

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Organizational Meeting
January 14, 2014
4:00 p.m.

County Clerk, Tonda Rich, called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Others present: Ken Bowen, Diane Adams, Jack Elliott, Darin Elliott, John Bush, Jim Valentine, Georgia Sharp, Bob VanLente, Tom Thelen, Karen Bota, Judy Clark, Stephanie Hurlbut and Tonda Rich

Organization of Board and Committees

A. Selection of Chairperson

Clerk Rich opened up nominations for Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners for 2014. Commissioner Tiejema placed the name of Julie Calley in nomination.

Moved by Shattuck, supported by Tiejema, to close nominations and cast an unanimous vote for Julie Calley as Chairperson for the Board of Commissioners for 2014. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes - all.

Chair Calley proceeded to conduct the election of Vice Chairperson.

B. Selection of Vice Chairperson

Chair Calley called for nominations for Vice Chairperson for 2014. Commissioner Tiejema placed the name of Jim Banks into nomination.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to close nominations and cast an unanimous vote for Commissioner Banks for Vice Chairperson for 2014. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes - all.

C. Review and Adoption of Board Rules

The following changes to the Bylaws were reviewed and discussed:

- *Section 3.4 Notification to the Media and Others* - Commissioner Tiejema proposed adding "electronic mail" as a way of notifying the media and other interested persons of the meeting schedules at no charge.

- *Section 11.1 Abstaining from Voting* – Commissioner Tiejema proposed that the member that is abstaining from the vote explain the reason for the bona fide conflict of interest. Commissioner Banks requested to work on this section as there may be a conflict with the statute.
- *Section 5.6 Order of Business*– The lettering will need to be adjusted in this section of the Bylaws.
- *Section 5.2 Agenda for Special Meetings* – It was recommended to delete the last two sentences in the paragraph.
- *Section 5.6 Order of Business* – It was the consensus of the Board to keep the Invocation on the agenda.
- *Section 9. Executive Meetings* – It was the consensus of the Board to change the word “Executive” to “Closed.”
- To be consistent, Chair Calley requested that “Board of Commissioners” be capitalized throughout the Bylaws.

Commissioner Tiejema discussed the Per Diem Policy and stated that he would be in favor of approving the mileage for one trip per month for Commissioners who attend the MAC meetings. It was the consensus of the Board to discuss this at the next Committee-of-the-Whole meeting.

Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to adopt the Board Bylaws as presented and discussed. Chair Calley reminded the Board that by adopting the Bylaws as presented will also declare the Board’s meeting schedule for 2014. The members were in agreement with keeping the same meeting schedule for 2014. Motion carried by voice vote.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Calley noted the following items be added under New Business: Item B. Chief Deputy Drain Clerk position and item C. Deputy Drain Clerk position. Moved by Mason, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott commented on the recent 2% wage increase given to county employees and further commented on the Land Bank.

Consent Calendar

A. Approve the minutes of the previous meeting(s)
Hearing no objections, the Chair declared the Consent Calendar approved.

Appointments

A. **Appointments to Standing Committees**

1. Audit Committee – Moved by Banks, supported by Wirtz, to appoint Commissioners' Tiejema, Mason and Calley to the Audit Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.
2. Facilities Committee – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to appoint Commissioners' Shattuck, Cowling-Cronk and Banks to the Facilities Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. Grievance Hearing Committee – Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Commissioners' Calley, Banks and Cowling-Cronk to the Grievance Hearing Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. Personnel Committee – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to appoint Commissioners' Wirtz, Mason and Tiejema to the Personnel Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

B. **Commissioner Appointments to Boards/Commissions**

1. Bargaining Committee Representative – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to appoint Commissioner Shattuck to the Bargaining Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.
2. Central Area Michigan Works! Consortium – Moved by Banks, supported by Shattuck, to appoint Commissioners' Tiejema and Banks to the Central Area Michigan Works! Consortium. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. Community Corrections Advisory Board – Moved by Banks, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to appoint Commissioner Wirtz to the Community Corrections Advisory Board. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. Department of Human Services Board – Moved by Banks, supported by Mason, to appoint Commissioner Cowling-Cronk to the Human Services Board. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. Green View Point Park Ad Hoc Committee – Moved by Mason, supported by Wirtz, to appoint Commissioner Shattuck to the Green View Point Park Ad Hoc Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. Lake Boards – Moved by Mason, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to appoint Commissioner Wirtz to the Long Lake Board, Commissioner Banks to the Jordan Lake Board and Commissioner Tiejema to the Morrison Lake Board. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. MAC Workers' Compensation Board – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to appoint Commissioner Shattuck to the MAC Workers' Compensation Board. Motion carried by voice vote.
8. Road Commission Board – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Wirtz, to appoint Commissioner Shattuck to the Road Commission Board. Motion carried by voice vote.
9. Tax Allocation Board – Moved by Banks, supported by Wirtz, to appoint Chair Calley to the Tax Allocation Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

C. **Legal Counsel** – Moved by Shattuck, supported by Mason, to appoint Peter Cohl as the County’s legal counsel. Motion carried by voice vote.

D. Department Heads

1. Administrative Health Officer – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to appoint Ken Bowen as the Ionia County Administrative Health Officer for a one-year appointment. Motion carried by voice vote.
2. Building Codes Official – Moved by Mason, supported by Wirtz, to appoint Bert Gale as the Building Codes Official for a one-year appointment. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. Central Dispatch Director – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to appoint Jim Valentine as the Central Dispatch Director for a one-year appointment. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. Medical Examiner – Moved by Mason, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to appoint Dr. Michael Markey as the Ionia County Medical Examiner for a four-year appointment. Motion carried by voice vote.

Unfinished Business

- A. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to appoint Police Chief James Knobelsdorf as the City of Portland’s representative to the Central Dispatch Board of Directors. Motion carried by voice vote.

New Business

- A. County Administrator, Stephanie Hurlbut, announced that at the January 28th board meeting, the Commissioners will need to take action on a Freedom of Information Act Appeal filed by Lynne Bowbeer. For informational purposes, a copy of the appeal is in the Commissioners’ board packets for their review.
- B. Moved by Mason, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to fill the Drain Clerk position at a Grade 8, Step 1, effective immediately. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Tiejema, to approve making Bruce Mulnix the Deputy Drain Commissioner, at a Grade 8, Step 4. Motion carried by voice vote.

Chairperson’s Report

Chair Calley acknowledged the County’s department heads that attended the Michigan Association of Township Quarterly Meeting on January 13, 2014.

County Administrator’s Report

1. A 2013 Overview of Accomplishments were given to the Commissioners.
2. The County received \$109,000 check from the County’s liability insurance.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott voiced his concerns with the court security.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Wirtz, to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Julie Calley, Chair

Tonda Rich, Clerk

Minutes approved on:
