

GENESEE COUNTY CLERK'S/TREASURER'S ASSOCIATION MEETING
APRIL 2, 1997 AT WALLI'S SUPPER CLUB, G-4160 W. PIERSON RD., FLINT,
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ATTENDANCE: 41

Jeff Cyphert, President, called the meeting to order at 12:50 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Cyphert announced there would be an Executive Board meeting held on April 18, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. at Walli's East on Center Road.

Mr. Cyphert said Darene Woodbury requested that if any of the Clerk's were planning to purchase new voting devices, they contact her first at 694-5300.

Mr. Cyphert spoke regarding the following new Senate Bills:

1. Senate Bill 7 allows certain local elections be held by mail if the local unit approves.
2. Senate Bills 12 and 13 deals with personal property tax collection by the local units being disband. They have not proposed any substitutions for the loss money this can cost the local units of government.

He also spoke on House Bill 4043 concerning exemption of personal property with a value less than \$10,000. He said if the personal property tax goes by the wayside, there needs to be something to replace the lost dollars.

Mr. Cyphert asked for volunteers for the Nominating Committee for Officers:

Cheryl Azelton, Chairperson, Mt. Morris Township Treasurer
Paul McShane, Genesee County Treasurer's Office
Ona Lee Strauer, Mt. Morris Township Clerk

The Committee is to meet and make recommendations for the following officers:
President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three program committee members. Nominations will be made at the May meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ginger Spencer, Treasurer, gave a report from the meeting held at the County Treasurer's Office on Tuesday. She also stated that Jerry Stadler suggested the members going to Lake Lagon and he and his wife would pick up box lunches at Mijer's and we could eat at the pavilion.

Mr. Cyphert asked if there was any interest in going to Lake Lagon. Hearing none, it was suggested we go back to Walli's for the May meeting.

Ginger said Bill Fowler is leaving the Equalization Department. It looks like Mike Ortiz could be replacing Bill. She said the control manual should be completed by Tuesday or Wednesday of next week.

CLERK'S/TREASURER'S MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 2, 1997/12:00 P.M.
PAGE -2-

Ginger said another issue brought up for discussion was the question what we are getting for the \$.75 parcel maintenance we are paying.

She also said there are 13,000 individual trailer sites in the County, including the City of Flint, and each local unit will be getting a letter as to what personal property should be assessed by law. May 2nd is the deadline for Homestead designations.

GUEST SPEAKER: Dan Kildee, County Treasurer; Lee Gonzales, Administrative Assistant; Eric Dohse, Consultant with Weiland & Associates.

Mr. Kildee thanked everyone for participating in the survey and explained that will give them direct feedback on what needs to be done to make the system run more efficiently. He said they are a new team working together and the County is going in a new direction by using Total Quality Management.

He said it is important to listen to employees and customers. He said they have surveyed the Treasurers in the County, because they are the closest to the people we serve. He said the local Treasurer's constituents are his also, and the Treasurers are the most important customer. The survey is the starting point for the new direction. Everyone was handed a typed report of the survey

and it was reviewed by Mr. Kildee and Mr. Gonzales.

Mr. Kildee pointed out that a decision has to be made as to whether the units will be on-line with the county or on their own system. He stated he would like to define the MIS System so it meets all the Treasurer's needs. He would like to be an ally for the Treasurers to get things done and if anyone has any suggestions for changes, please inform his office.

Mr. Kildee said they will be involved in the fight for personal property taxes. He said he will be engaged in the debate and will be spending time in Lansing regarding this issue. Anyone wishing to work with him on this issue, please let him know.

He explained that the survey is the first of several. The first one was done to help his staff know how to work with the local Treasurer's and the others will be like a road map to work on. The only way they know what is needed in the local units is to ask.

Mr. Gonzales explained that the booklet was the executive summary and Eric Dohse, transcribed all the work. It's important to hear your comments.

Mr. Walworth asked if this type of management was shared with the other county offices, such as the County Clerk. He thinks something of this type would be valuable to the Clerks in the county.

Mr. Kildee said he is very much associated with Total Quality Management in County Government. This is a way of quietly making things work better.

Mr. Cyphert stated his Township Board asked him to draft a resolution indicating they don't want the loss of personal property taxes unless there is something to replace the losses in revenue.

Mr. Kildee said different areas have different amounts of losses and revenue sharing should be replaced in a fair and equitable manner. He said the problem as Treasurer's, nobody understands the tax system. People aren't going to get excited about not having to pay personal property taxes, but those who pay the personal property tax will be glad to see this happen. He said the County would lose about \$8 Million.

Mr. Kildee noted that the monthly Treasurer's Meetings, held in the Equalization Department, is a good working group, as well as important.

Mr. Dohse thanked everyone for their participation and looks forward to talking to them when the next benchmark is done.

Mr. Kildee said the next survey will consist of what kinds of subjects need to be looked at and addressed by his department.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 P.M.

Cheryl M. Ladd, CMC/AAE
Secretary