

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
August 26, 2014
Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m.

Chair Calley called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Lynn Mason, Larry Tiejema, Brenda Cowling- Cronk, Scott Wirtz, Jack Shattuck and Julie Calley

Members absent: Jim Banks

Others present: Bob Van Lente, Jim Valentine, Lynette Seiler, Deb Thailson, Robert Cusack, "Goose" Elliott, Jack Elliott, Karen Bota, Stephanie Hurlbut and Tonda Rich

Approval of Agenda

Chair Calley added item B. (amend June 24, 2014 board minutes) under Unfinished Business. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott voiced concern about County spending and property taxes. Bob Cusack and "Goose" Elliott commented on the tax sale.

Did You Know?

Commissioner Cowling- Cronk shared a fact of interest.

Consent Calendar

- A. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)
- B. Approve per diem and mileage
- C. Approve payment of General Fund payroll and accounts payable for the month of July 2014 - \$1,209,604.41
- D. Approve payment of Health Fund bills - \$95,200.25

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to add per diem vouchers for Commissioner Wirtz and Commissioner Cowling- Cronk to the Consent Calendar and to also correct Commissioner Shattuck's voucher by deleting the July 8th per diem and mileage. Motion carried by voice vote.

Commissioner Tiejema requested to amend the August 12, 2014 board minutes (New Business, item F) to recognize Ionia County townships that financially

contributed for the BS&A software/program that is used for the parcel information on the website. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to approve the amended August 12, 2014 board minutes as discussed. Motion carried by voice vote.

Hearing no further objections, the Chair declared the remaining items on the Consent Calendar approved.

Unfinished Business

- A. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Wirtz, to appoint Laura Linebaugh to the Ionia County Commission on Aging Board with the term to expire on September 30, 2015. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. Chair Calley requested that the June 24th board minutes reflect more detail on the Public Hearing regarding facilities. After Calley read the amended minutes into the record, Commissioner Mason requested corrections to the wording. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to approve the amended June 24th board minutes as discussed. Motion carried by voice vote.

New Business

- A. Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to approve the budget amendment for the Commission on Aging as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. Moved by Mason, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to authorize the purchase of one 2014 Dodge Grand Caravan from Schanski at a cost of \$21,836 and the purchase of one 2014 Dodge Grand Caravan from Bill Snethkamp, MIDEAL state purchasing, at a cost of \$20,961, with funds to come from Capital Funding. COA Director, Lynette Seiler, stated that one van has died and this request is of an urgent need. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. Chair Calley acknowledged the filing of a PA116 Farmland Agreement filed by Mary and Philip Seidelman for property located in Ronald Township.
- D. Moved by Mason, supported by Wirtz, to approve amendment #5 to the grant agreement between Michigan Department of Community Health FY 13/14 and Ionia County Board of Commissioners on behalf of the Ionia County Health Department and authorize the signature of Ken Bowen, Health Officer. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. County Administrator, Stephanie Hurlbut, stated that the budget workshop schedule will be coming out on August 27, 2014.
- F. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to adopt and ratify the Chair's signature on the Resolution of Appreciation for Don Ransom. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote: yes – all. The Resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION

We gather here to pay tribute to **Donald Ransom** who is retiring from the Ionia County Building and Grounds Department on August 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Don Ransom has served the Ionia County Building and Grounds Department as its Supervisor for twenty four years; and

WHEREAS, Don Ransom has served the Ionia County Board of Commissioners and the employees of the County of Ionia faithfully; and

WHEREAS, Don Ransom has maintained the County's buildings and grounds with the highest degree of integrity and distinction; and

WHEREAS, Don Ransom has served faithfully as Assistant Manager of the Ionia County Airport; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his outstanding service to the County of Ionia, it is fitting and proper that Don Ransom be highly commended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners by this Resolution, expresses its deep appreciation to Don Ransom for his faithful and dedicated service and wishes him well in his retirement; and, that this Resolution be entered into the records of the Ionia County Board of Commissioners and a copy presented to Don Ransom.

- G. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Shattuck, to ratify the signature of Chair Calley on the Child Care Fund Budget. Motion carried by voice vote.
- H. The Board was given the opportunity to discuss and comment on whether the Physical Plant Director position should report to the Commissioners or to the County Administrator. Commissioner Mason questioned the current policy/procedure regarding "chain of command." The County Administrator stated that she believes it would be in the best interest of the county to have all department heads report to her. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Tiejema, that the Physical Plant Director will report to the County Administrator. Motion carried by voice vote, with Commissioner Mason voting no.

Chairperson's Report

1. Requested that the Board let her know what areas of the budget they want to talk about in the upcoming budget workshops.

County Administrator’s Report

1. The Animal Shelter Open House was very nice.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott thanked the Board for amending the June 24th minutes and stated that the department heads should report at the Committee- of- the- Whole meetings. Bob Cusack addressed the Board stating he believes the upcoming tax sale is illegal and will be checking into it. Jim Valentine stated he supported the Board’s decision on having the department heads report to the County Administrator. “Goose” Elliott requested more follow- up on the empty Michigan Works building and requested that the County set up a group email for updates and further commented on department heads reporting to the County Administrator.

Moved by Cowling- Cronk, supported by Wirtz, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Julie Calley, Chair

Tonda Rich, Clerk

Minutes approved on
