

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
January 24, 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 (arrived at 7:47 p.m.), Banks, Calley and Shattuck

Others present: Jack Elliott, Loren Gage, Joel Palmer, Sr., Jon Szerlag, Tom Thelen, Ron Schafer, Stephanie Hurlbut and Tonda Rich

Approval of Agenda

A. Consideration of additional items

Moved by Vroman, supported by Lower, to approve the agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott addressed the Board concerning the elimination of the Board of Supervisors.

Did You Know?

Commissioners' Lower and Vroman stated facts of interest.

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 December 2011 - \$1,134,450.10
- D. Approve payment of Health Fund bills - \$160,469.90

Commissioner Lower requested to pull the minutes from January 17th and Commissioner Mason requested to pull her voucher.

Commissioner Lower stated that in the January 17th board minutes, under Reports, item A., he would like to amend or add to the statement by Commissioner Tiejema that the Commission of Aging will need the approval from the Board of Commissioners to put a proposal on the August ballot.

Commissioner Mason amended her voucher reflecting that the per diem for the meeting on December 13th should be \$50 rather than \$25.

Moved by Mason, supported by Vroman, to approve the amended January 17th board minutes and Commissioner Mason's amended voucher. Motion carried by voice vote.

Hearing no further objections, the Chair declared the remaining Consent Calendar approved.

New Business

- A. Stephanie Hurlbut, County Administrator, discussed the proposed changes to the Vacation Policy. Hurlbut stated that the policy has been amended to state that no more than twenty (20) vacation days may be carried over to the following calendar year (equivalent to 150 hours for 7.5 hour per day employees and 160 hours for 8 hour per day employees) and that balances over 150 or 160 hours will be automatically paid out in January of each year. Employees will also be able to sell accrued vacation hours at 100% during open enrollment. Hurlbut further added that by reducing the accrued vacation time, this will lower the county's financial liability. Moved by Vroman, supported by Mason, to approve the amended Vacation Policy as presented, effective February 1, 2012. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. Moved by Lower, supported by Calley, to allow county employees with accrued vacation hours over the amount authorized (150 hours or 160 hours) to use or sell this time by December 31, 2014, effective immediately. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. Loren Gage, Park Manager, requested authorization to enter into a three-year lease agreement in the amount of \$2,800 per year with Bader & Sons Co., for the lawn mower and gator that are used at Bertha Brock Park. Moved by Mason, supported by Lower, to approve the three- year lease agreement with Bader & Sons Co., for the lawn mower and gator. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. Gage requested authorization to enter into a 5-year lease agreement in the amount of \$4,838.64 per year with Bader & Sons Co., for a John Deere loader tractor. Gage stated that at the end of the five years, the County will own the tractor. Gage stated that he has been either renting or borrowing a tractor. Discussions included the differences between leasing a tractor and buying a tractor out right. Moved by Banks, supported by Vroman, to approve the 5-year lease agreement with Bader & Sons Co., for a John Deere 3320 loader tractor. Motion carried by voice vote, with Lower voting no.
- E. Moved by Mason, supported by Banks, to approve the agreement with the Village of Lake Odessa for prosecution services and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.
- F. Prosecuting Attorney, Ron Schafer, requested authorization to fill the Crime Victim Coordinator position. Schafer stated that this position is grant funded. Moved by

Lower, supported by Mason, to approve filling the Crime Victim Coordinator position. Motion carried by voice vote.

- G. Moved by Mason, supported by Lower, to approve the Department of Justice Asset Forfeiture Equitable Sharing Program Agreement and Certification form, authorizing the Sheriff's Department to become a participant in the Program. Motion carried by voice vote.
- H. Moved by Vroman, supported by Calley, authorizing the Sheriff's Department to submit the 2012 Marine Grant Application. Motion carried by voice vote.
- I. Moved by Lower, supported by Vroman, authorizing the Sheriff's Department to purchase two 2011 Chevy Impalas from budgeted capital funds. Commissioner Mason requested a list of county owned vehicles and the mileage of each vehicle. Motion carried by voice vote.
- J. The Chair acknowledged the filing of a PA 116 by Robert Baker for property located in Campbell Township.
- K. Moved by Banks, supported by Vroman, to authorize filling the dispatcher position at Central Dispatch. Motion carried by voice vote.
- L. Moved by Mason, supported by Lower, to approve the 36-month AT&T Intrastate ILEC Network Services Discount Pricing Schedule for local POTS (Plain Old Telephone Service) line usage and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.
- M. Appointments
 - 1. Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Board of Directors – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Vroman, to appoint Tom Lee to the AAAMW Board of Directors. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - 2. Board of Public Works – Moved by Mason, supported by Lower, to appoint D. Lee Satterlee to the Board of Public Works. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - 3. Central Area Michigan Works! Consortium - Moved by Banks, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Don Benjamin to the Central Area Michigan Works! Consortium. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - 4. Park Advisory Board – Moved by Vroman, supported by Mason, to appoint Joe McCord, Amy Buckingham and Rachel Tyler to the Park Advisory Board. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - 5. Pension Advisory Board - Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to appoint Ann Ebenstein and Ron Schafer to the Pension Advisory Board. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - 6. Planning Commission – Moved by Mason, supported by Calley, to appoint Gregg Yeomans and Quentin Harwood to the Planning Commission. Commissioner Lower motioned to eliminate the Planning Commission as was discussed in previous meetings. Motion failed for a lack of support. Commissioner Vroman suggested

looking into the possibility of having the Personnel Committee take over the duties of the Planning Commission before eliminating the Commission all together. The Chair called for a vote on the original motion. Motion carried by voice vote.

7. Substance Abuse Initiative – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to appoint Jennifer Marhoff, Jason Smith and Tabatha Mitchell to the Substance Abuse Initiative for Districts 4, 5 and 7. Motion carried by voice vote.

County Administrator’s report:

1. Received the Workmans’ Compensation check, as well as, the BCBS refund check

Other Reports

Commissioner Mason updated the Board on the upcoming mid-west trail meeting and stated a proposal will be forthcoming to the Board to amend the Trail By-Laws, specifically the membership portion.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott commented on court security, fines/law library and the county administrator position.

Chair Shattuck called for a brief recess at 8:07 p.m. and reconvened at 8:15 p.m.

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

Moved by Vroman, supported by Lower, to adjourn Closed Session and return to regular session at 8:24 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Lower, supported by Vroman, to approve the tentative agreement with Animal Control. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Vroman, supported by Banks, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Jack Shattuck, Chair

Tonda Rich, Clerk

Minutes approved on:
