

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Committee- of- the- Whole
April 21, 2015
3:00 p.m.

The Chair called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Invocation was given by Pastor Nancy Patera.

Members present: David Hodges, Larry Tiejema, Jim Banks, Scott Wirtz, Brenda Cowling- Cronk (arrived at 3:05 p.m.), Jack Shattuck and Julie Calley

Others present: Ken Bowen, Bob VanLente, Bob Sykes, Bob Lathers, Tamie Baker, Nancy Patera, Commissioner Gibson (Barry County), Commissioner Snow (Barry County), Diane Adams, Bert Gale, Joe Cusack, Stephanie Fox and Tonda Rich

Approval of Agenda

Chair Calley stated that Unfinished Business will be moved to the end of the agenda. Moved by Wirtz, supported by Tiejema, to approve the agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Chair Calley acknowledged Commissioners Gibson and Snow from Barry County.

New Business

- A. Bob Lathers and Nancy Patera presented the annual report for Ionia County Community Mental Health. Lathers and Patera discussed the renovation of the Belding office, Autism programs, ASIST Program (suicide intervention training) jail diversion and collaboration with the courts and the Prosecutor's Office. Lathers further described CMH's policy of "same day service" where rather than scheduling appointments, clients are able to get in to see someone at CMH the day of inquiry.
- B. Dan Petersen, President of EightCAP, Inc. and the Administrator for CAMWC discussed the Works Program and how it integrates with EightCap, Inc. Commissioner Tiejema recommended that Ionia County stay with the CAMWC (Central Area Michigan Works! Consortium) due to his concerns with being in a regional workforce development agency with larger counties. Jen Wrangler with the Right Place and Barry County Commissioner Snow weighed in with their thoughts and opinions. Commissioner Snow stated that Barry County had a smooth transition to their new region, which is in with Kent and Allegan counties. Jen Wrangler stated that over the years, Ionia County has received more

trainings/more services through the Works Program and recommended that Ionia County move forth and participate in the regional workforce development agencies.

C. Departmental Reports

Building Codes – Bert Gale, Building Inspector, presented the Building Codes Quarterly Report. Gale stated that there has been an increase in customers coming through the door and will be seeking a part-time person to help out. (A copy of the Building Codes report is on file in the Clerk's Office)

Juvenile Court/Probate Court – Juvenile Court Referee, Monte Starkweather and Probate Judge Robert Sykes, Jr. discussed the 2014 Annual Report for Juvenile Court and Youth Service Bureau. The report indicated that the number of referrals is down and that the abuse/neglect cases are slightly up. Judge Sykes echoed the comments made by Bob Lathers and that there is a great partnership/collaboration in Ionia County. (A copy of the Juvenile Court and Youth Service Bureau report is on file in the Clerk's Office).

Public Health – Ken Bowen, congratulated Chad Shaw on receiving the Jean Chabut Health Policy Champion Award and NACCHO Project Public Health Ready Accreditation. The Health Department has received a grant to help explore the regionalization issue. (A copy of the report is on file in the Clerk's Office).

District Court – Court Administrator, Sug Pinnow, also thanked Community Mental Health for their collaboration with the courts. Pinnow stated that credit card payments can now be taken at District Court and the staff at District Court has started entering warrants into LEIN. Pinnow stated that work will begin on submitting grants for Sobriety Court and the Veterans Court.

The Chair called for a brief recess at 4:56 p.m. and reconvened at 5:03 p.m.

Unfinished Business

- A. The discussion on new facilities continued. Fox stated that the Animal Shelter has been paid off.

Before finalizing a budget amount, it was the consensus of the Board to have Frank Bednarek come back for a meeting to answer a few more questions. The budget amount will depend on the necessity of an elevator for inmates and if the renovation would include two or three floors.

Other discussions included the need to relocate the Maintenance Department and where a proper site would be for a new maintenance building/garage. The County Administrator will meet with Joe Cusack to go over details on what an appropriate size for a building/garage would be and will bring that information back to the Board at the next meeting, if possible.

(Commissioner Wirtz left at 5:22 p.m.)

Chairperson's Report

1. City of Portland contacted Calley regarding the ORV Ordinance and that the Ordinance did not address the prohibition of ORV use inside the city limits. The Ordinance will have to be revised and brought back to the Board for approval.
2. Congratulations to Chad Shaw

Administrator's Report

1. The new roof is being put on the jail.

Moved by Shattuck, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Julie Calley, Chair

Tonda Rich, Clerk

Minutes approved on
