

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
February 23, 2016
Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m. – Central Dispatch Building

Chair Shattuck called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chair requested a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims and for the Kalamazoo community involved in the weekend shootings. Commissioner Calley followed with the Invocation.

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

Members absent: David Hodges

Others present: Jack Elliott, Loran Gage, Chris Bredice, Jim Valentine, Scott De Ruischer, Ron Gunderson, Bob VanLente, Georgia Sharp, Tamie Barker, Tom Vargas, Bob Van Putten, Nicholas Grenke, Dale Miller, Stephanie Fox and Tonda Rich

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Cowling- Cronk, supported by Wirtz, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott addressed the Board concerning a new building and further commented on the Flint water situation.

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 January 2016 - \$1,232,296.19
- D. Approve payment of Health Fund bills - \$99,454.18

Commissioner Wirtz requested to add his December 2015 and January 2016 vouchers to the Consent Calendar.

Commissioner Cowling- Cronk requested to amend her voucher to add a facilities meeting on January 29th.

Hearing no objections, the Chair declared the Consent Calendar approved.

Unfinished Business

- A. Community Mental Health Services Board – Moved by Calley, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Ronald Thomas to the Community Mental Health Services Board. Motion carried by voice vote, with Cowling- Cronk voting no.
- B. Midwest Michigan Trail Authority – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to appoint Ronald Gunderson to the Midwest Michigan Trail Authority. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. Park Advisory Board – Moved by Cowling- Cronk, supported by Calley, to appoint Kathleen Cook to the Park Advisory Board. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. West Michigan Regional Planning Commission Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to appoint Julie Clement to the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

New Business

- A. Stephanie Fox, County Administrator, stated that Kristen Schrauben filed a FOIA Appeal. Fox stated that the County fulfilled Schrauben's request by disclosing all public records held by the County that fell within the scope of her request. In addition, Fox shared that even though the judiciary is not a public body subject to FOIA, Judge Hoort volunteered information that fell within the scope of the request also. Moved by Banks, supported by Wirtz, to uphold the County Administrator's response and deny the appeal filed by Kristen Schrauben. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. Bob Van Putten with Landmark Design Group, P.C. met with the Board to discuss and outline a time frame for the construction of a "connector building" to the courthouse. Van Putten went through the five phases of the construction and answered questions from the Board. (A copy of the five phases is on file in the Clerk's Office). In addition to the five phases, Van Putten described the architect's responsibilities throughout the project. Van Putten also estimated the project to take 12 to 13 months. Commissioner Banks requested that a discussion take place concerning court security at the District Court building in the future. Commissioner Wirtz commented on hiring local contractors for this project. Other discussions included the boiler and heating options for the new building and courthouse.
- C. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to approve the purchase of a new water softener system for the Sheriff's Department from Denker's Culligan, for an amount not to exceed \$10,525 that will come from the

Capital Improvement Plan Fund and authorize appropriate signatures.
Motion carried by voice vote.

- D. Moved by Banks, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to approve the revised fee schedule for Bertha Brock Park as presented starting in the 2017 season. Chair Shattuck, also a member of the Park Advisory Board, stated that the revenue earned from this increase could be used toward the repairs needed for the pavilions in the park. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. Park Manager, Loren Gage, requested to fill the part- time seasonal position which was budgeted for in 2016. Gage stated that there is someone currently interested in this position who used to be a county employee and further requested permission to fill the position without having to post it. Moved by Banks, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to approve filling the part- time seasonal position at Bertha Brock Park without posting the position. Motion carried by voice vote.
- F. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Calley, to authorize filling the Information Systems Technician position on a permanent basis. Motion carried by voice vote.
- G. Commission on Aging Director, Tamie Barker, requested to fill a part time In- home Services Aide for 0.16 FTE. Commissioner Tiejema, also a member of the Commission on Aging Board, stated that the hours for this request were to be 29 hours and questioned how the number of hours were decreased to 0.16FTE without the Commission on Aging Board's approval. Fox and Barker stated that they will be meeting to review all of the COA's personnel allotments and possibly consolidate some positions. Commissioner Tiejema stated that he is not in favor of this request because it is not the recommendation of the COA Board and 0.16 FTE is not enough hours. Moved by Cowling- Cronk, supported by Banks, to approve filling the In- home Services Aide for 0.16 FTE. Motion carried by voice vote, with Commissioner Tiejema voting no.
- H. Moved by Cowling- Cronk, supported by Wirtz, to ratify the signature of Robin Anderson, Animal Shelter Manager, on the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's 2016 Animal Welfare Fund Grant in the amount of \$6,750. Motion carried by voice vote.
- I. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Calley, to approve a three year agreement with Abraham & Gaffney to provide financial audit services for the County of Ionia for the years 2015 at \$34,300, 2016 at \$35,300 and 2017 for \$36,300. Motion carried by voice vote.

Other Reports

Commissioner Calley updated the Board on collaboration efforts of The Right Door (formerly Community Mental Health).

Public Comment

Jack Elliott commented on the destruction of buildings. Ron Gunderson thanked the Board for the appointment.

Moved by Cowling- Cronk, supported by Wirtz, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Jack Shattuck, Chair

Tonda Rich, Clerk

Minutes approved on
