

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
September 15, 2015  
Committee- of- the- Whole  
3:00 p.m.

The Chair called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Hodges gave the Invocation.

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

Others present: Jim Valentine, Loren Gage, Doug DeVries, Tom Vargas, Joe Cusack, Susan Dahms, Randy Zenk, Jen Wangler, Stephanie Fox and Tonda Rich

### Approval of Agenda

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

### New Business

- A. Jen Wangler and Susan Dahms gave the annual report on the Ionia County Economic Alliance. Wangler reported that since January 2015 there has been \$112 million in new investments, 341 new jobs, 130 company assists and many training projects throughout the County of Ionia. Susan Dahms reported on ICEA's funding, which comes from both the public and private sectors. Dahms stated that ICEA funding will fall short this year and requested that the County increase their support from \$21,000 to \$30,000 in 2016. (A copy of the ICEA report is on file in the Clerk's Office).
- B. Departmental Reports
1. **Central Dispatch** – Central Dispatch Director Jim Valentine invited the Commissioners to their open house on Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. In other discussions, Valentine stated that they are promoting Smart911 and Text to 911 and will also have figures for the Board at the November meeting on the new surcharge fee being collected. (A copy of the Central Dispatch report is on file in the Clerk's Office).
  2. **Buildings & Grounds** – Physical Plant Director Joe Cusack reported that his department has been busy with many repairs in county buildings and mowing due to having to maintain the lawn on Sparrow Drive. Cusack announced the completion of the front counter installation in the Clerk's Office, the merging of the Administration and Finance Offices and the floor, refrigeration and water softener issues at the jail. The Buildings and Grounds staff have been working at the Animal Shelter addressing issues with various functions (air handlers, lighting repairs, air conditioning and replacing water hoses), as well as, the Commission on Aging ceiling which will have to be addressed in the near future. (A copy of the Buildings & Grounds report is on file in the Clerk's Office).
  3. **Parks & Recreation** – Park Manager, Loren Gage, stated that the park has been busy this year and reservations continue to increase for the Palmer Lodge.

Gage announced upcoming events that will take place at Bertha Brock Park which are the Fall Festival on September 19, 2015 and the Ionia Community Theatre will be hosting a play at the Palmer Lodge in October. Davis Construction will start work on the stone bridge soon and should have it completed in October 2015. (A copy of the Parks & Recreation report is on file in the Clerk's Office).

4. **Information Technology** – Tom Vargas, Interim IT Director, discussed a fiber upgrade at the Sheriff's Department and at the Friend of the Court. Vargas stated the ePanic project has been completed, the physical servers at the Sheriff's Department have been successfully migrated to the virtual environment and that his department is in the process of replacing some of the older systems that are operating on Windows XP. Vargas stated that a recent security assessment was performed and the overall results were good, however, there was concern regarding Windows Updates, which is being addressed. Another concern noted from the assessment was weak passwords used by employees. Under .25 seconds, the company doing the assessment was able to crack 14% of the passwords used by county employees. (A copy of the I.T. report is on file in the Clerk's Office).

#### Chairperson's Report

1. Attended the annual Farm Bureau dinner and thanked the Commissioners who were able to attend the dinner.
2. Had a meeting with emergency leaders regarding the Portland tornado emergency.
3. Took part in the Poverty Simulation.

#### Other Reports

Commissioner Shattuck discussed the 4H Coordinator position.

#### County Administrator's Report

1. Reminded the Board of the upcoming facility and budget meetings.
2. The Drug Court was awarded \$120,000 and the Sobriety Court as awarded \$174,000.

Moved by Cowling- Cronk, supported by Shattuck, to adjourn the meeting at 4:27 p.m.  
Motion carried by voice vote.

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Julie Calley, Chair

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Tonda Rich, Clerk

Minutes approved on
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