



IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Terence M. Frewen, Chairman

March 17, 2026, 3:00 p.m.
Special Meeting Minutes

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

Members Absent: County Commissioner David Hodges

Others Present: County Administrator Chad Shaw, County Clerk Greg Geiger

I. Call to Order

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Frewen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Invocation

Kelley led the invocation.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Board discussed and approved the agenda by unanimous consent.

V. Public Comment

Miguel Pilar commented on a candidate for the County Commissioner's appointment.

VI. New Business

Board discussed the rules governing the appointment process for the vacant District 3 Commissioner seat. Frewen presented various options and solicited input.

Motion to Utilize Public Paper Balloting Procedure

Moved by Hesche

Motion carried by voice vote

Motion to Eliminate Candidate that Receives the Fewest Number of Votes

Moved by Hesche

Motion carried by voice vote



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Board discussed the interview process for candidates for the vacant District 3 Commissioner seat. The following candidates were interviewed: Tim Ross of Ionia Township, Carrie Bucholtz of Easton Township, and Robert Simpson of Keene Township.

Board conducted an interview of Tim Ross.

Board conducted an interview of Carrie Bucholtz.

Board conducted an interview of Robert Simpson.

VII. Public Comment

Andrew Bucholtz commented on a candidate for the County Commissioner's appointment.

Kristie Walls commented on a candidate for the County Commissioner's appointment.

VIII. Board Voting

Board discussed the appointment of a candidate to fill the vacant District 3 Commissioner seat.

Round 1 of voting by paper ballot did not reach a consensus. Results were as follows,

Ross – Kelley, Frewen

Bucholtz –

Simpson – Wirtz, Hesche, Shattuck

Round 2 of voting by paper ballot did not reach a consensus. Results were as follows,

Ross – Kelley, Frewen

Simpson – Wirtz, Hesche, Shattuck

Board members indicated they would not alter their votes to reach a consensus. Board discussed special election. Clerk requested recess to obtain details regarding permanent vacancy and special election.

Recess



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Frewen called meeting back to order.

Board discussed special election.

*Motion to Discontinue Voting and Wait for Complete Information
Regarding Special Election*

Moved by Kelley

Motion carried by voice vote

IX. Adjournment

Board discussed adjournment.

Motion to Adjourn

Moved by

Motion carried by voice vote


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Greg Geiger, County Clerk