



**CONFERENCE OF WESTERN WAYNE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
November 4, 2016**

**1. CALL TO ORDER – WILD**

The CWW Board Meeting was hosted by Canton Township. Mayor Wild called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Huron Township Trustee Donna Myndrysa welcomed everyone to Huron Township, and invited all in attendance to join in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. ROLL CALL – NIX**

Supervisor Nix called the roll: Supervisor LaJoy, Canton Charter Township; Mayor Jack O'Reilly, City of Dearborn; Donna Myndrysa, Voting Alternate, Huron Charter Township; Mayor Dennis Wright, City of Livonia; Mayor Ken Roth, City of Northville; Supervisor Robert Nix II, Northville Charter Township; Mayor Dan Dwyer, City of Plymouth; Supervisor Shannon Price, Plymouth Charter Township; Supervisor Tracey Schultz Kobylarz, Redford Charter Township; Mayor LeRoy Burcroff, City of Romulus; Karen Armatis, Voting Alternate, Sumpter Township; Supervisor Linda Combs, Van Buren Charter Township; Mayor Susan Rowe, City of Wayne; Mayor William Wild, City of Westland.

CWW Board Members/Voting Alternates of record not present: City of Belleville; City of Dearborn Heights; City of Garden City; and City of Inkster.

Others present: Members of the audience.

**3. INTRODUCTIONS AND AUDIENCE REMARKS - WILD**

Mayor Wild asked CWW Board Members and members of the audience to introduce themselves to one another.

**4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – WILD**

Motion by Rowe, supported by O'Reilly to approve the November 4, 2016 agenda.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORTS**

Motion by Nix, supported by LaJoy to approve the Treasurer's Reports from 08/31/16 and 09/30/16.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

## **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Rowe, supported by Kobylarz to approve the September 9, 2016 CWW Board Meeting minutes as presented.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

## **7. SPECIAL FEDERAL UPDATE**

Congress Members Debbie Dingell and Dave Trott gave a joint update to the Board. Congresswoman Dingell mentioned that she and Trott share responsibility and concern for Western Wayne County. She noted that Veterans' issues have come front and center for both of them. She also touched on the Flint water crisis and noted that it put a lens on many issues that need to be addressed. She asked board members how she can help regarding housing issues in their communities.

Mayor O'Reilly brought up the water pipe issue. Some communities have different pipe issues. It will cost approximately \$2,000 per home to upgrade the pipes. He also advised this is a national issue.

Congressman Trott said that the East Coast has 100-year-old pipes – some made of wood. Mayor O'Reilly noted that due to the way water in our area is treated, we are in better shape. Supervisor Nix said that the water pipe system is something that local governments are helpless to fix. He feels that Congress should re-prioritize issues on a federal level in order to help with water pipe replacement.

Congressman Trott noted that this was the third installment of his and Dingell's joint address. They have successfully passed legislation for Veterans, suicide prevention, and a highway bill. Congresswoman Dingell also stated that she does not feel it is productive to demonize the State; she is successfully working with them on many issues.

Dingell talked about TIGER Grants, and that there is not even an agreement within Wayne County. She feels that the mayors/supervisors and Wayne County need to come to an agreement.

Supervisor Price mentioned that local officials have no clout in calling the railroad companies for help with blockages. He said that when congress gets involved the companies listen, so he appreciated their help. He also thanked Mayor Wright, who helped facilitate a lunch meeting with the railroad companies.

Supervisor Kobylarz thanked Dingell and Trott for dealing with water issues. She explained that a lot of water goes through Redford Twp. to other communities; 11.2 square miles of pipe run through Redford Twp. When they have 25 water main breaks in Redford, it is very hard on the township. She wondered where the real commitment was to the communities in dealing with the water issues.

Mayor Burcroff said that he has reached out to County Commissioner Basham related to railroad crossing blockages in connection to the airport fire department. Commissioner Basham explained that TIGER is not a county issue. There was a time when you could "window" trains and issue tickets; that can no longer be done.

### **SPECIAL FEDERAL UPDATE - CONTINUED**

Supervisor Price mentioned that the M-1 Rail construction started out to be privately funded, and now is getting TIGER Grant funding.

