

Ionia County Board of Commissioners
Tuesday, August 28, 2018
Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m.

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

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

Others present: Chris Bredice, Miranda Sharp-Boisseau, Lynn Mason, Norrie Slater, Carol Hanulcik, Deb Steele, Jeff Montgomery, Jim Valentine, Brian Simon, Dick Hoekstra, Stephanie Fox and Janae Cooper

Approval of Agenda

Add Item E. Under New Business, Sheriff's request to fill Corrections Officer Positions. Moved by Cowling-Cronk, supported by Banks to approve the Amended Agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott commented on tearing down the Friend of the Court building and using the old Clothing Care parking lot for county parking.

Norrie Slater, eight-year member of the Ionia County Board of Canvassers, referenced a three-page written letter, that as a Board of Canvassers member she feels misrepresented in letters written to the Board of Commissioners and in articles in local newspapers. Immediately following the canvass of the election, constituents contacted her questioning the canvass of the August 7th Primary Election and a request for an investigation. Slater had no such knowledge of a request for an investigation. (The Board of Canvassers made a motion to accept the results of the election at the conclusion of their meeting.) Slater stated that she voted on no such action for an investigation nor was she contacted regarding questions or concerns with the election. She apprised the Board that the canvass that took place on August 8th comprised of two appointed members and two substitute members who had never canvassed an election before. Slater advised the Board that Janae Cooper, County Clerk attempted to give the canvassers an explanation of the technological difficulties that she experienced on election night, however, Board of Canvassers Chair Bob VanLente cut her off and did not allow her to explain. He stated the canvassers were there to canvass the results and that is all that would be discussed. The canvassers did not take a vote nor were they asked to take a vote on an investigation of what transpired on election night. Slater held up newspaper clippings and clarified once again that she

felt misrepresented. Furthermore, Slater stated that she has met with election workers and they felt that Clerk Cooper had provided adequate training prior to the election. Election workers told Slater that new election equipment was used and glitches were to be expected.

Action on Consent Calendar

- A. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)
- B. Approve per diem and mileage
- C. Approve payment of General Fund payroll and accounts payable for the month of July 2018 - \$962,019.55
- D. Approve payment of Health Fund bills - \$90,823.51

Hearing no objections, the Chair declared the Consent Calendar approved.

New Business

- A. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Sharp to authorize Ionia County Central Dispatch to hire a dispatcher advertised with the salary range from start wage up to the here year step depending upon experience and qualifications. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. Moved by Banks, supported by Cowling-Cronk to create a full time In-Home Services position. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. Moved by Banks, supported by Wirtz to approve filling the position of Physical Plant Director at a Grade 13, Step 1, or if filled internally, a the lowest step within Grade 13, which would not cause the employee to receive a reduction in their rate of pay, as per the Ionia County Personnel Policy. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. Moved by Cowling-Cronk, supported by Tiejema to approve filling the upcoming Open Deputy Clerk position in the Sheriff's Office. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. Moved by Wirtz, supported by Sharp to approve filling the full-time corrections officer position and backfilling the part-time corrections officer position. Motion carried by voice vote.

Administrator's Report

Stephanie Fox, County Administrator, stated Budget Meetings will begin in September. September 6th is the Circuit Courtroom Rededication ceremony. The Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Grant was passed and a parking lot will be created for the Belding Area Schools.

Public Comment

Commissioner Tiejema brought a constituent's call to the Board's attention regarding a compliant.

Jack Elliott commented on charters and ordinances.

Ajourn

Moved by Cowling-Cronk, supported by Tiejema to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m.
Motion carried by voice vote.

James L. Banks, Vice-Chair

Janae K. Cooper, Clerk

Minutes approved on: