

## IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Committee-of-the-Whole

**December 20, 2011**

3:30 p.m.

**\*\*AMENDED\*\***

**Members present:** Mason, Lower, Vroman, Tiejema, Shattuck, Banks, and Calley

**Others present:** Jon Szerlag, Lisa McCafferty, Walter Barnes, Deb Thalison, Lindsay Beill, Diane Adams, Ronald Schafer, Suzanne Hoseth Kreeger, Dale Miller, Stephanie Hurlbut and Janae Cooper

Chair Shattuck called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Vroman, supported by Banks, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **Public Comment**

No one addressed the Board.

### **New Business**

#### A. Departmental Reports

1. Walter Barnes, Information Technology Director, updated the Board on the status of the IT Department. A handout was presented and is on file in the Clerk's Office. Barnes' future plans are to replace the county's current e-mail system, Outlook 2003, with Outlook 2010, as well as looking into a better wireless system for several departments. Barnes stated that money needs to be invested in the current system to be up to par. Barnes and Sheriff Dennis recently met with Net Tech regarding video surveillance storage.
2. Ronald Schafer, Prosecuting Attorney, updated the Board on the newly acquired ordinance work that his office will be performing for the Village of Lake Odessa beginning in January 2012. Schafer further discussed that his office has been busy with high-profile cases and further reported that the Prosecutor's Office is under budget in some line items. The Board congratulated Schafer for receiving the "Crime Fighter of the Year" award.
3. Deb Thalison, Community Health Supervisor, Lindsey Beill, Animal Care and Control Manager, and Lisa McCafferty, Public Health Officer, reported to the Board on behalf of Public Health. McCafferty presented several handouts to the Board (on file in the Clerk's Office) as well as the Ionia County Public Health Department 2010 Annual Report (on

file in the Clerk's Office). Thalison reported that a grant was awarded to provide a Substance Abuse Program. In addition, the Health Department was given a \$500 stipend to hold "Town Hall" meetings to address underage drinking. Beill reported that the State Veterinarian visited the Animal Shelter. Beill reported an increase in the euthanizing of feral cats.

4. Judge Suzanne Hoseth Kreeger announced to the Board her appointment to serve as Chief Judge for the 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court for the next two years. Kreeger updated the Board on a Court Reengineering Seminar attended by all judges in Ionia and Montcalm counties and stated that court processes and procedures will be reviewed for efficiency. Kreeger recommended Margaret Gregory to be appointed to fill the opening on the Jury Board. Other items of discussion included the Community Corrections Advisory Board will continue substance abuse treatment in the jail and the single point of entry for the courthouse. The Prosecutor and Judge Kreeger commented on the success of the Circuit Court Collections Program over the past ten months.

B. Anti-Fraud Management Policy

Interim County Administrator, Stephanie Hurlbut, reported positive comments from Department Heads and Elected Officials regarding this policy. Commissioner Tiejema requested that the policy include language regarding the implementation of procedures to be used. A final review of the policy is projected to be presented to the Board in early January 2012.

### **Reports of Officers, Board and Standing Committees**

Banks reported that the Pension Advisory Committee met at length with MERS representatives regarding the County Pension Program. The committee plans to bring a recommendation to the Board after the first of the year.

### **County Administrator's Report**

- A. Hurlbut stated that union employees were glad to sell back vacation time.
- B. She is currently working on the GASB 54 policy, as well as wrapping up year-end.

### **Other Reports**

Shattuck stated that any comments regarding the Administrator Position will be due before the next meeting.

Moved by Lower, supported by Tiejema, to adjourn the meeting at 4:32 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

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Jack Shattuck, Chair

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Janae K. Cooper, Chief Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved on:

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