

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
December 18, 2012
7:00 p.m.

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

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

Others present: Ann Thompson, Cheryl O'Connor, Judy Clark, Al Sharp, Georgia Sharp, Terese Paletta, Dorothy Pohl, Tom Thelen, Bob VanLente, Ken Thompson, Darlene Dowling, Miranda Sharp, Jim Valentine, Herb Cusack, Bob Cusack, Don Lehman, JoAnne Eakins, Deb Thalison, Ken Bowen, Dick Pohl, Lisa McCafferty, Mary Ellen Snyder, Jack Lynch, John Milewski, Dwain Dennis, Stephanie Hurlbut and Janae Cooper

Chair Shattuck noted one additional item to be added under New Business. The Chair further requested to move the presentation of the Resolutions of Appreciation to the beginning of the meeting. Moved by Vroman, supported by Lower, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Did You Know?

Commissioners' Tiejema and Calley shared facts of interest with the Board.

Consent Calendar

- A. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)
- B. Approve per diem and mileage
- C. Approve payment of General Fund payroll and accounts payable for the month of November 2012 - \$1,164,988.92
- D. Approve payment of Health Fund bills - \$118,815.82

Commissioner Mason requested to add her per diem and mileage voucher under item B of the Consent Calendar. Hearing no objections, the Chair declared the Consent Calendar approved.

Shattuck presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Ann Thompson, daughter of the late County Treasurer, Nancy Hickey. Moved by Lower, supported by Tiejema, to adopt the Resolution of Appreciation to Nancy Hickey. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote: yes – all. The Resolution is as follows:

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
2012-16**

We gather here to pay tribute to **Nancy Hickey**

WHEREAS, Nancy Hickey began her career with the County of Ionia in April, 1990, working in the Equalization Department; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Hickey was elected to the position of Treasurer and began her duties on January 1, 1996; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Hickey performed the responsibilities and duties as set forth by the Constitution of the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Hickey performed these duties with outstanding dedication and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Hickey has served the Citizens of the County of Ionia with the highest degree of integrity and distinction for 16 years; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Hickey was known by those with whom she worked for repeatedly going the extra mile; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this outstanding service, it is fitting and proper that Nancy Hickey be highly commended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners, by way of this Resolution, expresses its sincere condolences to the family of Nancy Hickey, and offers their deep appreciation for her faithful and dedicated service as the Treasurer of the County of Ionia, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be entered into the records of the Ionia County Board of Commissioners, and that a copy be presented to the family of Nancy Hickey.

Chair Shattuck continued with a Resolution presented to Sheriff Dwain Dennis. Moved by Lower, supported by Tiejema, to adopt the Resolution of Appreciation to Dwain Dennis, Sheriff, who will retire on December 31, 2012. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote: yes – all. The Resolution is as follows:

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
2012-17**

We gather here to pay tribute to **Dwain Dennis** who will be retiring from his position as the Sheriff of the County of Ionia on December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Dwain Dennis began his career with the County of Ionia as a Jail Officer and Deputy in 1972; and

WHEREAS, Dwain Dennis was promoted to Detective/Sergeant in 1975 and promoted to Detective/Lieutenant in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Dwain Dennis was appointed as Sheriff in January, 1998 and elected to the position in August of that year; and

WHEREAS, Dwain Dennis has worked in partnership with numerous City, County, State, and Federal Officials; and

WHEREAS, Dwain Dennis has served the Ionia County Sheriff's Department and the Citizens of the County of Ionia with honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this outstanding service, it is fitting and proper that Dwain Dennis be commended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners, by way of this Resolution, expresses its deep appreciation to Dwain Dennis for his faithful and dedicated service as the Sheriff of the County of Ionia, and wishes him well in his future endeavors; and, that this Resolution be entered into the records of the Ionia County Board of Commissioners and a copy presented to Dwain Dennis.

