



IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jack Shattuck, Chairman

February 25, 2025, 3:00 p.m.
Minutes

Members Present: County Commissioner Scott Wirtz, County Commissioner Phil Hesche, County Commissioner Gordon Kelley, County Commissioner Jack Shattuck, County Commissioner Terence Frewen

Members Absent: County Commissioner David Hodges, County Commissioner Larry Tiejema

Others Present: Interim County Administrator Chad Shaw, County Finance Director Bernadette Blonde, County Clerk Greg Geiger

I. Call to Order

Shattuck called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Shattuck led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Invocation

Kelley led the invocation.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Board discussed agenda, added items regarding personnel recommendations, Finance Director search, and finance recommendations

Motion to Approve Agenda as Amended

Moved by Kelley

Supported by Frewen

Motion carried by voice vote

V. Public Comment

Geiger commented on the agenda.

VI. Action on Consent Calendar

Board approved consent calendar by unanimous consent.

VII. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.



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VIII. New Business

Board discussed appointment Frewen to the Tax Allocation Board.

Motion to Appoint Frewen to the Tax Allocation Board

Moved by Wirtz

Supported by Kelley

Motion carried by voice vote

Board discussed Road Department SNBI and new load rating requirements for bridges. Rich Kathrens from Spicer Group presented the requirements and process going forward. Board discussed data conversion and funding.

Board discussed Register of Deeds software transition to Fidlar Technologies and request for approval to sign contract. Register of Deeds Tami Hewitt presented the request and recommended approval.

Motion to Approve Contract and Authorize Signature

Moved by Frewen

Supported by Hesche

Motion carried by voice vote

Road Department Director Linda Pigue discussed weight restrictions, access to I-96 and gravel road damage due to frost.

Board discussed restriction covenant for leaking underground storage tank. Road Department Director Linda Pigue presented the covenant and recommended approval.

Motion to Approve Chairman's Signature on Restriction Covenant

Moved by Frewen

Supported by Kelley

Motion carried by voice vote

Board discussed request to modify truck purchase for Road Department. Road Department Shop & Equipment Manager Wes Schafer presented the request and recommended approval.

Motion to Approve

Moved by Kelley

Supported by Hesche

Motion carried by voice vote



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Board discussed request to purchase Skid Steer Hammer for Road Department. Road Department Shop & Equipment Manager Wes Schafer presented the request and recommended approval.

Motion to Approve Purchase from Michigan Cat

Moved by Frewen

Supported by Wirtz

Motion carried by voice vote

Board discussed Commission on Aging budget amendment. Blonde presented the amendment and recommended approval.

Motion to Approve Commission on Aging Budget Amendment

Moved by Frewen

Supported by Kelley

Motion carried by voice vote

Board discussed request to purchase six mobile radios for emergency response and preparedness. Emergency Management Director Sgt. Fredrick Straubel presented the request and recommended approval.

Motion to Approve Purchase Agreement

Moved by Kelley

Supported by Frewen

Motion carried by voice vote

Board discussed grade and step increase for Animal Shelter Director Carly Quinn. Personnel Committee recommended setting rate at Grade 13, Step 5.

Motion to Approve Grade and Step Increase

Moved by Kelley

Supported by Hesche

Motion carried by voice vote

Board discussed grade decrease for Commission on Aging. Personnel Committee recommended setting rate at Grade 5 step 6.

Motion to Approve Grade and Step Decrease

Moved by Kelley

Supported by Hesche

Motion carried by voice vote



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Board discussed search for Finance Director. Board discussed options and compensation.

Motion to Appoint Tiejema, Frewen, Kelley to Ad-Hoc Search Committee

Moved by Frewen

Supported by Kelley

Motion carried by voice vote

Board discussed approval of letter of engagement with Maner Costerian. Blonde recommended approval.

Motion to Approve Letter of Engagement with Maner Costerian

Moved by Frewen

Supported by Kelley

Motion carried by voice vote

IX. Department Reports

No department reports.

X. Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees

Hesche commented on Road Department.

Kelley commented on Commission on Aging funding, Facilities Committee.

Frewen commented on Facilities Committee.

Shaw commented on Facilities Director, Finance Director, Health Department Grants.

XI. Reports of Special or Ad Hoc Committees

No reports of special or ad hoc committees.

XII. Public Comment

The Daily News commented on the basis for closed session.

Terry Frewen commented on the basis for closed session.



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XIII. Closed Session

Board discussed entering closed session to review applications of those who had requested confidentiality.

Motion to Enter Closed Session

Moved by Frewen

Supported by Wirtz

Motion carried by roll call vote

Yes – Wirtz, Hesche, Kelley, Shattuck, Frewen

No –

Closed Session

Motion to Exit Closed Session

Moved by Kelley

Supported by Frewen

Motion carried by voice vote

Board discussed interviewing candidates for County Administrator.

Motion to Interview Chad Shaw on 02/27/2025 at 4:00pm

Moved by Kelley

Supported by Hesche

Motion carried by voice vote

XIV. Adjournment

Board discussed adjournment.

Motion to Adjourn at 5:15

Moved by Wirtz

Supported by Frewen

Motion carried by voice vote

Jack Shattuck, Chairman

Greg Geiger, County Clerk