

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

**March 9, 2010**

3:30 p.m.

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

Members present: Mason, Shattuck, Vroman, Tiejema, Amanda (arrived at 3:49 p.m.) and Banks

Members absent: Calley

Others present: Holly Setter, James Lower, Tom Thelen, Stephanie Hurlbut, Lisa McCafferty, Dale Miller, Jim Valentine, Richard McNulty, Dwain Dennis, Mark Howe and Tonda Rich

Banks noted the following additions to the agenda: Added item #1b. under New Business and item #2 under Executive Session. Moved by Vroman, supported by Mason, 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 Tiejema, supported by Shattuck, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Recovery Act Bryne JAG 2009 sub grant for CMET overtime. Motion carried by voice vote.
- 1b. Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Mobile Communications Grant, with a 10% match, for upgrades to the computers in the patrol cars. Motion carried by voice vote.
2. Commissioner Shattuck proposed a change in the Per Diem Policy for the Board of Commissioners setting the per diem at \$25 per meeting regardless of the length of the meeting. Each Commissioner voiced their thoughts and discussed other options and ideas. The Chair presented the Board with a handout entitled 2010 MAC Elected Official Wage Survey that showed the per diem for other County Commissioners. Shattuck moved to change the Ionia County Board of Commissioners' per diem, per meeting, to \$25. Motion died for lack of support.
3. Commissioner Shattuck proposed eliminating the health insurance for board members. Each Commissioner was given the opportunity to voice any concerns. Shattuck moved to eliminate the health insurance for county commissioners. Motion died for lack of support.

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

1. Updated the Board on the progress being made toward the new Animal Shelter;
2. Updated the Board on the Rails to Trails;
3. Is putting together more financial information for the next Committee-of-the-Whole, which will be another finance overview rather than the regular Committee-of-the-Whole meeting;
4. The auditors will be here starting next week

Commissioner Banks stated that Commissioner Calley was absent due to her daughter breaking her arm and had to undergo surgery.

Commissioner Mason updated the Board on the Planning Commission meeting she attended.

The County Administrator updated the Board on the options for Community Development and will be bringing a proposal back to the Board.

Commissioner Vroman briefly discussed a recommendation to the policy on formalizing the time the Board of Commissioners will allocate funds to outside agencies. The County Administrator is working on updating the policy and will be bringing it back before the Board for approval.

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

Banks called for a brief recess at 4:33 p.m. and reconvened at 4:40 p.m.

Moved by Mason, supported by Powell, to enter into Closed Session at 4:40 p.m. to discuss a pending lawsuit. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes – all.

(Commissioner Vroman left at 5:20 p.m.)

Moved by Shattuck, supported by Tiejema, to adjourn Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Mason, supported by Powell, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners accept the recommendation from the county attorney to settle in the matter of Bart Ketner v Ionia County Sheriff's Department, Case No. 1:08-cv-1074 in the US District Court, Western District Michigan, South Division, and authorize the County Administrator sign on behalf of the Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Powell, supported by Tiejema, to enter into Closed Session at 5:33 p.m. to discuss union negotiations. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes – all.

Moved by Mason, supported by Powell, to adjourn Closed Session at 6:06 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Powell, to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

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James L. Banks, Chair

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Tonda Rich, Clerk