Chair Shattuck continued with a Resolution of Appreciation to Vicki Denny, Dispatch Operations Supervisor, who will be retiring at the end of 2012 as well. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Lower, to adopt the Resolution of Appreciation to Vicki Denny. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote: yes – all. The Resolution is as follows:

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
2012-18**

We gather here to pay tribute to **Vicki Denny**, who is retiring from Ionia County Central Dispatch on December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Denny began her career with Ionia County Central Dispatch as a Dispatcher in 1981 and was later promoted to the position of Dispatch Operations Supervisor, and;

WHEREAS, Vicki Denny has served Ionia County Central Dispatch and the citizens of Ionia County faithfully and with the highest degree of integrity and distinction for more than thirty years; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her outstanding service to Ionia County, it is fitting and proper that Vicki Denny be highly commended.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners, by this Resolution, expresses its deep appreciation to Vicki Denny for her faithful and dedicated service, and wishes her well in her future endeavors; and that this Resolution be entered into the records of the Ionia County Board of Commissioners and a copy presented to Vicki Denny.

Unfinished Business

A. Road Commission Interviews

The Board interviewed Herb Cusack, Alan Sharp and Ken Thompson to fill the position on the Road Commission Board. The candidates each answered seven questions, with a follow-up question posed by Commissioner Tiejema.

1. The Chair called for a vote on the Road Commission Board appointment. Herb Cusack received a majority of the nominations by a show of hands from Tiejema, Banks, Mason, Vroman and Shattuck. Moved by Lower, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Herb Cusack to the Ionia Road Commission Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

Shattuck called a brief recess at 7:52 p.m. and reconvened at 7:57 p.m.

2. Moved by Mason, supported by Vroman, to reappoint Gregg Moore as the Firefighter Representative on the Central Dispatch Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Lower, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Mark Vroman, Benjamin Hall and Gerald Skeltis as Citizen Representatives to the Central Dispatch Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to appoint Jani Millard as the Emergency Medical Services Representative to the Central Dispatch Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Banks, supported by Vroman, to appoint Larry Tiejema as the Commissioner Representative to the Central Dispatch Board. Motion carried by voice vote. It was noted that the township representative will be appointed in January, 2013.

3. Moved by Vroman, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Jim Banks to the EightCap Governing Board as the Commissioner Representative. Motion carried by voice vote.
 4. Moved by Banks, supported by Lower, to appoint Lynn Mason to the Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission. Motion carried by voice vote. Mason advised the Board that an alternate member is not needed as Mid-South will be merging into CEI in March, 2013.
 5. Moved by Mason, supported by Lower, to appoint Cari O'Connor to the Mid-South Substance Abuse Advisory Council and to appoint Sharon Carlson as an alternate member. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Adult Drug Court subcontracts with Comprehensive Recovery Services, Inc., North Kent Guidance and ViewPoint Counseling, as required by federal regulations and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. Moved by Mason, supported by Vroman, to adopt the Resolution Amending the Ionia County Address Ordinance of 2000. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote: yes – all. The Resolution is as follows:

**Resolution Amending the Ionia County Address Ordinance of 2000
2012-19**

WHEREAS, the Ionia County Address Ordinance of 2000 establishes a uniform county-wide system of numbering structures for use as addresses to facilitate locating structures, to protect the public health and safety by providing a systematic method of address numbering to enable faster response and location of a structure by county agencies and the authorities in the event of an emergency, and to promote the general welfare of the county to provide more efficient means for the general public; and

WHEREAS, Article IV of said Ordinance grants authority to the Address Ordinance Coordinator to assign address numbers to structures within the county and further to change address numbers of structures that are not in compliance with the address numbering system as set forth in Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, since the adoption of said Ordinance on April 3, 2000, the Address Ordinance Coordinator, working with the Ionia County Drain Commissioner/GIS Coordinator, representatives from the Ionia County Road Commission and the Central Dispatch Director, has worked to administer, coordinate and enforce said Ordinance by working with property owners found to be in non-compliance with the ordinance in an attempt to gain voluntary compliance; and

WHEREAS, Article VII of said Ordinance provides a process for property owners to appeal an order assigning an address or changing an existing address by taking their appeal to an appeal board comprised of the Central Dispatch Director, the Ionia County Road Commission Manager and the township supervisor of the affected property owner, with the appeal of this board being final; and

WHEREAS, the current appeal board is comprised of the same members that request the compliance of the address;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners hereby amends the Ionia County Address Ordinance of 2000 to designate the Central Dispatch Board of Directors as the Address Ordinance Appeal Board, which includes in its membership four citizen representatives, to allow for a more efficient appeal process and scheduling, and to help provide due process and impartiality to property owners, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Article VII, Section 7.01 a - 3 will be amended as follows:

If the decision reached by the Coordinator is not satisfactory, their decision may be appealed in writing within fifteen (15) business days of the date of the hearing, to the Ionia County Central Dispatch Board of Directors, which shall serve as the Appeals Board of this Ordinance. It shall be a requirement for each appeal hearing that a minimum of two of the four citizen representatives shall be in attendance. The decision of the Appeals Board shall be final.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the remainder of the Ionia County Address Ordinance shall remain unchanged.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is hereby directed to take all required action to have this Ordinance Amendment published, as required by state statute.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Ordinance Amendment shall become effective upon publication.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that this resolution is revocable and may be amended or modified at any time by resolution of the Ionia County Board of Commissioners.

New Business

- A. Shattuck presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Commissioner Lower for his service to the County of Ionia from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2012. Moved

by Vroman, supported by Calley, to adopt the Certificate of Appreciation to James Lower. Motion carried by voice vote.

Shattuck presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Commissioner Vroman for his service to the County of Ionia from January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2012. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to adopt the Certificate of Appreciation to Mark Vroman. Motion carried by voice vote.

- B. Don Lehman, MSUE Director, requested approval of the Annual Work Plan for 2013 with Michigan State University Extension (MSUE). Moved by Vroman, supported by Lower, to approve the MSUE Work Plan Agreement for 2013 as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. Dorothy Pohl, Ionia County Road Commission Manager, and Stephanie Hurlbut, County Administrator, requested authorization to transfer \$230,171.61 from the Johnson Road Improvement Fund to the Ionia County Road Commission Fund for reimbursement of the Johnson Road project. Moved by Banks, supported by Mason, to authorize the transfer of \$230,171.61 from the Johnson Road Improvement Fund to the Ionia County Road Commission Fund. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. Commissioner Vroman briefly discussed the Facilities Committee meeting that was held on December 11, 2012 regarding moving forward with exploring options to create a Central Services Building. Moved by Vroman, supported by Tiejema, to allow the County Administrator and the Physical Plant Director to proceed with the process of finding a facilities planner/architect to offer assistance to the County for the proposed Central Services Building, with funding to come from the General Fund Designated with the cost not to exceed \$10,000. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. Lisa McCafferty, Public Health Officer, along with JoAnne Eakins, Deb Thalison and Ken Bowen from the Health Department, discussed the Health Department Bi-Monthly Report and answered questions from the Board. (A copy of the Agency Report for the December 18, 2012 Board of Health meeting is on file in the Clerk's Office)
- F. Due to the transition of new management at the animal shelter, Hurlbut requested authorization to extend the temporary position at the shelter (16 hours per week) to continue through March, 2013. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to authorize extending the temporary animal care and control position through March 2013. Motion carried by voice vote, with Lower and Calley voting no.
- G. Moved by Lower, supported by Vroman, to approve the 2013 Agreement with Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority for the County's liability insurance and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote, with Calley voting no.

Commissioner Calley stated that bids should be accepted in the future for the County's liability insurance. Moved by Calley, supported by Tiejema, that starting in 2013, bids will be accepted for the County's liability insurance. Motion carried by voice vote.

H. Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to schedule the Organizational Meeting on January 8, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

I. Hurlbut discussed the year-end budget amendments as presented. Hurlbut stated that one of the amendments is for a transfer of \$100,000 to the Commission on Aging and further stated that this money will be paid back to the General Fund when COA receives their money in 2013. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason to approve the year end budget amendments as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

Commissioner Lower presented his final statement to the Board. Lower stated that he accomplished his goals of transparency and balancing the budget over his term as Commissioner.

Commissioner Vroman presented his final statement to the Board as well. Vroman thanked the employees and department heads for their hard work and wished the new commissioners the best of luck.

Moved by Vroman, supported by Lower, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Jack Shattuck, Chair

Janae K. Cooper, Chief Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved on:
