

APPROVED  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE OTTAWA COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH SESSION - WORK SESSION

The Ottawa County Board of Commissioners met on Monday, March 17, 2003, at 6:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Chair.

The Chair led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present at roll call: Mrs. Kortman, Messrs. Kuyers, Swartout, Mrs. Ruiter, Messrs. Rinck, Rycenga, Schrotenboer, Berghorst, Vander Kam. (9)

Absent: Ms. Visscher, Mr. VanderLaan. (2)

Staff & Guests: Gary Scholten, Register of Deeds; Greg Rappleye, Corporation Counsel; Mark Scheerhorn, Administrative Services Director; Rosemary Zink, Finance Director; Mark Knudsen, Planning & Grants Director; Dave Schipper, Director of Probation Services and Community Corrections; Rich Schurkamp, Human Resources Director; Mary Richardson, Treasurer; Gary Reed, Lobbyist; Frank Cusmano, Lobbyist; Sherri Sayles, Deputy Clerk

Work Session Items

A. Lobbyist Gary Reed - Gary Reed and Frank Cusmano from Cusmano, Kandler and Reed Lobbying reported on legislative issues in Lansing. The legislative agenda has focused on the budget for the last 18 months. Higher education and state government have taken the biggest hits. Revenue sharing is very vulnerable if a budget isn't in place by September. The budget continues to get worse. The next programs that could be cut in K - 12 education is special education and busing.

Land use is a major undertaking by the Governor. This Board needs to be aware of this. There are concerns on state limitations on how local units can use their land.

Cusmano, Kandler and Reed Lobbying works for Ottawa County. They get their directions from Bob Oosterbaan and Mark Knudsen. It was suggested legislative issues be on the Work Session Agendas on a regular basis.

B. ACS Proposal - The Chair would like to get a consensus from the Board if the ACS Proposal should move forward. Gary Scholten, Register of Deeds, explained the background of the proposal. He stated he has been working on this since 1998 when he took office. Gary recommends this proposal. Mark Scheerhorn reported administration is onboard with the turnkey out-source solution. He reported they are comfortable with ACS as the vendor. It was the consensus of the Board for the proposal to go on the March 18th Finance and Administration Agenda and then to bring it to the full Board on March 25th.

The approval of a contract to demolish the former Community Haven Nursing Facility will also be added to the March 18th Finance and Administration Agenda.

The Chair explained the Board Policy indicates the Finance & Administration Committee shall review and receive reports regarding contracts.

C. Discussion of Goals - Mark Knudsen, Planning and Grants Director, reviewed the following five goals:

- Goal 1 - Maintain the Strong Financial Position of the County
- Goal 2 - Maximize the Effectiveness of County Government
- Goal 3 - Improve Relations with County Employees
- Goal 4 - Work with Local Units of Government to Create Land Use Planning Models
- Goal 5 - Maintain and Enhance Communication with Citizens

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

DANIEL C. KRUEGER, Clerk and DENNIS W. SWARTOUT, Chairman  
Of the Board of Commissioners