

BAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FEBRUARY 16, 2016

THE BAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET FOR A SPECIAL SESSION ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016, IN THE FOURTH FLOOR COMMISSION CHAMBERS OF THE BAY COUNTY BUILDING. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN ERNIE KRYGIER AT 4:40 P.M. WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND GUESTS PRESENT.

ROLL CALL: COMMISSIONERS MICHAEL DURANCZYK, VAUGHN BEGICK, KIM COONAN, THOMAS HEREK, DONALD J. TILLEY, MICHAEL LUTZ AND CHAIRMAN ERNIE KRYGIER

OTHER MEMBERS: CYNTHIA A. LUCZAK, BAY COUNTY CLERK
DIANE YAWORSKI, SECRETARY TO THE COUNTY CLERK
ROBERT J. REDMOND, FINANCIAL ANALYST
DEANNE C. BERGER, BOARD COORDINATOR

ALSO PRESENT: THOMAS J. HICKNER, COUNTY EXECUTIVE
TIFFANY JERRY, PERSONNEL AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS DIRECTOR
DEBRA RUSSELL, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR
CRYSTAL HEBERT, FINANCE OFFICER
SHAWNA WALRAVEN, CORPORATION COUNSEL
CRISTEN GIGNAC, RECREATION & FACILITIES DIRECTOR
VARIOUS ELECTED OFFICIALS
VARIOUS DEPARTMENT HEADS
NEWS MEDIA

INVOCATION: THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY THE BAY COUNTY CLERK, CYNTHIA A. LUCZAK.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CITIZENS INPUT

THERE WAS NO CITIZEN INPUT.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

RES. 2016- 47: COMM. LUTZ MOVED TO ADOPT RES. 2016-47 RAPID FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS PREPAID DEBIT INMATE RELEASE PROGRAM AGENT AGREEMENT (SHERIFF DEPARTMENT). IT WAS SUPPORTED BY COMM. HEREK AND PASSED BY A VOICE VOTE OF: 7 YEAS, 0 NAYS.

RES. 2016- 56: COMM. LUTZ MOVED TO ADOPT RES. 2016-56 REORGANIZATION AND CONSOLIDATION OF RESPONSIBILITY OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC DEFENDER AND CORPORATION COUNSEL (COUNTY EXECUTIVE). IT WAS SUPPORTED BY COMM. DURANCZYK AND PASSED BY A VOICE VOTE OF: 7 YEAS, 0 NAYS.

CHRISTOPHER PINTER: CEO, BAY-ARENAC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH; BAY-ARENAC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HAS SERVED FOR MORE THAN 45 YEARS AS THE PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICE PROVIDER FOR THIS COMMUNITY, SERVING NEARLY 5,000 RESIDENTS OF BAY AND ARENAC COUNTIES EACH YEAR. BAY AND ARENAC COUNTY BOARDS OF COMMISSIONER CAME TOGETHER TO HELP KEEP PATIENTS CLOSE TO FAMILY AND COMMUNITY. SECTION 298 OF THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION FOR 2017 EFFECTIVELY NULLIFIES THE DULY AUTHORIZED ACTIONS TAKEN BY BAY-ARENAC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND THE 11 OTHER COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE PROGRAMS TO CREATE A REGIONAL ENTITY, TAKING 98% OF THE BUDGETED FUNDS FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND GIVING THEM TO PRIVATE AGENCIES. THIS WILL NOT REFLECT THE NEEDS OF PATIENTS AND THE COMMUNITY, BUT THE BOTTOM LINE OF THE PRIVATE AGENCIES.

COMM. COONAN: QUESTIONS IN REGARD TO HOW MONEY WAS COMING IN PREVIOUSLY VERUS HOW MONEY WILL NOW BE ALLOCATED. ALSO HOW WE ARE MOVING AWAY FROM COMMUNITY BASED PLAN TO PRIVATE AGENCIES.

CHRISTOPHER PINTER: MONEY WAS PAID BY MEDICARE/MEDICAID AND WE HAVE CURRENTLY SEEN A RISE IN THESE FUNDS. WITH THESE PROPOSED CHANGES IT WILL REFLECT THE NEEDS OF THE PRIVATE AGENCIES AND THEIR BOTTOM LINES, NOT THE NEEDS OF THE PATIENTS AND THE COMMUNITY.

COMM. TILLEY: VERY CONCERNED WITH THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION AND THE MOVE TO PRIVATIZE JAILS, SCHOOLS AND NOW MENTAL HEALTH. GOVERNMENT HAS A DUTY TO ITS CITIZENS WHERE PRIVATE AGENCIES HAVE A DUTY TO THEIR BOTTOM LINE.

COMM. BEGICK: DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT PRIVATIZING MENTAL HEALTH CARE IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO DEAL WITH THIS ISSUES.

COMM. KRYGIER: HAVE YOU SPOKE WITH ANYONE WHO THINKS THIS IS A GOOD IDEA?

CHRISTOPHER PINTER: THREE YEARS AGO, NO ONE THOUGHT SEPARATE COUNTIES COULD WORK TOGETHER, BUT WE HAVE AND WE HAVE DONE IT WELL. NOW THEY WANT TO PRIVATIVE IT. THIS IS WHY WE ARE ASKING FOR THE BAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO OPPOSE THIS AND MAINTAIN THE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COUNTIES AND STATE.

COMM. KRYGIER: WE WILL BE SENDING OUT THIS RESOLUTION TO THE CITIZENS SO THEY CAN UNDERSTAND WHY WE DO NOT SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL.

RES. 2016- 59: COMM. LUTZ MOVED TO ADOPT RES. 2016-59 OPPOSITION TO SECTION 298 OF EXECUTIVE BUDGET PROPOSED FOR FY 2017. IT WAS SUPPORTED BY COMM. TILLEY AND PASSED BY A VOICE VOTE OF: 7 YEAS, 0 NAYS.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

THERE WAS NO UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

NEW BUSINESS

THERE WAS NO NEW BUSINESS.

MISCELLANEOUS

THERE WERE NO MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THERE WERE NO ANNOUNCEMENTS.

CLOSED SESSION

THERE WAS NO CLOSED SESSION REQUESTED.

RECESS/ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 25: COMM. DURANCZYK MOVED TO ADJOURN THE SPECIAL BOARD SESSION OF FEBRUARY 16, 2016. IT WAS SUPPORTED BY COMM. TILLEY. THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 5:00 P.M. BY A VOICE VOTE OF: 7 YEAS, 0 NAYS.

ERNIE KRYGIER, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CYNTHIA A. LUCZAK, COUNTY CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DIANE YAWORSKI
SECRETARY TO THE CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS