

1. A Special Meeting of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners was held in the City of Monroe on Thursday, March 31, 2011, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Frederick at 7:00 p.m. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

PRESENT

ABSENT

Henry Lievens	Jerry Oley
David Hoffman	Mary O'Neill
Stephen Bell	Jason Sheppard
Daniel Donahue	LaMar Frederick
William Sisk	

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

2. Motion by Vice-Chairman Sisk to approve the Agenda for the Thursday, March 31, 2011, Special Meeting as presented. Supported by Commissioner Hoffman. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAY

ABSENT

Henry Lievens	Mary O'Neill	Stephen Bell
David Hoffman	Jason Sheppard	(excused)
William Sisk	LaMar Frederick	Daniel Donahue
Jerry Oley		(excused)

Motion carried.

3. Consideration of filling four vacant positions on the Monroe County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee.

Motion by Commission Lievens to confirm the appointment of Scott Viciano, Commissioner Jason Sheppard, Tracy Oberleiter and Julie Montri to the Monroe County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee. Supported by Vice-Chairman Sisk. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAY

ABSENT

Henry Lievens	Mary O'Neill	Stephen Bell
David Hoffman	Jason Sheppard	(excused)
William Sisk	LaMar Frederick	Daniel Donahue
Jerry Oley		(excused)

Motion carried.

4. Discussion of appointing a Health Officer on a temporary basis.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens to confirm the appointment of Harry E. Grenawitzke as the interim Health Officer not to exceed 1,000 hours and consider filling the position

on a full-time basis with someone in house if practical. Supported by Commissioner Sheppard.

Chairman Frederick noted it may be appropriate to establish a District Health Board.

Chairman Frederick noted \$131,000 was appropriated in 2011 for the position, there is \$100,000 remaining for a savings of \$45,000.

Commissioner Oley spoke regarding the number of employees that have been eliminated at the Health Department and noted there is a need for a full-time director.

Chairman Frederick noted one of Mr. Grenawitzke's tasks is to evaluate the skills/experience of current employees.

Commissioner Oley stated he has not looked at all resume's, it has been approximately 15 years since Mr. Grenawitzke has worked in the Health Department, questioned if he is qualified; substantial changes have taken place since his retirement and questioned how he can evaluate employees if he hasn't been involved with the department for some time.

Commissioner Oley suggested hiring someone full-time within six months.

Commissioner Lievens stated the accreditation process will begin soon, there is a deadline for making the appointment and Mr. Grenawitzke is available to "help get us through."

Vice-Chairman Sisk six months gives the Health Department time to focus on hiring someone on a full-time basis, municipalities may have to work collectively, the appointment has to be made before April 1, 2011 and he would love to see someone in house being appointed on a full-time basis.

Commissioner Lievens noted he will be disappointed if someone in house is not found to fill the position on a full-time basis.

Commissioner Oley questioned if Mr. Grenawitzke will work 40 hours a week.

Royce Maniko, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer stated Mr. Grenawitzke will work a 40 hour week however he has commitments in May and June.

Commissioner Oley stated he will check to see if he is working a 40 hour week.

Chairman Frederick stated the State has to approve the appointment.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAY

ABSENT

Henry Lievens  
David Hoffman  
William Sisk  
Jerry Oley

Mary O'Neill  
Jason Sheppard  
LaMar Frederick

Stephen Bell  
(excused)  
Daniel Donahue  
(excused)

Motion carried.

5. Discussion of Blue Cross/Blue Shield assumptions.

Michael Bosanac, Director, Administrative Services noted the following:

- 2-3 year resolution based upon other cases
- It appears Blue Cross does not prefer settlement
- Time consuming effort for staff and those involved
- Not every case has been successful
- Midland County – contingent fee basis, tied up in appeals, Blue Cross rejected case evaluation award, went back to May, 2009, case heard in Midland County Circuit Court, firm of Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, P.C., was used in Midland and received favorable comments on their work product
- Bay County – hourly fee basis, spent \$56,000 to date, Blue Cross rejected case evaluation award, went back to 2009, case heard in Bay County Circuit Court and recommended the firm of Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, P.C.
- Both counties are still with Blue Cross
- Expects Monroe County could spent approximately \$150,000 through the trial phase and appeal costs on top of that if case outcome is appealed

Philip Goldsmith, Lennard, Graham & Goldsmith noted spending approximately \$150,000 is conservative and asked the Board to consider retaining the firm on an hourly basis rather than on a contingency basis.

Commissioner Oley noted he has difficulties with an hourly rate, especially if we have to go through the appeal process.

Commissioner Lievens stated \$150,000 is steep through the trial phase, the firm knows what they are doing and it is hard to justify hiring the firm on a contingency basis.

Commissioner Oley stated Blue Cross is large enough to follow through beyond the appeal process.

Vice-Chairman Sisk stated a decision does not have to be made this evening and having an open discussion with Blue Cross prior to making a decision is appropriate.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens to direct staff to contact Blue Cross/Blue Shield to discuss administrative fees/access fees allegedly overcharged. Supported by Vice-Chairman Sisk. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAY

ABSENT

Henry Lievens  
David Hoffman  
William Sisk  
Jerry Oley

Mary O'Neill  
Jason Sheppard  
LaMar Frederick

Stephen Bell  
(excused)  
Daniel Donahue  
(excused)

Motion carried.

Mr. Bosanac noted he will meet with Blue Cross, will bring back a recommendation for the Board to consider after speaking with the firm.

Commissioner O'Neill questioned if the "appealable" items will be included in the report.

Chairman Frederick noted that would be difficult.

Mr. Goldsmith noted he will look into it.

6. Citizens Time –

Harry Grenawitzke thanked the Board for appointing him as interim Health Officer and noted he is looking forward to working with the Health Department staff and he will make the Health Department the best it can be.

7. Commissioners Time –

Commissioner Sheppard thanked the Board for appointing him to the Monroe County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee.

Commissioner Oley spoke regarding the cost exposure of the lawsuit.

Commissioner Lievens spoke regarding scheduling a Personnel Services/Human Resources Committee meeting, Monroe County's radio frequency "stepping on" Hillsdale County, Veterans Inc., attending the next Agenda Meeting and the Retiree Health Care Board opting to prepare an RFP for an advisor.

Chairman Frederick urged the Board to review the assumption chart and scheduled a workshop for Saturday, May 7, 2011, at 9:00 a.m., to review the 2011 Work Plan.

8. Motion by Vice-Chairman Sisk to adjourn. Supported by Commissioner Oley.

Motion carried.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

R. LaMar Frederick, Chairman

Sharon D. Lemasters, Monroe County Clerk