

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Regular Meeting  
**December 14, 2010 - Amended**  
3:30 p.m.

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

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

Members absent: Banks

Others present: Fred Chapman, Larry Listerman, Tom Thelen, Mr. and Mrs. John Giessen, James Maurer, Bill Weisgerber, Tim Antonides, Herbert Cusack, Gary Reisbig, Bob Bennett, Lisa McCafferty, Deb Thailson, Ed Blyth, Jim Valentine, Mark Howe and Tonda Rich

### **Approval of Agenda**

Vroman noted the following additions to the agenda: Added item #15 under New Business and item #2 under Consent Calendar. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Shattuck, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **Public Comment**

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

### **Consent Calendar**

1. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)
2. Approve Closed Session minutes from November 23, 2010

Absent any objections, the Vice-Chair declared the Consent Calendar approved

### **New Business**

1. County Administrator, Mark Howe, introduced John Geisen, who has served as the Veteran's Counselor in Ionia County for many years and thanked Geisen for his dedicated service to our veterans. Vice Chair Vroman presented Geisen with a Resolution. Moved by Powell, supported by Tiejema, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners adopt the Resolution Paying Tribute to John Geisen. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote: yes –all. The Resolution is as follows:

## RESOLUTION

We gather here to pay tribute to **John Geisen**

Who will be retiring from his position as the Ionia County Veterans' Counselor on January 31, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Geisen has been a life-long resident of Ionia County, Michigan; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Geisen served with great valor as a Machine Gunner in the United States Army, Infantry Division; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Geisen has served the American Legion for sixty years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Geisen has served the Veterans of Ionia County with honor and distinction for over twenty-five years; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of his outstanding service, it is fitting and proper that Mr. Geisen be highly commended.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners, by this Resolution, expresses its deep appreciation to John Geisen for his faithful and dedicated service as Ionia County Veterans' Counselor, and wishes him well.

2. Vroman opened up the Public Hearing at 3:39 p.m. for anyone interested in commenting on the Road Commission Board. The following individuals addressed the Board: Larry Listerman, Tim Antonides, Fred Chapman, Herbert Cusack, Dorothy Pohl, Dick Pohl and Bob Bennett.

The Public Hearing was closed at 4:00 p.m.

3. Commissioner Tiejema began the discussion concerning the Road Commission Board membership and stated that there is an interest to have a township official be appointed as a liaison officer for our townships.

Commissioner Powell commented on the liaison officer, but also stated she was in support of change.

Commissioner Mason stated she would be in favor of a five member board and also supports an at-large position on the Board as well.

Commissioner Shattuck, representative for the County who currently sits on the Road Commission Board, stated he was not in favor of increasing the membership.

Commissioner Calley stated she was also not in favor of an increase in the membership on the Road Commission, but shared her interest in having liaison officer from the townships.

Commissioner Vroman stated he was in favor of increasing the Road Commission Board.

Moved by Mason, supported by Powell, to table the Road Commission Board membership discussion until the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Vice Chair Vroman called for a vote on the motion. The motion failed due to a tie vote.

Commissioner Powell requested that this issue be put back on the agenda for the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting when all seven County Commissioners would be present.

4. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Shattuck, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Resource Recovery Contract with the Soil Conservation District and to authorize appropriate signatures. Melissa Eldridge with the Soil Conservation, stated that Mark Novak from the Health Department will be a partner in this as well. Commissioner Powell requested that a resolution of appreciation be done recognizing Mark Novak for his work. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. The PA 116 filed by Mona and Adam Reiff for property located in Ionia Township was acknowledged.
6. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Powell, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the 2011 Marine Grant Application. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Mason, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Belding Courthouse Lease for \$10 a month. Motion carried by voice vote.
8. Moved by Mason, supported by Calley, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Portland Courthouse Lease. Motion carried by voice vote.
9. Moved by Powell, supported by Mason, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the agreement between Michigan Department of Human Services and Ionia County Health Department to provide Public Health Nurse services to assure the children placed in foster care receive medical and dental care and other needs that are identified, and further to authorize appropriate signatures

pending review of the contract by the County Administrator and Health Director.  
Motion carried by voice vote.

10. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Powell, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Health Department budget amendment as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
11. Moved by Mason, supported by Powell, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Health Department Fee Schedule as presented effective January 1, 2011. Motion carried by voice vote.
12. Deb Thailson stated that the Health Department was approached by Ionia County Substance Abuse Initiative (ICSAI) to participate in a pilot program for Ambulatory Opioid Detoxification. Thailson described the criteria for clients to participate in the Program and further discussed how the program works. In order for the Health Department to participate in the program, Thailson explained that the Board of Commissioners would need to approve waiving the substance abuse licensing rules. Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners authorize the Health Department to apply for a waiver of substance abuse licensing rules. Motion carried by voice vote.
13. Moved by Mason, supported by Powell, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the bid from Lake Funeral Home for Body Transport Services for 2011-2012, and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.
14. Moved by Powell, supported by Mason, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the time change for the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting to start at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **County Administrator's report**

1. Update on year end budget amendments;
2. Update on budget spreadsheet

### **Public Comment**

Vroman opened up the second Public Comment period. Employees from the Road Commission stated their support in increasing the membership of the Road Commission Board.

Vroman called for a brief recess at 6:00 p.m. and reconvened at 6:04 p.m.

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

Moved by Powell, supported by Shattuck, to adjourn Closed Session and return to regular session at 6:20 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Powell, supported by Calley, to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

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Mark Vroman, Vice Chair

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Tonda Rich, Clerk

Minutes approved on:

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