

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 18, 2018
Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m.

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

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

Members absent: Brenda Cowling-Cronk

Others present: Jack Elliott, Brian Simon, Bob Van Lente, Joyce Hamp, Ally Cook, Margot Cook, Jeff Montgomery, Chris Bredice, Nick Bowerman, Jim Valentine, Deb Thalison, Brent Denny, Karen Bota, Stephanie Fox and Janae Cooper

Approval of the Agenda

The Chair noted the following additions to the Agenda: Under New Business, Item D. Certificate of Appreciation for Commissioner Cowling-Cronk, Item E. 2019 Organizational Meeting and Under Closed Session add Item C. District Court Moved Wirtz, supported by Sharp to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott commented on the Board's discussion of changing to Committee Meetings versus Committee-of-the-Whole meetings.

Action on the Consent Calendar

- A. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)
- B. Approve minutes of closed session on December 11, 2018
- C. Approve per diem and mileage
- D. Approve payment of General Fund Payroll and accounts payable for the month of November 2018 - \$1,526,162.57
- E. Approve payment of Health Fund bills for November - \$157,259.68

Moved by Hodges, supported by Wirtz to add per diems for Tiejema, Sharp and Cowling-Cronk. Motion carried by voice vote.

Hearing no objections, the chair declared the Consent Calendar as approved.

Unfinished Business

- A. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks to approve the 2018 Budget Amendment. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. The Board discussed having a committee structure. Sharp stated that she attended the Department Head meeting last Friday and she did not receive good feelings from the Department Heads. Register of Deeds, Diane Adams remembers being under that format in the past and did not find it productive or favorable. Hodges felt that it does not cover all departments. The commissioners discussed possibly rotating board members at the department head meetings. Sharp stated that she spoke with the Barry County Chair and he stated that they tried subcommittees and that they did not work. Instead they do two Committee-of-the-Whole Meetings and two Regular Meetings per month. They assign times for Department Heads to give reports. Banks commented that in the past, Barry County followed suit with Ionia County to end committee meetings and conduct Committee-of-the-Whole Meetings. Chair Shattuck suggested making the department head meetings a scheduled meeting with open discussion. Tiejema stated that the Ad Hoc Committees have done a good job over the past few years. Banks stated that the commissioners need to make more of an effort. Sharp stated that in the past Commissioners met with Department Heads one-on-one. Wirtz thinks that Commissioners should go to the Department Head meetings. Hodges stated that if it were not for the COW meetings that he would know very little about some departments. Banks stated that the Board should work on cleaning this up at the Organizational Meeting as the Board seems to be in agreement. Chair Shattuck stated that he was just trying to find a way to increase communication.
- C. Appointments
 1. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Wirtz to appoint Elizabeth Kolarik, Gerald Skeltis, Gregg Moore, Larry Tiejema, Mel McCloud, and Jani Millard to the Central Dispatch Board of Directors. Also appoint the new Sheriff, Charlie Noll in place of former Sheriff Dale Miller to the Central Dispatch Board of Directors. Motion carried by voice vote.
 2. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Wirtz to appoint Georgia Sharp to the Eightcap Governing Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Moved by Wirtz, supported by Hodges to reappoint Ken Gasper to the Road Commission Board. Motion carried by voice vote. The two other applicants, Joyce Hamp and Nick Bowerman were briefly interviewed. Tiejema offered to recuse himself as Bowerman is a client of his. Moved by Wirtz, supported by Hodges to appoint Bowerman to the Road Commission Board. Motion carried by voice vote. Sharp asked Hamp to continue to contribute as a citizen as she has a lot to offer.
4. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks to appoint Kathleen Cook, Sharon Carlson and Kendra Backing to the Substance Abuse Initiative. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. Moved by Wirtz, supported by Tiejema to appoint David Hodges and Kyle Miller to the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission. The third appointment will take place at the Organizational Meeting in January. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks to appoint Spence Riggs to the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

New Business

- A. Brent Denny gave the District Court Semi-Annual report. (Report on file in the Clerk's Office).
- B. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks to approve the Medical Services Agreement between Mid-Michigan Correctional Care PC and the County of Ionia. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. Moved by Wirtz, supported by Hodges to approve the recommendation of the Park Advisory Board for Jeff Montgomery to acquire the permanent position of Park Manager and a pay grade change. The pay increase is to be retroactive to August 27, 2018. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. Chair Shattuck announced that he Board has a Certificate of Appreciation for Commissioner Cowling-Cronk, who as absent due to illness. Shattuck wished her well.
- E. The Board set the Organizational meeting date to January 8, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in their new Board Room in the County Administration Building on Main Street.

Chairperson's Report

Chair Shattuck thanked everyone for a good year.

Administrator's Report

County Administrator, Stephanie Fox reported that we are expecting a check for \$183,000 from our Liability Insurance Carrier. The County has over \$300,000 in fund retention. Administration is working on year-end and the audit. New desks are to be shipped to District Court on December 21st. Fox currently has three Physical Plant Director Applications.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott commented on the court system being unlawful.

Closed Session

Shattuck called for a brief recess at 8:13 p.m. to go into Closed Session.

Moved by Banks, supported by Hodges to enter into Closed Session at 8:18 p.m. for purposes to discuss an Offer for a Tentative Agreement for the Command Officers Association of Michigan and the Corrections Command Unit. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes - all.

Moved by Banks, supported by Tiejema to return to Open Session at 8:22 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks to approve the Tentative Agreement. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Banks, supported by Hodges to enter into Closed Session at 8:23 p.m. for purposes to discuss the Performance Improvement Plan. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes - all.

Moved by Banks, supported by Tiejema to move out of Closed Session and return to Open Session at 8:37 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Sharp, supported by Wirtz to enter into Closed Session at 8:38 p.m. for purposes to discuss District Court Union Negotiations. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes -all.

Moved by Banks, supported by Hodges to move out of Closed Session and return to Open Session at 8:39 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Wirtz, supported by Tiejema to give District Court a 1.5% wage increase with no additional money being contributed to their HSA accounts. Motion carried by voice vote.

Adjourn

Moved by Banks, supported by Wirtz, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.
Motion carried by voice vote.

Jack Shattuck, Chair

Janae K. Cooper, County Clerk

Minutes approved on: