

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
May 12, 2009
3:30 p.m.

Chair Banks called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Powell, Shattuck, Vroman, Tiejema, Mason, Calley and Banks

Members absent: None

Others present: Dale Miller, James Valentine, Lisa McCafferty, Stephanie Hurlbut,
Diane Smith, Mark Howe and Tonda Rich

Banks noted one additional item to be added to the agenda under New Business. Moved by Powell, supported by Vroman, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Banks opened up the first Public Comment period. No one addressed the Board.

Consent Calendar

1. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)

Absent any objections, the Chair declared the Consent Calendar approved.

New Business

1. Moved by Mason, supported by Powell, to open the public hearing at 3:33 p.m. for any public comment concerning the Brownfield Plan. Motion carried by voice vote.

County Administrator, Mark Howe, stated that the public hearing was advertised. In addition, Howe stated that the Brownfield Plan consists of nine properties and the Plan is available for public inspection.

Moved by Powell, supported by Tiejema, to close the public hearing at 3:42 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Powell, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners adopt the Resolution Approving a Brownfield Plan for the County of Ionia. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes – all. The Resolution is as follows:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A BROWNFIELD PLAN
FOR THE COUNTY OF IONIA PURSUANT TO AND
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ACT 381 OF THE
PUBLIC ACTS OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN OF 1996, AS AMENDED**

WHEREAS, the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (the “Authority”) of the County of Ionia, pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, being Act 381 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1996, as amended (the “Act”), has prepared and recommended for approval by the County of Ionia Commission, a Brownfield plan (the “Plan”) pursuant to and in accordance with Section 13 of the Act, to be carried out on the following properties being:

1. Former Gibson Site, 100 E. Main Street, Belding;
Property ID 34-401-050-000-716-00
2. Former Breimeyer Chevrolet, 201 South Bridge Street, Belding;
Property ID [34-403-180-000-390-00](#)
3. Bargain Corner, 200 South Bridge Street, Belding;
Property ID [34-403-180-000-382-00](#)
4. Former Ionia Guppers, 228 South Dexter Street, Ionia;
Property ID [34-201-040-000-090-00](#)
5. Stowell Property, 1135 Fourth Avenue, Lake Odessa;
Property ID [34-101-200-000-185-01](#)
6. Omara’s Market, 1400 Jordan Lake Street, Lake Odessa;
Property ID 34-101-230-000-005-00
7. Former Chrysler Plant, 117 Edward Street, Lyons;
Property ID [34-081-019-000-025-00](#); and
8. Buchner Properties, 239 Warren Street, and 3 N of RRD at Post Office and South of Looking Glass River, Portland; Property ID: 34-300-200-000-240-00 and 34-300-034-000-180-00.

WHEREAS, the City of Belding Board, the City of Ionia Board, the Village of Lake Odessa Board, the Village of Lyons Board, the City of Portland Board, the Township of Odessa Board, and the Township of Lyons Board, have concurred in the Plan by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has, at least ten (10) days before the meeting of the Ionia County Commission at which this resolution has been considered, provided notice to and fully informed the taxing jurisdictions in which the properties are located and which are affected by the Financing Plan (the “Taxing Jurisdictions”) about the fiscal and economic implications of the proposed Financing Plan, and the Commission has previously provided to the Taxing Jurisdictions a reasonable opportunity to express their views and recommendations regarding the Financing Plan and in accordance with Sections 13(10) and 14(1) of the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has made the following determinations and

findings:

- A. The Plan constitutes a public purpose under the Act;
- B. The Plan meets all of the requirements for a Brownfield plan set forth in Section 13 of the Act;
- C. The proposed method of financing the costs of the eligible activities, as described in the Plan, is feasible and the Authority has the ability to arrange the financing;
- D. The costs of the eligible activities proposed in the Plan are reasonable and necessary to carry out the purposes of the Act;
- E. The amount of captured taxable value estimated to result from the adoption of the Plan is reasonable; and

WHEREAS, as a result of its review of the Plan and upon consideration of the views and recommendations of the Taxing Jurisdictions, the Commission desires to proceed with approval of the Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. **Plan Approved.** Pursuant to the authority vested in the Commission by the Act, and pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Act, the Plan is hereby approved.
2. **Severability.** Should any section, clause or phrase of this Resolution be declared by the Courts to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this Resolution as a whole nor any part thereof other than the part so declared to be invalid.
3. **Repeals.** All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with any of the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed.
2. Moved by Mason, supported by Powell, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the contract amendment (#3) to the Michigan Department of Community Health Comprehensive Planning and Budgeting that will increase funding for Children’s Special Health Care Services. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Vroman, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Byrne-JAG Grant Application for the purchase of an Electronic Citation System, in conjunction with the Ionia Department of Public Safety, and to purchase tasers. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. Moved by Vroman, supported by Powell, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners adopt the Resolution Supporting Adequate State Funding to Hold Counties Harmless from the Department of Human Services Lawsuit Settlement Agreement. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes – all. The resolution is as follows:

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ADEQUATE STATE FUNDING TO HOLD COUNTIES
HARMLESS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES LAWSUIT SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, The State of Michigan, Department of Human Services was sued by Children’s Rights regarding the care of children in foster care; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Human Services settled the case out-of-court without consent or consultation from Michigan’s counties; and

WHEREAS, Michigan counties are the funding source for one-half of the costs of foster care and juvenile justice services in the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, The cost of the settlement agreement between the Department of Human Services and Children’s Rights would require Michigan’s counties to pay, without their consent, up to \$32,000,000 per year statewide in *calculable costs*, with additional county costs evident that are not able to be calculated; and

WHEREAS, Michigan’s counties face staggering cuts to services across the board due to declining property tax base, state funding cuts to support mandated services, increasing responsibilities eliminated from the state government being forced to counties, and increasing state regulation; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners urges the legislature and the Governor to hold counties harmless from the increased County Child Care Fund expenses associated with the agreement reached between the Department of Human Services and Children’s Rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to the Governor, Senator Cropsey, Representatives Calley and Huckleberry, and the Michigan Association of Counties for their consideration and action.

Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees

Commissioner Powell updated the Board on the animal shelter project, specifically, regarding the hiring of an architect.

Commissioner Mason updated the Board on the Rails to Trails program and requested that the County Administrator be appointed to the Advisory Committee to take the place of Nicole Frost. Moved by Powell, supported by Mason, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners appoint Mark Howe to the Clinton-Ionia-Shiawassee Rails to Trails Advisory Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

Commissioner Shattuck reminded the Board of the upcoming Road Commission meeting.

Commissioner Calley stated that the Health Department was recognized by the City of Portland.

Chair Banks opened up the second Public Comment period. Lisa McCafferty updated the Board on the flu virus.

Moved by Powell, supported by Shattuck, to adjourn the meeting at 4:19 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

James L. Banks, Chair

Tonda Rich, Clerk