

Motion by Commissioner Frederick to re-appoint Donna Freimark, William Henning, Gregory Lane and Pamela Ray to the Monroe Community Mental Health Authority expiring March 31, 2013. Supported by Commissioner Mentel. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

8. Monroe County Retiree Health Care Board Report (02/22/10)

The Monroe County Retiree Health Care Board Recommends To The Full Board To Appoint Scott Atkinson As The Citizen-At-Large Representative.

Letter From Philip Goldsmith, Lennard, Graham & Goldsmith Regarding Monroe County Retiree Health Care Board Appointment.

Chairman Sisk stated he has respect for Mr. Atkinson and he requested a legal opinion to determine if there would be a conflict of interest should Mr. Atkinson be appointed as a citizen-at-large member.

Contained in Mr. Goldsmith's letter dated March 17, 2010, he writes, "In conclusion, it is my legal opinion that there would be no true conflict of interest created by Mr. Atkinson's service as a Retiree Health Care Board member, considering the limited duties of the Retiree Health Care Board members, as analyzed above. Notwithstanding this fact, I believe it could be successfully argued that Mr. Atkinson's appointment to the Retiree Health Care Board would constitute an appearance of a conflict of interest for the reasons cited above. Furthermore, it appears as though the Monroe County Board of Commissioners was seeking to achieve a diversity of interest on the Retiree Health Care Board by its recent amendment which expands the Board from five members to nine members and specifically directs that a citizen-at-large be appointed to the Board. For these reasons, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners may want to consider re-advertising for the citizen-at-large position of the Monroe County Retiree Health Care Board."

Commissioner Lievens noted there is not a conflict of interest and Mr. Atkinson is a qualified candidate.

Vice-Chairman Zorn stated there is no conflict of interest according the legal counsel and therefore, he is eligible to serve.

Commissioner Velliquette noted Mr. Atkinson's experience will be an asset to the Retiree Health Care Board.

Commissioner Lievens stated Mr. Atkinson "knows the business" and has proven experience.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens to confirm the appointment of Scott Atkinson as the Monroe County Retiree Health Care citizen-at-large representative. Supported by Vice-Chairman Zorn. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

9. Old Business –

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

Royce Maniko, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer reported staff has been working with several agencies to develop a plan and will make a presentation on April 13, 2010.

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

Commissioner Lievens stated there is a potential to save ~ \$1 million to the county's unfunded liability, offering \$15,000 to those that take the buy-out is standard, Saginaw offered a buy-out to their employees and others looked at the concept.

Frank Spreeman, Human Resources Director stated there could be 6-12 employees that would take the buy-out and the buy-out would only be offered to current active employees.

Commissioner Frederick questioned where the \$15,000 would come from, a start and end date will need to be addressed and suggested legal counsel address future liability.

Commissioner Lievens and Human Resources to develop a definitive program and bring back their proposal in two weeks.

Chairman Sisk stated this might be the right time to offer the buy-out; will ask staff to run a report on the number of employees that do not have county insurance.

Chairman Sisk stated he would like labor counsel to be part of developing the program.

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

To be discussed under item #13.

12. Develop An RFP For An Employee Benefits Counselor.

Each Board member was given a copy of the RFP to review and will be brought back in two weeks under Board Action.

13. Consideration Of Adopting An Ordinance Amending Article V Of The Monroe County Employees Retirement System Ordinance To All County Employees, Who Are Members Of The Retirement System, To Purchase Universal Service Credit.

Chairman Sisk stated the amendment to the ordinance was reviewed by legal counsel and the Retirement System's legal counsel and is acceptable to both parties.

Commissioner Oley stated current retirees have concerns with the proposal, the Retiree Health Care Trust Fund is "shrinking", questioned the impact to the Retirement System and the Board having the obligation to know all the facts prior to adopting the amendment.

Chairman Sisk stated there will be a 100% success rate as long as the Board takes a stance not to fill positions; the other option is to lay-off employees. He also stated if the amendment is passed tonight, the county will enjoy six months of savings.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens to adopt an Ordinance Amending Article V of the Monroe County Employees Retirement System Ordinance to all County Employees, who are members of the Retirement System, to Purchase Universal Service Credit. Supported by Commissioner Velliquette.

Chairman Sisk stated Commissioner Oley's comments don't fall on deaf ears; however, "we" are running out of alternatives.

Vice-Chairman Zorn stated the only alternative is lay-offs and an actuary study was performed.

Commissioner Oley questioned if the Retirement System had an actuary study performed and stated he is concerned about not having the actual impact, a 20-year commitment and the Board being fiscally responsible.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAYS

ABSENT

Henry Lievens
Dale Zorn
Albert Potratz
Floreine Mentel

William Sisk
John Fowler
Connie Velliquette
LaMar Frederick

Jerry Oley

Motion carried.

14. New Business –

Commissioner Lievens questioned why Vice-Chairman Zorn's proposal to purchase locally was not on the agenda under Old Business.

Vice-Chairman Zorn stated Chairman Sisk appointed Vice-Chairman Zorn, Commissioner Fowler and Commissioner Velliquette at the last meeting to work with the Purchasing Department.

15. Citizens Time –

Samuel Freimark, Frenchtown Charter Township questioned if Road Commission employees are included in the purchase of time proposal.

Chairman Sisk stated the Road Commission is a separate entity and may be looking at the same proposal in the future.

Judy Health, Milan Township stated she has concerns with the Retiree Health Care Trust Plan and the difficulty of not filling some of the positions.

Michael Brown, President, United Counsel thanked the Board for adopting the amendment to the Retirement System Ordinance.

16. Administrator's Report –

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

1. Google plans to test ultra-high speed broadband networks in one or more trial locations across the country. Their networks will deliver Internet speeds more than 100 times faster than what most Americans have access to today, over 1 gigabit per second, fiber-to-the-home connections.
2. Google will offer service at a competitive price to at least 50,000 and potentially up to 500,000 people.
3. There is no cost to the local community. Google is looking for communities that can help them streamline the construction and permitting processes so that the fiber network can be installed quickly.
4. Monroe County needs to submit a Request for Information by March 26, 2010, 5:00 p.m.
5. The Information Technology and Planning Departments have collaborated to provide the detailed information for the submittal.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens to approve the Information Technology and Planning Department submitting a Request for Information proposal to Google with no cost to the county. Supported by Commissioner Mentel. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAYS

ABSENT

Henry Lievens
Dale Zorn
Albert Potratz
Floreine Mentel
William Sisk

Jerry Oley
John Fowler
Connie Velliquette
LaMar Frederick

Motion carried.

17. Members Time -

Commissioner Frederick introduced Monroe County Community Mental Health member, William Henning and stated all communities are in a state of change; change needs to be embraced, if not, we will be out of business.

Vice-Chairman Zorn stated since 2008, expenditures have been reduced by \$10 million.

Chairman Sisk thanked the Board for their professionalism.

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

Motion carried.

19. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

William Sisk, Chairman

Sharon D. Lemasters, Monroe County Clerk