

Westshore Council of Governments  
Regular Meeting  
Bay Village City Hall  
February 11, 2015

9:32 a.m. - Meeting was called to order

1. Roll Call – In attendance – Mayor Sutherland, Mayor Summers, Mayor Bobst, Mayor Patton, Mayor Kennedy, and Mayor Clough

Also in attendance: David Greenspan, District 1 County Councilman Gary Ebert, Bay Village Law Director, We Share Fire Chiefs – Fire Chief Tony Raffin, Fairview Park, Fire Chief John Reese, North Ridgeville, League of Women Voters - Kathy Woodbridge and Nikki Salupo

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of January 14, 2015 was made by Mayor Patton, second by Mayor Clough; motion passed. Minutes are approved as distributed.

3. Commission Reports

- A. RTA – Mayor Clough shared that RTA has new busses coming in soon.

- B. NOACA

Mayor Sutherland reports the continuation of the TLCI grant, which is due by the beginning of March. There is a grant workshop February 19<sup>th</sup> at NOACA from 10 am – noon. If cities would like to participate they should plan to have someone attend. There is a Policy & External Affairs Committee meeting this Friday. A lobbyist has been hired to help secure sufficient funding from ODOT and Federal distributions for our area.

- C. Land Bank

Mayor Kennedy noted that an important meeting was taking place today. He will get information about what took place at the meeting. He was checking on the vacant property that Mayor Sutherland had reported. He will stay on top of it and reminded all Mayors if they have any properties they need help with they should contact the Land Bank. They have been very responsive to the COG's needs.

- D. County Planning Commission

Mayor Patton reported that their meeting was cancelled due to the new administration of Armond Budish getting organized. The meeting has been rescheduled for next month.

Mayor Patton had two additional reports she wanted to share. First, she will be attending the Suburban Water Council of Governments, as the representative for COG, on Friday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. She distributed the agenda and asked that she be notified of any issues the group would like to see brought up at the meeting. Secondly, on Thursday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> there is an Efficiency in Government meeting, sponsored by Mayors and Managers, to be held at the Independence Civic Center. They will have seminars for Mayors and their staff.

Topics will be Collaboration, Lean Ohio Grants, Public and Private Partnerships, Creative Thinking, Outsourcing, and Cooperative Purchasing, among other items. RSVP's are needed.

E. Cuyahoga County Mayors & Managers Association

Mayor Sutherland reported they will be following the legislative agenda and working to put together a legislative committee. Their previous focus was on SB5 and income tax reform. They are working proactively with the legislators through the budget process. On March 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a trip to Columbus to visit with legislators. There is a Mayors and Managers meeting Thursday, Feb. 12.

4. Old Business

WeShare – Mayor Sutherland requests a meeting between all the active stakeholders and participating hospitals in an attempt to rectify the problems that are causing cities to opt out. Cities that have opted out are also welcome to attend the meeting. Mayor Sutherland asks those cities that have opted out to send her a brief statement of the issues and concerns that prompted them to pull out of WeShare. They were also asked to list the positives of the program they are currently in. This will help to gain a better understanding of where efforts need to be made to strengthen training. North Ridgeville Fire Chief Reese felt that the program didn't really get off to a great start with turnover in chiefs and that the program became stagnant. It was there to provide education and protocols. He feels the continued success of WeShare doesn't match the business model of the hospitals, as it doesn't help their bottom line. Mayor Sutherland will compile the talking points for working with the hospitals. Mayor Bobst asked the chiefs to provide their concerns as well. Cities are to respond to Mayor Sutherland by the end of February and she will work with Chief Lyons to set up a meeting.

Clean Fuels Ohio - Following up on the presentation made at the January meeting Mayor Sutherland asked the Mayors if they are interested in pursuing a grant for a feasibility study. Mayor Bobst shared that next month the Auditor's office will provide a presentation on "Share Ohio", the equipment, inventory and inventory usage and she would like to wait until after their presentation. The group will define what equipment is important to them then figure out what equipment could be retrofitted. The earliest that a grant for a feasibility study could be applied for is June 2015. Mayor Summers spoke briefly about the positioning of the tanks and the possibility of some cities sharing tanks. Due to the current cost of fuel it may not make sense in the short term to pay to convert vehicles, possibly in the long term. Mayor Sutherland will communicate with Jason at Clean Fuels OH.

COG 2015 Budget – Fiscal Officer Renee Mahoney distributed the budget. Each city's share will remain the same for 2015. She is still waiting to hear on some grants that have been applied for. Allocations were discussed. The Law Enforcement Trust Fund is awaiting the end of a court case which could add approximately one million dollars (minus 20% that goes to the county) to WEB/SWAT/HAZMAT equipment funding. There are restrictions on how the money can be spent and there needs to be discussion with the chiefs. Councilman Greenspan spoke about the 20% that goes to the county and will check to see if a policy can be created to return that amount back to the communities.

A Motion was made by Mayor Bobst to approve the budget. Mayor Patton seconded. The Motion was approved.

There was a short discussion about the idea of the county Sheriff's Dept. taking over the bomb squad. Councilman Greenspan mentioned that there is a committee meeting next week and he will bring that up. They will also be discussing a regional jail system for the county.

Jeff Capretto from WEB will be invited to give the Web Annual Report at the March 11<sup>th</sup> COG meeting.

## 5. New Business

Councilman Greenspan has been meeting with Glen Coyne of the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission. They are working on the CDSG (Community Development Supplemental Grant). It has been sent to Committee in hopes of getting the program defined and available for cities to apply next year.

As a member of the CCAO (County Commissioners Association of Ohio), on the Taxation and Finance Committee, Mr. Greenspan will be at a meeting next week to discuss the Governor's budget. Information from the meeting will be shared. Monies have been appropriated for the Land Bank for existing inventories. Councilman Greenspan will keep the group up to date on Land Bank action.

Eddie Krause, Vice Mayor of Solon, has been named Director of Collaboration by Executive Budish and Councilman Greenspan would like to have him come out to speak with the COG Mayors, once his appointment has been approved. They are planning more outreach to the communities on meaningful projects. It was suggested that he be invited to attend the April meeting. Councilman Greenspan will look into consolidating the bomb squad as previously mentioned, and also look into the recent phone outages in Fairview Park and Lakewood. Neither city was notified in advance of the planned outage by the phone company. They need to make sure any utility company notifies in advance of any planned outage in their respective communities. In discussions with Glen Coyne, C.C.P.C. they will be working on providing grant writing services for cities, at no cost to the community.

The county paid for GIS flyovers in November and are now integrating the Hi-Res, 3-D images into maps. The county is assisting cities working on Master Plans. They are discussing integrating the GIS images into Master Plans and being able to understand what is on the other side of the borders, and these GIS images will help.

A Motion to convene to Executive Session to discuss personnel for WESTCOM was made by Mayor Bobst and seconded by Mayor Clough. Motion approved.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Kennedy; seconded by Mayor Summers. The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Roll Call – In attendance – Mayor Sutherland, Mayor Summers, Mayor Bobst, Mayor Patton, Mayor Kennedy, and Mayor Clough

The next meeting of the Westshore COG will be Wednesday, March 11th.