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REBECCA BAHAR-COOK
DIANNE HOLMAN
DEB NOLAN
RANDY SCHAFER

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2008 AT **6:30 P.M.**,
IN THE PERSONNEL CONFERENCE ROOM (D & E), HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING, 5303 S.
CEDAR, LANSING.

NOTE CHANGE IN TIME

Agenda

Call to Order

Approval of the [August 14, 2008](#) Minutes

Additions to the Agenda

Limited Public Comment

1. Budget Hearings

- a. Circuit Court
- b. Circuit Court - Family Division
- c. Circuit Court - Friend of the Court Division
- d. Community Agencies
- e. District Court
- f. Friend of the Court Advisory Committee
- g. Jury Administration
- h. Probate Court

Budget Book

Section-Page

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2. Final Ranking

Announcements

Public Comment

Adjournment

**PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES OR OTHER ELECTRONIC
DEVICES OR SET TO MUTE OR VIBRATE TO AVOID
DISRUPTION DURING THE MEETING**

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JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

August 14, 2008

Minutes

Members Present: Tina Weatherwax-Grant, Rebecca Bahar-Cook, Dianne Holman, Deb Nolan, Randy Schafer and Board Chairperson Marc Thomas

Members Absent: Todd Tennis

Others Present: John Neilsen, Maureen Winslow, Sara Deprez, David Easterday, Tom Shewchuk, Sam Davis, Stephanie Kluely, Janeil Valentine and others

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant at 7:46 p.m. in the Personnel Conference Room of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar, Lansing.

Approval of the July 10, 2008 Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. BAHAR-COOK, SUPPORTED BY COMM. NOLAN, TO APPROVE THE JULY 10 MINUTES AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Page one: Members Present should include Deb Nolan.

Page two: Grammar amendments

Page six: Announcements – “committee” was changed to “Board”

Additions to the Agenda

1. Revised front page

Limited Public Comment

Ms. Deprez introduced Scott Leroy and Lucas Joseph to the Committee. Mr. Leroy is the Supervisor at the Family Center and Mr. Joseph is the Ingham County Center Recipient.

Comm. Schafer asked about the changes to the Family Center facility. Mr. LeRoy stated renovations are going well at the Center.

1. Interviews – Ingham County Family Center Board

The Committee interviewed the following applicants for the Ingham County Family Center Board:

Anita Beavers	Theresa Bouyer	Gillian Peck
Sally Auer	John Castillo	Stephanie Cluley
Gail Kleine	Denise Lycos	Jim Paparella
Bryan Van Dorn		

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant thanked everyone for being interested in serving on the Ingham County Family Center Board. She also thanked Mr. Paparella for taking the lead for this issue.

Ms. Bouyer informed the Committee that her husband, Mr. Bouyer, could not be present this evening. He is still very interested in serving on this Board.

COMM. BAHAR-COOK DISCLOSED THAT JIM PAPARELLA AND GAIL KLEINE HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO HER CAMPAIGN.

MOVED BY COMM. BAHAR-COOK, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SCHAFER, TO APPROVE A CONSENT AGENDA FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

2. CCAB/JUCC Electronic Monitoring Sub-Committee – Resolution to Authorize the Selection of Sentinel Offender Services for an Offender Funded Electronic Monitoring Program Subject to a Final Contract Agreement
5. Circuit Court – General Trial Division – Resolution to Increase AutoMon Enrollment Fee
6. Facilities Department/MIS – Resolution Authorizing a Contract with TeL Systems, Inc. to Purchase Courtroom Technology for the Circuit Court

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Comm. Tennis

MOVED BY COMM. BAHAR-COOK, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SCHAFER, TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Comm. Tennis

3. Controller's Office – Resolution Authorizing 2009 Agreements for Juvenile Justice Community Agencies

Mr. Neilsen stated the Board of Commissioner previously reserved \$100,000 of the Juvenile Justice Millage funds to contract with vendors, to increase the capacity of the County juvenile justice system for the treatment of delinquent and disturbed youth.

The three community agencies have requested the following:

Dispute Resolution Center of Central Michigan	\$ 75,730
Lansing Teen Court	39,000
Child and Family Services Capital Area	<u>50,000</u>
Total	\$164,730

Child and Family Services – Capital Area – Jim Paparella

Mr. Paparella distributed a pamphlet about the Nexus program. He stated the Nexus program has one full time employee. He then distributed copies of the JIFF (Juvenile Inventory for Functioning: Youth Informant Version) to the Committee for their review. A goal of the Child and Family Services to is use the JIFF instrument for the Teen Court.

