

Ionia County Board of Commissioners
May 26, 2015
Regular Meeting
Central Dispatch Building - 7:00 p.m.
Amended

Vice- Chair Banks called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Hodges followed with the Invocation.

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

Members absent: Julie Calley

Others present: Todd Babcock, Charles L. Babcock, Bernie Russell, Carolyn Kane, Ron Gunderson, Bob VanLente, Alice Samani Zozo, Ph.D, Robert Broen, Caitlyn Wilson, Ron Story, Don Jandernoa, Goose Elliott, Jack Elliott, Jessica Fitzgerald, Tom Thelen, Stephanie Fox and Janae Cooper

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Shattuck, to remove Item A. under Unfinished Business. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott recommended that a new facility be built and leave the old jail as is for storage purposes.

Bob VanLente introduced Alice Samani Zozo who is from West Africa and became a United States citizen on April 15th.

Did You Know?

Commissioner Tiejema 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 April 2015 - \$1,114,518.62
- D. Approve payment of Health Fund bills - \$84, 725.79

Vice- Chair Banks noted that Commissioners Wirtz, Shattuck and Hodges needed to amend their vouchers to \$75 for the Committee- of- the- Whole meeting on April 21st. Hearing no objections, Banks declared the Consent Calendar approved, including the amended vouchers as discussed.

New Business

- A. The proposed bylaws for Greenview Point Park Advisory Board were discussed. The following changes were recommended:
- The names of the current board members should not be present in the bylaws as it would create an amendment every time a person leaves or a change occurs on the Board.
 - That the *Ionia County Community Foundation* representative be changed to *Ionia County Park Manager*. Commissioner Tiejema stated that he would like to serve as a Citizen at Large.

Moved by Shattuck, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to adopt the Greenview Point Park Advisory Board Bylaws and Procedures with the proposed changes as discussed. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Hodges, to appoint John Bush, Ionia County Drain Commissioner and Loren Gage, Ionia County Park Manager, to the Greenview Point Park Advisory Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

- B. Jessica Fitzgerald of Morgan Stanley discussed the 457/401a Money Purchase Plan. Fitzgerald presented a handout showing an overview of the basics of the plan. The 401a Money Purchase Plan is designed for non- union new hires in lieu of the current pension plan. The 401a Money Purchase Plan is similar to a 401k where an employee contributes pre- tax dollars. Unlike the pension plan, the 401a is not a liability to the County.
- C. County Administrator, Stephanie Fox, requested the approval of the Community Corrections Plan and Application for FY 2016 stating the budget will remain the same. Moved by Wirtz, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to approve the Community Corrections Plan and Application as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. Carolyn Kane and Ron Gunderson presented a hand- out and discussed the Rails- to- Trails Authority representation at length. Moved by Cowling- Cronk, supported by Hodges, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Greenville, Kent County Parks and Recreation, Kent County Road Commission, County of Ionia and Friends of Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trails (Fred Meijer Flat River Valley Rail- Trail and Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Rail- Trail), Mid- West Michigan Trail Authority (MWMTA) and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). Motion carried by voice vote. (The Memorandum of Understanding is on file in the Clerk's Office).

- E. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Wirtz, to adopt the 2016 Budget Calendar as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
- F. Fox briefly discussed the SMART (Southwest Michigan Alliance for Region Three) Collaborative. Ionia County hosted SMART last week and had a good turn- out. Commissioner Shattuck volunteered to attend the meetings. Moved by Wirtz, supported by Cowling- Cronk, to appoint Commissioner Shattuck to attend the SMART meetings. Motion carried by voice vote.

County Administrator's Report

- 1. Will be bringing options for Veteran's Services to the Board for recommendation in June.
- 2. Over 200 vouchers have been handed out for the recent cat spay/neuter grant received by Ionia County.
- 3. The Audit Committee will meet tomorrow at 1:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott discussed facilities and questioned the *Board on why they were not considering purchase* of the vacant Michigan Works! Building.

Goose Elliott asked how much money has been spent so far on the facilities/ discussion and asked that Commissioners be more easily accessible via the website.

Moved by Cowling- Cronk, supported by Shattuck, to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

James L. Banks, Vice- Chair

Janae K. Cooper, Chief Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved on
