

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 9, 2014

Regular Meeting

4:00 p.m.

The Chair called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by an Invocation for Ingham County Sheriff Deputy Grant Whitacre, who lost his life in the line of duty earlier this week.

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

Others present: Jack Elliott, Ken Thompson, Bob VanLente, Chuck Minkley, Albert Almy, Karen Bota, Bill Weisgerber, Joe Cusack, Tom Thelen, Darlene Dowling, Paul Spitzley, Charles Babcock, Ken Gasper, Brian Thompson, Barbara Trierweiler, Charlie Noll, Stephanie Fox and Janae Cooper

Approval of Agenda

The Chair noted the following changes to the agenda:

- Under New Business - remove Item B. (Pension Investment - Second Alternative Proposal)
- Change Item I. to add Request for Part Time Security Officer
- Add Item J. Discuss changes to the October 28th meeting minutes
- Move Item I. (Acknowledgement of Applications for Appointment) to Item K.

Moved by Mason, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott stated that the Public Comment section of the board minutes needs to be more descriptive. Bob Cusack discussed the inconsistencies between counties regarding building permits.

Consent Calendar

- A. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)

Chair Calley requested that the minutes from the November 25th meeting be revised as follows:

Item G. under New Business: Strike “open up the discussion on” and add “approve the” with the new sentence reading as follows: “*Moved by Tiejema, supported by Shattuck, to approve the 2015 Investment proposal. Motion failed by voice vote with Tiejema and Calley voting yes.*”

The Chair further requested that under the final Public Comment section Jack Elliott's statement should be as follows per an e-mail: *"The government needs to follow the law or end up with a situation like Ferguson, Missouri."*

The Public Comment section of the board minutes was discussed at length, specifically regarding how much detail should be reflected in the minutes. Janae Cooper, Chief Deputy County Clerk, stated that the minutes are not to be a transcript of what the public says nor should the Clerk be in a position to try to interpret what the public is speaking about. Vice Chair Banks stated he would like to do some research regarding this matter.

Moved by Calley, supported by Tiejema, to approve the requested revisions as discussed to the November 25th board minutes. Motion carried by voice vote, with Mason and Banks voting no.

New Business

- A. The following applicants were interviewed by the Board seeking appointment to the Ionia County Road Commission Board: Bill Weisgerber, Ken Gasper, Ken Thompson, Brian Thompson, Barbara Trierweiler and Karen Bota. Interviews concluded at 6:00 p.m. The Chair accepted nominations.

Moved by Banks, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Bill Weisgerber to a six-year term on the Ionia County Road Commission Board. Motion carried by a show of hands.

Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Karen Bota to a six-year term on the Ionia County Road Commission Board. Motion carried by a show of hands with Shattuck and Calley voting no.

Moved by Banks, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Ken Gasper to the Ionia County Road Commission Board to a partial-term expiring in 2018. Motion carried by a show of hands.

The Chair called a recess at 6:05 p.m. and reconvened at 6:16 p.m. (Commissioner Wirtz left at 6:08 p.m.)

- B. Charlie Noll, Undersheriff, requested approval for the Jail Medical Services Agreement. Moved by Banks, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to approve the Medical Services Agreement between Mid-Michigan Correctional Care PC/Dr. Messenger and the County of Ionia for jail medical services beginning January 1, 2015 for one year. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Shattuck, to approve filling the full-time corrections officer/court security officer position. Noll announced the resignation of Court Security Officer John Sayers. Motion carried by voice vote.

- D. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to approve the Byrne-JAG Subcontract for CMET/Ionia County Sheriff's Office that will partially fund Ionia County Sheriff's Office deputy position with CMET. Motion carried by voice vote.

(The Chair moved to Item H. on the Agenda)

- H. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to approve hiring a temporary part-time court security officer. Noll advised the Board that the Sheriff's Department is working on restructuring staffing. Motion carried by voice vote.

(The Chair moved to Item E. on the Agenda)

- E. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Shattuck, to ratify the signature on the Public Health Clerical/Technical Union Contract. Motion carried by voice vote.
- F. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to ratify the signature on the Public Health Professionals Union Contract. Motion carried by voice vote.
- G. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Tiejema, to accept Physical Plant Director, Joe Cusack's recommendation that Ionia County enter into a contract with IGS Energy, for a fixed term through March 2016. The current market price is \$4.59 per Mcf. Cusack advised the Board of seven options to consider for natural gas. The options include variable rates, fixed rates and Hedging. Motion carried by voice vote.

(The Chair moved to Item I. on the Agenda)

- I. Moved by Calley, supported by Banks, to table the discussion on changes to the October 28, 2014 meeting minutes.
- J. The Board acknowledged the following Applications for Appointment:
 - 1. Central Dispatch Board of Directors – Five appointments; two-year terms
 - 2. EightCap Governing Board – One appointment; two year term
 - 3. Substance Abuse Initiative – Three appointments; two-year terms
 - 4. West Michigan Regional Planning Commission – Three appointments; one year terms.
 - 5. West Michigan Regional Planning Commission Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee – Two appointments; one year terms.

Chairperson's Report

- 1. Commissioner-elect Hodges attended the new commissioner workshop last Wednesday and also spent 6 ½ hours here last week touring the buildings and meeting the employees.
- 2. Administration is organizing new commissioner handbooks.

3. Reminded the Board that this month has a shortened schedule and their per diems and the County Administrator Evaluations should be submitted as soon as possible.

County Administrator's Report

Fox distributed a packet of year-end budget amendments which will be discussed at the next meeting.

Reports of Special or Ad Hoc Committees

Mason expressed her interest in remaining on the Rails-to-Trails Board as a citizen representative.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott thanked Calley for correcting the minutes and further stated that building permits should be abolished.

Bob Cusack commented on Ionia County being a "training ground" and talked about public comments at board meetings in 1972.

Moved by Banks, supported by Shattuck, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Julie Calley, Chair

Janae K. Cooper, Chief Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved on: