

January Supervisor's Report --- 2011

The month started out with a meeting with MERS (Michigan Employees Retirement System) prior to going into contract talks with AFCSME. The next morning, after our weekly meeting with Attorney Lattie, I drove to Detroit to meet with Mark Knuth and Richard Fanning in regard to present labor situations and personnel questions in regard to the fire commission proposal. Thursday, both Mr. Dunnill and I, as well as Chief Stamm and Jude Rariden, responded to a conference call from Mr. Randy Mason, representing the Fraternal Order of Police, about a grievance from a member of that union. Friday morning was the Grand Blanc Chamber of Commerce.

Monday was a "set aside" for following up on phone calls and e-mails. Tuesday was the weekly meeting with Attorney Lattie followed by a later session to finalize what would be presented at the Committee of the Whole that night regarding the consensus of the Township Board on the Fire Commission Agreement. Wednesday afternoon, Dick, Cathy and I met with Larry Merrill and Jason Orton regarding the MTA Workman's Compensation Plan. Thursday, I spent some time at the Genesee County Planning Commission. We were working on improving communications regarding the CDBG Grant. That night was the Township Board meeting. The next day, I met with Stuart and Kathy Main and the new people who will be taking over the Loch Lomond Golf Course.

The January Staff meeting started the third week. In the afternoon we had another meeting dealing with questions regarding the draft proposal that the fire chief had presented, The next morning was Roads and Bridges. Mr. Ken Johnson and Mr. Fred Pelvandi made a power point presentation on the Genesee County Road Commission Policy on Non-Motorized Pathways. Copies of this policy are available at my office.

The next morning was the Supervisors' Breakfast. The Water and Waste meeting followed that. We were given draft copy of the proposed Master Agreement for the Karegnondi Water Agreement. (Again—copies are available in my office. It is 83 pages long and I can't put it in this report) Moving forward, the county and each major participant must figure capacity needed for the future. (There can be capacity tradeoffs as there has been in the past regarding sewer capacity.) In regard to Surface Water, changes have been

made to the NPDES Phase 2 Permit because of legal challenges, but we have been informed that our permit is valid.

There were some comments as to Flint comparing the cost of redoing its own capacity and not joining the Karegnondi project, but a preliminary study done in the early stages of the Karagnondi project did not show a savings at that time. The advisory board to the County Water and Waste Board also selected a new chairperson --Bob Cole, from Argentine Township. He will take the place of the previous chairperson, Charles Smiley. Barbara BakerOmerod, from Lennon will be the new vice chairperson for Fiscal Year 2011. The next morning, I met with Dan Potter to make sure I understood the background on financing for any change in tap-in fees. In the afternoon, Kirk, Danielle and I met with Christine Durgan and Anna King in regard to CDBG funds. On Friday, I attended a luncheon with Bill Ballenger as the speaker to get some background on legislative affairs.

Monday, Dick and I met with Kirk, Mike and Dan Potter to discuss tap-in fees. The next morning was the weekly Attorney meeting, and that night was the Fourth Tuesday Township Meeting. Wednesday, I traveled to Grand Rapids to attend the annual Michigan Townships Association Educational Conference. Besides the regular workshops, I also met with representatives from Plante Moran and from the Par Plan and Tom McGraw from McGraw and Morris—our insurance lawyer. The workshops I attended were (1)“Ask the lawyer” Municipal, Labor and Tax Attorney sat at different tables in the room and you could go to different tables and ask questions that specifically pertained t your township. (2) “Survive and thrive in a changing Media Environment” which talked of different ways of dealing with the media (3) “Why your Township belongs in MTA’s Workers’ Compensation Plan”. (Bad microphones interfered with this presentation and there were no handouts.) (4) “Ask the experts” where a panel of MTA staff personnel answered questions that were specific to individual township problems (5) “Costs and Benefits of Sharing Services” was conducted by the MTA Executive Director, Larry Merrill and dealt with the costs and benefits of sharing police and/or fire services. It was very specific and dealt with many of the problems others had dealt with in combining police, but more often—fire services. He also had remedies for some of the problems. One of the things that was consistent was the clarity and specificity of the Agreement. That afternoon was as session on “Managing Negativity”. The speaker was

outstanding. The last session I attended that day was the “Legislative Update”. That night was the banquet. Friday was a short meeting with all participants on Michigan Township Policies and then back home again and back to work. Hope the New Year is starting out just the way you wanted it to be. Good luck and good health.

Micki Hoffman