Comm. Nolan stated she needs the six-month report to determine the funding level for the Child and Family Services. Mr. Paparella distributed the report to the Committee. He then said he hopes to be able to offer the Nexus program to the Family Center in the future.

Mr. Paparella stated he is not asking for increased funds for 2009. Mr. Neilsen explained that CFS received \$75,000 last year for an 18 month period. A \$50,000 appropriation to CFS for 12 months would not be an increase.

Dispute Resolution Center of Central Michigan – Nancy Schertzing and Karen Beauregard

Ms. Beauregard stated the Center is requesting \$75,000 to continue to two programs. One of the programs is Restorative Justice. Ms. Beauregard spoke about the programs.

Ms. Schertzing distributed the latest six month report to the Committee for their review. The Center has hired one employee to conduct the Restorative Justice program to Hope Middle School in Holt and MacDonald Middle School in East Lansing.

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant asked if the AmeriCorps members can be expanded for next year. Ms. Schertzing explained that due to funding issues, the members will not be available for 2009.

Ms. Schertzing reviewed the second side of the handout regarding future plans for the Juvenile Restorative Justice Program. She further stated Mr. Dunning asked the Center to conduct this program to address truancy students.

Ms. Beauregard spoke regarding the Diversion Program. The Program is for first-time offenders. Several Lansing community agencies, MSU students and Cooley Law students are involved with this Program.

Comm. Copedge asked Ms. Schertzing to break down the numbers for this Program. Ms. Schertzing stated she would provide this information to Mr. Neilsen for this Committee.

Lansing Teen Court – Mike Botke

Mr. Botke distributed information to the Committee for its review. He then thanked the Committee for creating the JJM funds for the agencies. Mr. Botke then said he hopes the Committee can contribute more of the JJM funds to the agencies in the future.

The money is very important for Teen Court. He spoke about specifics for the application for 2009 funding request. Page two of the application summary – New Additions – in addition to our Cooley Law School location, a second Street Law Workshop will continue in Mason’s Hilliard Building on Tuesday evenings.

Mr. Botke stated he wants to start “Staying Connected with Your Teen” program which focuses on teaching parents better communication skills. This will be a focal point for Teen Court. We are also partnering with Child & Family Services to implement a new screening tool to better, more accurately identify risk factors in Respondents and families call the JIFF.

Mr. Botke stated they are having discussions with Child & Family Services about merging with their organization. If this does not work out, we will be a stand alone agency which will be more expensive.

Lansing Teen Court will use some of the funds to leverage additional funding. The Teen Court has grown each year and it should continue to grow. Mr. Botke stated it would be harder to grow the program with less than \$39,000; however, he will accept any amount from the County.

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant thanked Mr. Botke for his information. She then asked about the family programming. Mr. Botke explained that Teen Court took on the family program because it can do a better job of providing those services.

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant referred to page four of the charts Mr. Botke provided to this Committee. She stated she was surprised by the number of youths who shoplift. Mr. Botke explained that most teens who shoplift do so for other underlying issues. Comm. Nolan stated the Truancy Court finds there are many layers of issues that lead youth to be truant.

The Committee recessed at 9:22 p.m.
The meeting was called back to order at 9:39 p.m.

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant stated this Committee appreciates what the three agencies do for the community.

MOVED BY COMM. HOLMAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. BAHAR-COOK, TO COMPLETE THE THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED PARAGRAPH AS FOLLOWS:

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES CAPITAL AREA	\$40,000
DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER	30,000
LANSING TEEN COURT	30,000

The Committee discussed this motion. Comm. Bahar-Cook stated the funding should be allocated differently. Child and Family Services will use its funding to continue existing programming. The other two agencies want to expand their programs. Comm. Bahar-Cook further stated she strongly wishes the County could support the expansions; however, the County cannot appropriate expansion dollars at this time.

MOVED BY COMM. BAHAR-COOK, SUPPORTED BY COMM. WEATHERWAX-GRANT, TO AMEND THE MOTION AS FOLLOWS:

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES CAPITAL AREA	\$50,000
DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER	21,750
LANSING TEEN COURT	28,250

The Committee held a brief discussion regarding the motion to amend.

MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Comm. Tennis

MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Comm. Tennis

Mr. Neilsen informed the Committee that this Resolution will go before the Finance Committee next Wednesday.

Comm. Nolan requested that the three agencies appear before this Committee half way through their funding cycle to provide it with data. It would be helpful to receive this information earlier than the budget cycle.

4. MSU Extension – Presentation 4-H Mentoring Program (Stephanie Kluey)

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant informed the Committee that Comm. Tennis requested this presentation. He could not be here this evening but he did see their presentation at another event.

Ms. Kluely stated the Mentoring Program was implemented four years ago through the MSU Extension Office. The youth in the Program are involved with the Court. Extension has been working with Ms. Deprez to encourage the Judges to refer youth to the Mentoring Program. The Program also receives referrals from Big Sisters/Big Brothers.

Ms. Kluely explained how mentors are matched with the youths. She then said the Extension would like to continue this program for as long as possible.

Comm. Schafer stated he has always been impressed with 4-H Programs.

7. Family Court – Presentation on Juvenile Justice Millage Programming

Ms. Deprez provided a power-point presentation to the Committee regarding the Juvenile Justice Millage Programming. Hard copies of this presentation were provided to the Committee. A copy is also on file in the Board Office.

In summary, Ms. Deprez stated the total amount budgeted for JJM for FY 2008 for programming is \$4,316,938. This amount is doubled when combined with Child Care Fund Dollars. The Millage also funded the purchase of the new Ingham County Family Center. The purchase price was \$1,975,000 and the start up costs was \$1,271,260.

Mr. Deprez stated the Ingham Academy's staff is inspiring the youth to be good students. She then explained some of the methods the staff is using in this effort.

Mr. Neilsen stated the Millage amount for 2009 is \$4,494,687. Most of this amount will be spent on programming next year. The cumulative fund balance is just over \$4 million. Comm. Holman stated some of the programming costs will decrease once they are up and running.

8. Child and Family Services – Commissioner Bahar-Cook – Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation for a 2008 Agreement for the Child and Family Services Angel House Program
(*Tabled from the July 10, 2008 Meeting.*)

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant stated this item was tabled at the last meeting. The Committee wanted additional information.

MOVED BY COMM. NOLAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. BAHAR-COOK, TO REMOVE THE ITEM FROM THE TABLE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Comm. Tennis

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED PARAGRAPH: SECOND LINE – APPROVES ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR \$25,000 WITH CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES OUT OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE MILLAGE FUNDS FOR THE ANGEL HOUSE . . .

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO STRIKE THE FIRST BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED PARAGRAPH.

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant stated this Committee wanted some input from the Court on this matter. She then stated she contacted Judge Lawless to obtain her thoughts on this issue. Judge Lawless indicated

the Court would be comfortable with appropriating \$25,000 from the Juvenile Justice Millage. It was implied during that conversation that the remaining \$25,000 would come from the Contingency Fund. Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant stated she did not understand that implication during their discussion. She apologized for that confusion.

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant asked if there are assurances that the Angel House will remain open if it receives an appropriation from the County. Mr. Paparella stated currently all 15 beds are filled at Angel House. He further stated the transition to serving pregnant teens has started. It will be much easier to obtain Title IV-E fund with this type of programming. Mr. Paparella assured the Committee that the additional funds would be beneficial. He said he spoke with Judge Garcia regarding the new programming and his is pleased with this change.

Mr. Paparella stated he does not know if the new programming will eliminate the need for emergency beds. We will have to determine if we can balance that need with the new programming.

Board Chairperson Thomas said he remembered talking about seeing a master financial plan for the Angel House. Mr. Paparella distributed financial information to the Committee.

Comm. Holman asked if the CFS Board has approved the new programming. Mr. Paparella stated they are on board with the new programming. The board also understands the need for this change and that the County cannot pay for empty beds.

Mr. Neilsen stated he spoke with Judge Garcia regarding this item this morning. Judge Garcia informed him that \$25,000 should come from the JJM and the remaining \$25,000 should come from the County's Contingency Fund. Mr. Neilsen then reviewed the financial information. Judge Lawless has indicated she wants something in writing from the State that \$110,000 will materialize.

