

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
November 10, 2009
3:30 p.m.

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

Members present: Tiejema, Mason, Vroman, Shattuck, Powell, Calley and Banks
Members absent: None

Others present: Tom Thelen, Nancy Hickey, Diane Smith, Jack Elliott, Dwain Dennis, Dale Miller, Bob Cusack, Mike Bremer, Jim Valentine, Diane Adams, Lisa McCafferty, Don Remboski, Mark Howe and Tonda Rich

Banks stated that two of the four Executive Sessions will be deleted from the agenda. Moved by Vroman, supported by Shattuck, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Banks opened up the first Public Comment period. Jack Elliott addressed the Board concerning the Open Meetings Act. Mike Bremer from the Barry County Board of Commissioners introduced himself.

Consent Calendar

1. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)

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

1. Nancy Hickey, Ionia County Treasurer, discussed the establishment of a Land Bank Authority in Ionia County. Hickey presented the Board with the Assessment Observations and Recommendations Concerning the Creation of the Ionia County Land Bank that was drafted by the Genesee Institute. In addition, Hickey explained the objective of the land bank and requested that the Board approve the Agreement. Hickey answered various questions from the Board, including insurance, liability, staffing and the term of the agreement. Other discussions included the membership and whether the membership should be a board of 5 or 7 members. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Tiejema, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Michigan Land Bank Fast Track Authority and the Treasurer of Ionia County, as submitted. Motion carried by voice vote, with Powell and Banks voting no. County Administrator, Mark Howe, thanked Hickey for her time and hard work that she put into establishing the land bank.
2. Moved by Powell, supported by Vroman, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the renewal of the Local Health Department Contract between Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Ionia County Health

Department for FY 2009-2010, for funding of the Environmental Health Programs, and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Vroman, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve filling the open deputy position at the Sheriff's Department. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. Moved by Vroman, supported by Calley, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the 2010 Marine Grant. Motion carried by voice vote.

Chairperson's Report

Banks stated that the Board is still discussing/meeting on how to keep the County operating best with declining revenue. Banks further stated that Commissioner Tiejema presented each member with a written rendition of his thoughts on how to accomplish this and encouraged the other members to do the same.

No report was given by the County Administrator.

Commissioner Powell stated that discussion concerning a budget for the new Animal Shelter will be on the next Committee-of-the-Whole meeting agenda, and further stated that the architect will be present to answer questions.

Banks opened up the second Public Comment period. Bob Cusack addressed the Board concerning the Land Bank Authority and commended Commissioner Tiejema for doing a good job. Jack Elliott addressed the Board concerning the decisions the Commissioners made at the meeting.

Chair Banks called for a brief recess at 4:35 p.m. and reconvened at 4:42 p.m.

Moved by Powell, supported by Calley, to enter into Closed Session to discuss union negotiations. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes – all.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Powell, to adjourn Closed Session at 5:40 p.m. and return to the regular board meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Mason, supported by Powell, to enter into Closed Session to discuss union negotiations. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes – all.

Moved by Powell, supported by Tiejema, to adjourn Closed Session at 5:49 p.m. and return to the regular board meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Powell, supported by Calley, to adjourn the meeting at 5:49 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

James L. Banks, Chair

Tonda Rich, Clerk