## **8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### NEXT GEN 911

Ms. Sellek advised the Board that she continues to discuss Next Gen 911 with legislators and 911 stakeholders regarding changes to the 911 enabling legislation. She is still working on getting a sponsor for the legislation. She referenced Handout A, which covers the talking points that CWW has signed onto with the other involved organizations. She also noted that even Uber can pinpoint your location; our 911 cannot. The entire Upper Peninsula of Michigan is on Next Gen 911.

Ms. Sellek asked the Board to familiarize themselves with what NextGen 911 is, as CWW will eventually need them to reach out to their legislators regarding these changes.

Ms. Sellek has met with Peninsula Fiber Network to obtain an estimate on the cost to install an internet protocol-based network to replace the old legacy copper lines in the CWW region. After signing on, the process to get the legacy lines turned into fiber optic would take 12 months.

### TREASURER SABREE/911 REMITTANCE

Ms. Sellek advised the Board that she and Chairman Wild met with Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree to make him aware of the issues CWW has had with the County's remittance of 911 funds this year. Treasurer Sabree brought in his staff so the concerns could be discussed openly. It turned out to be a productive meeting, and although this year has been unpredictable, Ms. Sellek and Chairman Wild left the meeting feeling that the Treasurer's office may have the 911 payments under control going forward.

### CCF AND 1/10 MIL PAYMENTS

CWW Youth Assistance Programs were sent their CCF reimbursements through September, 2016, as well as their 1/10 mill payments. Unfortunately, we encountered extremely slow CCF reimbursement this year. Although the County approved the payments in a timely fashion, the Wayne County Department of Management and Budget was slow in remitting the checks.

### CCF STATE PAYMENTS AND AUDIT

Ms. Sellek reported findings from the September 2016 meetings of the House of Representatives. Among the numerous findings was that the state was extremely behind in payments to CCF agencies. Out of 125 accounts (agencies the state sends CCF reimbursements to), 24% were up to date, 48% were behind 1-2 months, 16% were behind 3-4 months, and 5% were 5 or more months behind. Wayne County fell into the 5% category, being 7 months and \$30M behind in reimbursements from the state.

Ms. Sellek noted that this is a statewide issue, not county-specific. Recommendations included requiring reimbursement payment within 45 days of receiving the bill, having the

#### CCF STATE PAYMENTS AND AUDIT - CONTINUED

department put in internal risk controls and hiring an independent consultant to come in and review how the department is operating the reimbursement process.

Wayne County, CWW and the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) submitted cards requesting the state honor its prior agreement with Wayne County and reimburse at the agreed upon amount. The Committee's recommendations included honoring existing annual budgets for FY 16/17. MAC, Wayne County and counties statewide are working with DHHS to establish a fix to the payments in arrears. Ms. Sellek noted that Wayne County is currently floating the money for payments; however, in other parts of the state, counties cannot afford to float the owed monies.

#### CCF ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGE

Ms. Sellek has been in contact with Wayne County regarding proposed administrative rules changes to the MDHHS Child Division. Particularly concerning is R 400.2029 Donated Funds; Rule 29. She feels that it is very important that this administrative rule does not go into effect.

According to Wayne County, this will impact any agency that brings in their own internal resources to bear (fund raising revenues, endowment dividends/interest/capital gains, service fees, unrestricted grants, etc.). Those entities could not "donate" their own funds by depositing them into the county CCF while also being the "beneficiary" of those funds "meaning that the donor also receives the CCF match and executes the service itself.) Based upon the County's last year's fiscal reviews of these programs, they believe a strict reading of this rules section would eradicate roughly 80% of the County's Donor Funding program, which is about 7,000 kids per year and about \$20 million in total programming.

It is likely that this will be something that will happen in the new session, which will then change current JCAR membership. However, Ms. Sellek advised the Board that they may wish to take a position opposing any MDHHS administrative rule that negatively impacts donor funding for county Child Care Fund-eligible agencies and that Wayne County advocate for a donor funding program that does not make it impossible for our current models to operate.

Mayor O'Reilly asked Dale Yagiela of Growth Works for a clarification on funding, as it is General Fund money. Mr. Yagiela answered that the monies would have to be banked with the county. He also said that there is a handbook with guidelines (as opposed to rules); however, it has been used as rules. Mr. Yagiela also said that the Michigan Association of Counties is in an uproar over the proposed changes. He discussed CMO funding. Mr. Yagiela expressed his thanks for CWW's support. Mayor Dwyer spoke about the handbook and the issues it has created. The state is coming back three years later saying something they billed for and approved that long ago is now not allowed. The state is saying these amounts do not have to be paid back; instead they will take it out of what is currently being billed to them.

