

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Committee-of-the-Whole
February 20, 2018
3:00 p.m.

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

Members present: Dave Hodges, Larry Tiejema, Brenda Cowling-Cronk, Jack Shattuck, Scott Wirtz and Georgia Sharp

Members absent: Jim Banks

Others present: Bob Lathers, Eldor Hermann, Kerry Possehn, Carly Quinn, Kyle Butler, Bob VanLente, Scott DeRuisher, Giacomo Matioli, Ken Bowen, Jim Valentine, Mark Jewell, Elizabeth Walden, Anthony Mrzlack, Judy Clark, Stephanie Fox and Janae Cooper

Approval of Agenda

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

New Business

- A. Bob Lathers, CEO for The Right Door, gave his final report to the Board as he is retiring. Lathers introduced his replacement, Kerry Possehn. Lathers discussed that alcohol abuse/addiction is a problem in society that is not being addressed. Funds are tied up in Midstate Health Net, but are nearly impossible to acquire for alcohol abuse treatment. Lathers thanked the Board for their support over the years as well as those who have served his organization. Various members of the Board thanked Lathers for his service, leadership and passion for the job. Kerry Possehn briefly addressed the Board stating that she wants to continue in Lathers footsteps.
 - 1. Prosecuting Attorney Kyle Butler reported that he has had complete turn-over in his office however he is now fully-staffed. Butler introduced his new staff members, Eldor Hermann, Giacomo Matioli and Anthony Mrzlack. Butler reported on recent and upcoming “big” cases and other news relating to the Prosecutor’s Office. (a full report is on file in the Clerk’s Office).
 - 2. Physical Plant Manager, Scott DeRuisher reported on happenings with Building and Grounds. DeRuisher is currently working on fixing a heating coil failure at the the Animal Shelter. Central Dispatch has had some furnace issues. The boilers in the Courthouse seem to be working well. Consumers Energy conducted a free steam trap audit. DeRuisher is going to pursue having the stream traps replaced.. Consumers Energy is offering rebates on replacements. Due to the increased efficiency, a cost substantial savings to the County is projected. DeRuisher gave an update on the Courthouse annex. The elevator should be here in a week. Painting, carpeting, ceramic tile, light fixtures and cabinets and countertops are either completed or are in the process of completion. The Maintenance Department’s new Maintenance Request

Software is working well in assisting with managing projects. DeRuisher reported that the Jail had a flood due to a clogged drain line in January. Parks and Recreation have been very busy this season. (A full Buildings and Grounds Report is on file in the Clerk's Office.)

3. Public Health Officer Ken Bowen reported on several recent happenings and current events in the Health Department. On Thursday, February 22nd the Health Department will be hosting a Used Needle Disposal Event. The State will be testing the water supply in all municipal buildings and schools for P Phos a potential dangerous chemical in water. (a full report from the Health Department is on file in the Clerk's Office).
4. Judith Clark, County Treasurer, reported that she is keeping investments short-term. The first loan payment has been made on the new courthouse annex. Clark reported that current taxes were due last week and forfeitures will take place the end of this month. The deadline to pay delinquent taxes is April 2nd. Clark discussed that Ionia County has the largest Cemetery Trust Fund in the State. A new law was passed that counties will no longer take in these funds so Clark is charges with refunding money back to individuals that put money into this account as far back as 1920. Clark also reported that her office is experimenting with a credit card company, Graphite, who guarantees next day funding. (A full report is on file in the Clerk's Office).
5. Carly Quinn, Animal Shelter Manager, updated the board on the number of cats and dogs in the shelter. Quinn is looking for a part-time worker and she may may advertise in other local newspapers, not just the Ionia Sentinel Standard. Quinn will take needles from the Animal Shelter to the Health Department on Thursday. Quinn also applied for and received a \$10,000 Grant. She plans to redo the kitty kingdom. (A full report is on file in the Clerk's Office).

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Sharp announced that Bob Lathers Retirement Party is on March 2nd at noon. Please remember to RSVP.

Administrator's Report

Scott DeRuisher will be giving a tour of the new building after the meeting for anyone interested in going.

Ajourn

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

Jack Shattuck, Chair

Janae K. Cooper, Clerk

Minutes approved on:
