

Ionia County Board of Commissioners  
**July 18, 2018**  
Committee-of-the-Whole  
Conference Room - Central Dispatch Building  
3:00 p.m.

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

**Members present:** David Hodges, Jim Banks Brenda Cowling-Cronk, Scott Wirtz, Georgia Sharp and Larry Tiejema

**Members absent:** Jack Shattuck

**Others present:** Scott DeRuisher, Janet Balice, Marilyn Peckins, Rachael Yadlowsky, Elisabeth Walden, Jim Valentine, Bert Gale, Stan Hoskins, Stephanie Fox and Janae Cooper

**Approval of Agenda**

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

**New Business**

- A. Ionia County Literacy Council Annual Report - Janet Balice and Marilyn Peckins reported on some of their organizations accomplishments over the past year. Digital services have been added, the program they represent has expanded into the jail, and they have added both students and tutors. Vice-Chair Banks stated that it appears that they have made good progress over the past year. (a full report is on file in the Clerk's Office).
- B. Departmental Reports
  1. Central Dispatch Director, Jim Valentine updated the Board on several projects. The telephone project is ahead of schedule by a few weeks. The final installation and set-up will take place next week. All staff has been trained on the new system. Central Dispatch had a webinar training which put the dispatchers at ease with the new system. Geo-fencing is a new feature that puts new calls a the top of the list (ex. if multiple calls are coming in from the same area regarding an incident, Geo fencing will pin point if a call is coming in from a different location indicating a different emergency and placing the call at the top of the list). In cases of hang-ups or dials by mistake (abandoned calls) Central Dispatch will send the caller a text inquiring if there is really an emergency. Valentine reported that 911 is moving to an all-fiber network. The Hubbardston Fire Transmitter Project

has been completed. Valentine briefly reported on several catastrophic incidents that have occurred in the county lately. Central Dispatch is going to a VOIP system. Land lines have dropped from 8 million to about 2 million and steadily falling.

2. Stan Hoskins reported on Emergency Management. Projects include the purchase of CPR mannequins. The current ones do not have feedback devices on them and do not meet American Heart Association guidelines. Emergency Management will also be purchasing non-expiring Hazmat suits. A grant has been received to purchase new cameras for the courthouse. CPR and first aid classes have been completed. Portland Federal Credit Union has completed 300+ Alices trainings (active violence). Run, Hide, Fight has been taught to all the schools in the county with the exception of Pewamo.
3. Bert Gale presented the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter report for Building Codes. Building permits were up in April and down in May and June. Hodges stated that the numbers are down because builders are swamped because they cannot find people to do the work. The Country is having a serious construction worker deficit as the younger generation wants to work on computers.

### **Adjournment**

Moved by Cowling-Cronk, supported by Sharp to adjourn the meeting at 4:03 p.m.  
Motion carried by voice vote.

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James L. Banks, Vice Chair

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Janae K. Cooper, County Clerk

Minutes Approved on:
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