#### CCF ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGE - CONTINUED

Motion by Price, supported by Rowe to oppose any such rule that would negatively impact donor funding for county Child Care Fund-eligible agencies.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

#### CDBG FUNDING

CWW has reached out to Wayne County Chief of Staff Rudy Hobbs to make him aware of the disconnect between the out-county communities and Wayne County in regards to future CDBG plans. He assured CWW he would be personally involved in the process and bring a number of communities to the table to come to a compromise.

The community/Wayne County meetings resulted in a plan that would lower each community's CDBG amount by 10% and also make for a \$300,000 demonstration project in Western Wayne, Eastern Wayne, and Downriver. After two years of this plan, it would be re-evaluated to determine the best process going forward. The \$300,000 for each demonstration project is coming from the 10% across the board cut and also from \$450,000 in NSP funds the County is hoping to get approval from HUD to use for these demonstration projects. The \$450,000 has not been approved yet, but Wayne County stated they did not believe it was going to be a problem.

The Advisory Council voted to move the plan forward with the assumption the \$450,000 NSP funds is approved; however, there was some concern with the 10% cut to each community. The Council also made an amendment stating that the same community could not be awarded the demonstration project two years in a row. The plan still needs to be approved by the Wayne County Commission and will have to be approved by HUD.

Ms. Sellek advised that CWW will continue working with our non-entitlement CDBG communities as the process moves forward. Mayor Wild said that the CDBG money is very important to the CWW communities.

Mayor Rowe sits on the advisory board and mentioned that communities can apply jointly for funds. She knows a 10% cut will be rough on communities. She did vote for it; it is only for two years.

#### HEROIN/CARFENTANIL

During 2016 the drug of choice to cut Heroin with is carfentanil. This drug is a tranquilizing agent for elephants and is roughly 10,000 times more potent than morphine. Ms. Sellek outlined the DEA's warnings for anyone that may come into contact with carfentanil. She also noted that it is believed that this drug is being cut in Michigan, but it is not known exactly where in the state.

#### MENTAL HEALTH GRANT

CWW and DCC wrapped up the Mental Health First Responder Grant on September 30, 2016. 17 CWW agencies participated in the training and received payments totaling \$59,800.

#### 2017 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The CWW Nominating Committee will give their recommendation for the 2017 Executive Committee at the December board meeting. Based on the newly adopted Executive Committee nominating policy, there will be one open seat on the 2017 CWW Executive Committee. Ms. Sellek urged anyone interested in serving on the Executive Committee to contact her before December 1, 2016.

Ms. Sellek reviewed the newly passed policy that requires any nominee to be the mayor or supervisor of the CWW community, as well as the willingness to serve for five years.

2016 Nominating Committee:

1. Supervisor Tracey Schultz Kobylarz (outgoing Chair Emeritus)
2. Mayor Jack O'Reilly (current CWW Vice-Chairman)
3. Mayor Pro-Tem Jaylee Lynch (nominated by current CWW Chairman)

#### WAYNE COUNTY TRANSIT COMMITTEE

In 2015, Ms. Sellek was appointed to serve as an alternate on the Wayne County Transit Authority. The seat needs to be replaced and the Executive Committee recommends Supervisor Kobylarz to serve as an alternate on the WCTA.

Motion by LaJoy, supported by O'Reilly to appoint Supervisor Kobylarz as alternate on the Wayne County Transit Authority.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

#### SALARY SURVEY

Ms. Wellwood continues to work on the 2016 CWW Salary Survey; copies of the booklets will be given to the board at the December CWW Board Meeting.

#### CWW 2016-2017 DATA GUIDE/WWBLB UPDATE

Ms. Sellek referenced the data guides that were placed at the board members' seats. The guides were distributed to the 370 attendees at the WWBLB and were made available to our local chambers of commerce. The Conference has extra booklets in case any CWW community would like some delivered to them.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual WWBLB was a huge success. The event sold out a week prior, and the feedback has been that the banquet has become the "annual event to be at". Dan West from the Livonia Chamber of Commerce will provide a thorough overview at our December meeting.

#### 2017 TENTATIVE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The tentative schedule for next year was included in the Executive Director's Report.

## **9. PRESENTATION**

### **A. MUNETRIX**

Bob Kittle gave a presentation on what Munetrix is. It is a for-profit company that utilizes cloud-based software. Since 2010 they've been working to advocate for communities. He was not sure if communities were aware of the Munetrix platform that they can take advantage of. He also spoke of the shortage of young people going into local government, and the fact that some higher education institutions are now teaching municipal government (including local government finance.) They currently work with 350 communities and school districts in Michigan. The state has reimbursed school districts that utilize Munetrix, as they realize it helps. Munetrix is hoping to get the state to reimburse local governments who use it as well.

Mr. Kittle mentioned that Munetrix can act as an extension to a municipal team. He also said that if a community is interested in transparency, the Munetrix platform can be very beneficial.

## **10. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

### TIF CONSOLIDATION

Ms. Sellek said that SB 1026 (Horn) passed the Senate 37-0 and is headed to the House. This bill consolidates all tax increment financing authority acts (except the Brownfield Redevelopment Act) into one TIF act. One of the biggest complaints about TIFs during the past few years is about a lack of accountability and transparency in reporting. SB 1026 also emphasizes on reporting requirements, accountability to them and transparency. CWW staff has been involved and closely monitoring this issue for the past three years and will continue to do so.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL EVENT BILL ON HOLD

CWW took a position of support on HB 5282 (Webber) which limits local government liability in heavy rain events. The bill would reduce costs for locals on a case-by-case basis by increasing governmental immunity. The bill will likely come up for a vote this month and it is expected to pass. Ms. Sellek feels it is still important for board members to contact their legislators to voice their support.

### 2017 PA 51

Ms. Sellek advised that a re-write of PA 51 is brought up by a legislator each year, but the undertaking is so massive that nothing happens. However, the Governor has publicly stated wholesale revisions should be considered in revising PA 51. MDOT made a presentation to the Senate Republican caucus at the end of September. It consisted of a basic framework of what MDOT thought a new formula could look like. Discussions have started and MDOT has requested input from legislators and local municipalities. MML confirmed that complete overhaul of PA 51 will not happen during lame duck.

#### PUBLIC PENSION CHANGES

Ms. Sellek reviewed that there had been talk of a public pension overhaul during lame duck. It wasn't known if the overhaul included all public pensions, or just pertain to educator pensions. SB 102 (Pavlov) would move educators to a 401K after a certain hire date. CWW staff will be monitoring this in the event a public pension overhaul should come to fruition.

#### CHARITABLE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

Ms. Sellek discussed how SB 960 (Brandenburg) would expand the charitable property tax exemption to non-profits. Both MML and the Michigan Department of Treasury opposed the bill. The Senate Fiscal Agency estimates a \$27.6 million decline in local property tax revenue for 2016-17. School revenue would be hit through their local operating millages by about \$17.8 million. This bill would allow businesses to get around taxes by having a portion of their business as a non-profit.

Mayor O'Reilly advised this could have a huge negative impact. He is concerned that businesses can blanket their entire business as non-taxable. Supervisor Nix talked about a threshold. He feels the communities should check with their assessors to look at what a good threshold should be – perhaps 20-30%.

Mayor Rowe said that non-profits still use city services. What happens if a whole community turns non-profit? Who is going to pay for the city services?

Ms. Sellek asked for the board's recommendations to her by November 9, 2016, so she can pass the information along. She also asked the board to contact their senator and representative if their community could be heavily impacted by this change.

Mayor O'Reilly made a motion to ask Lansing legislators not to take this legislation up in lame duck. Supervisor Kobylarz supported the motion.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

#### UBER

MML is opposing the proposed "Uber" legislation due to the potential loss of local control. Any community that has a local taxi ordinance will be affected, as this legislation will strip any local taxi ordinance.

Ms. Sellek urged any communities that have a taxi ordinance to contact their Senator immediately.

#### SPEED LIMIT CHANGES

HB 4423 H-3 (Jacobsen) would institute - among other things - a 45 mph speed limit on a county highway with a gravel or unimproved surface in a county with a population of 1.0 million or more. A municipality located in said county could request with the county road commission in conjunction with the MSP to decrease the speed limit to not less than 35 mph. The requesting municipality would be responsible for the costs of erecting and maintaining any sign, signal or device.