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant stated she is very uncomfortable with this situation. This Committee wants assurances that Angel House will have other funding sources to remain open. The County also does not yet have assurances from the State. If this Committee approves this Resolution tonight, it can be pulled from the Board floor if the County has not received official communication from the State. Board Chairperson Thomas stated if the Resolution is pulled from the Board's floor it will be referred back to this committee.

Board Chairperson Thomas asked if it is true that if you are accredited through the National Children's Alliance you can receive additional federal dollars. Mr. Paparella explained that is partially true. It costs \$10,000 to \$15,000 to become accredited. CFS plans to become accredited next year. The funds for this purpose are in the CFS 2009 budget. Mr. Paparella further explained this matter.

Chairperson Weatherwax-Grant stated the County's objective is to keep Angel House's doors open. Mr. Paparella stated \$50,000 from the County would really help Angel House stay open for the remainder of this year.

Comm. Schafer stated he doesn't understand the Judges' concern that we should use the Contingency Fund. The County has supported Angel House for a long time. The upcoming meetings with the State should have occurred a few years ago.

Ms. Winslow stated the Judges felt the JJM should not be used to bail out a private agency. They do

support Angel House. She further stated the Judges felt Angel House would feel more responsible to the County if the funds were split between the JJM and the Contingency Fund.

Board Chairperson Thomas stated he appreciates the Judges' concerns; however, the Board of Commissioners would be more supportive if the funds come from the JJM only. Comm. Holman stated the issue is not where the money comes from. We should make sure the new programming fits with the JJM criteria. She then stated she is unclear about the new programming for Angel House.

Mr. Paparella explained that DHS changed its philosophy after Angel House opened its doors. He stated he has asked the community about shifting the programming. Crittendon House was full but it had to close its doors for financial reasons. There is a need for the new programming in this community.

Comm. Nolan stated she shares Comm. Holman's concerns. This Committee needs a written plan and written confirmation from the State. Board Chairperson Thomas stated he also shares those concerns. We need a dispassionate party to tell us what will happen if Angel House closes its doors. Mr. Paparella stated DHS could answer that question.

Ms. Winslow stated the Court does not want to see Angel House close its doors. The Court placed five youth in that facility in July. These youth could not be placed anywhere else. Angel House needs to remain open to serve youths.

Comm. Nolan stated the Board of Commissioner's philosophy is not to create any more residential beds. We want to keep kids with their families.

Board Chairperson Thomas stated is would be fine with the Resolution if its approval is contingent on the CCF money. The Board will not allocate additional funds for Angel House without written confirmation from the State.

Friendly Amendments to the Resolution are as follows:

Title: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A *BRIDGE* APPROPRIATION FOR A 2008 AGREEMENTS FOR THE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES ANGEL HOUSE PROGRAM.

Third WHEREAS: "an emergency" was changed to "a bridge"

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED paragraph, second line: "hereby approved entering into a contract for \$25,000 from the Juvenile Justice Millage fund . . ."

New language:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following stipulations must be met prior to adoption of this resolution by the full Board of Commissioners:

- Child and Family Services will provide the Ingham County Circuit Court Family Division, Ingham County Department of Human Services and Board of Commissioners with a written proposal for the new Residential Services to Pregnant and Parenting Adolescents Program and Children's Assessment Center (CAC) Program;

- Written confirmation is received from the State of Michigan Department of Human Services that the proposed new Residential Services to Pregnant and Parenting Adolescents Program and Children's Assessment Center (CAC) budget proposals are eligible for Child Care Fund match.
- Child and Family Services will provide the Ingham County Board of Commissioners with a long-term financial plan, including a description of this transitional funding will help the organization remain financially solvent to maintain its long-term service to our community

Strike first BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED paragraph.

Mr. Paparella stated he appreciates having clear questions to address for this Committee and the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Neilsen stated this item will go before the Human Services and Finance Committees next week.

Board Chairperson Thomas stated we should move forward with this amended Resolution tonight. He then stated he is strongly opposed to taking money from the Contingency Fund for this matter. The Court should be informed that the Committee is approving this amended Resolution to keep this item moving forward.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Comm. Tennis

Announcements

Comm. Bahar-Cook informed the Committee that a tour of the Ingham County Family Center will be held on August 27, 2008 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. She asked that Commissioners inform her if they plan to attend this event.

Mr. Neilsen informed the Committee that its budget hearing is scheduled for September 3, 2008.

Public Comment: None

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Neff