#### SPEED LIMIT CHANGES - CONTINUED

HB 4424 H-3 (Jacobsen) would delete a provision allowing local authorities to increase or decrease the prima facie speed limit within a local school zone under their jurisdiction.

HB 4425 H-3 (Outman) would eliminate a provision allowing a township board to petition the county board of commissioners for a speed limit change in charter counties with no road commission. It would also require a local road authority to determine any modified speed limits on a local highway.

Ms. Sellek advised that these potential changes are important for board members to share with their local traffic or road commission. The entire analysis was included in the Legislative Update.

#### BILLBOARDS VS. TOWNSHIPS

SB 953 (Casperson) would make lands owned or leased by a school district available for billboard or any other commercial use without township approval.

Ms. Sellek asked any affected board members to contact their representative prior to their November 9, 2016 return to session.

#### ENERGY REFORM TO BE FIRST POST-ELECTION VOTE

Ms. Sellek reviewed the three major changes included in Senator Nof's latest energy package, SB 437-438, which is set to be the first bills the Senate takes up when it returns to session on November 9, 2016.

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce is on board with the bills, but there still remain questions about whether or not this new substitute maintains electric choice. Those in opposition claim that it does not.

Senator MacGregor is expected to offer an amendment that would "provide ratepayer protections and sets up a process for the Michigan Public Service Commission to ensure ratepayers receive the best value when new electric generation is being brought online. It would also eliminate language in the bill requiring a proposed 'capacity tax' choice supporters say is designed to artificially inflate electric costs for customers looking to save money on their electric bills."

Ms. Sellek further explained that the sponsors of the bills are not in favor of the amendment, but Senators who have committed to protecting choice are.

#### FOIA REFORM

Although the House passed Rep. McBroom's FOIA reform package in late September, it is unclear as to where the Senate stands on the bills. CWW staff will be following this issue closely during lame duck.

#### JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM

The proposed legislation (HB 4947-4962 and HB 4964-HB 4966) that would no longer sentence 17 year-olds as adults has been both heavily supported and heavily opposed; they have not been reported from committee.

#### JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM

Ms. Sellek said that the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) is in opposition to the bill package mainly because the cost is completely unknown. MAC acknowledged that MI is one of seven states that still sentences 17 year-olds, but testified that now is not the time to make this change as the proper information is not known, locals do not have the resources or capacity for this change and the funding needed is still unknown.

Ms. Sellek advised that if these bills are passed, it will cause an undetermined (and likely significant) amount of fiscal impact to local governments.

### **11. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

#### **A. BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN**

Mayor Burcroff presented checks totaling \$2,750 to Melinda Asher of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan. A Shinola watch was auctioned off at the Western Wayne Business Leadership Banquet on October 4, 2016 with the proceeds to go to the charity of the board's choice.

Mayor Burcroff talked about the after school activities the organization provides for children and the benefits this program provides, as this is the time children tend to get into trouble who do not have constructive activities.

#### **B. SUPERVISOR LAJOY**

Ms. Sellek presented Supervisor LaJoy with a resolution from the CWW Board and staff in recognition and appreciation for all of his work. She noted that he put together the four largest CWW communities to form the Big 4 (Canton, Livonia, Dearborn and Westland). Additionally, as an active member of the Michigan Townships Association, he worked with MTA to create the Big 10 Townships. That group now has over 20 member communities. The board and staff will miss Supervisor LaJoy.

Supervisor LaJoy said that he has enjoyed working with CWW, and mentioned the power in numbers that occurs when the CWW communities come together as a united front for the benefit of their residents and businesses.

#### **C. SUPERVISOR COMBS**

Ms. Sellek then presented Supervisor Combs with a resolution acknowledging her work with CWW and the many other boards and commissions she serves on, including MMRMA, DUWA, and LDF. She will also be missed by the board and staff of CWW.

Supervisor Combs thanked the CWW Board and staff, and has thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the CWW.

**12. STATE AND ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS**

Wayne County Commissioner Basham and Haidous thanked Supervisor LaJoy and Combs for their work on the CWW Board. Supervisor Kobylarz also thanked Supervisor Price for his input. She also thanked Lianne Clair from Van Buren Township for filling in as needed.

**13. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Rowe, supported by Nix to adjourn the meeting at 11.18 a.m.

AYES: All. Motion carried.