

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

November 27, 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: Jim Valentine, Jack Elliott, Lisa McCafferty, Curt Read, Doug DeVries, Randy Hager, Rebecca McCafferty, Stephanie Hurlbut and Janae Cooper

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Lower, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott addressed the Board regarding the law library.

Curt Read asked the Board to consider lifting the 3 minute time limit per speaker and also asked the Board to consider implementing an internal controls program.

Did You Know?

Commissioner Mason stated facts of interest regarding Rails to Trails and distributed a West Michigan Trails magazine to 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 October 2012 - \$1,129,070.51
- D. Approve payment of Health Fund bills - \$97,784.64

Commissioner Lower requested to pull the minutes from November 13, 2012 and November 20, 2012 for further discussion and amendments. Lower stated that the November 13th minutes should reflect clarification on the following: 1) The Chair added Closed Session minutes to the Consent Calendar; 2) more clarification on the budget amendment, item F, number 4. In regard to the November 20th minutes, the discussion on

allocating funds to the bridge repair project item A. under New Business, will take place at the December 11, 2012 meeting and also that no report was given for the Treasurer's Office.

Moved by Lower, supported by Tiejema, to amend the November 13, 2012 and November 20, 2012 meeting minutes as discussed. Motion carried by voice vote.

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

Unfinished Business

1. Moved by Vroman, supported by Tiejema to appoint Linda Willison to the Economic Development Corporation/Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, for the remainder of the three-year term expiring April 30, 2013. Motion carried by voice vote.

New Business

1. Randy Hager and Rebecca McCafferty discussed developing a Community Garden at the Animal Shelter. McCafferty applied for a grant and was awarded \$1,000 for the project. Hager presented several ideas regarding the benefits of the Community Garden. County Administrator, Stephanie Hurlbut, will look into the liability factor to the County.
2. Moved by Vroman, supported by Lower, to approve the contract with Satin Vandenberg for services provided to the 64A District Court and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Vroman, to authorize Central Dispatch to hire an entry level dispatcher with employment to begin after January 1, 2013. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. Hurlbut requested approval of the Letter of Engagement for 2012, 2013 and 2014 with Abraham & Gaffney to provide financial audit services for the County of Ionia. Tiejema inquired as to whether or not the annual fee could be/was negotiated. Hurlbut stated there were no negotiations regarding their fee. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to approve a three-year agreement with Abraham & Gaffney to provide financial audit services for the County of Ionia for the years ending December 31, 2012, 2013 and 2014 and authorize the Chair's signature. Motion carried by voice vote. A discussion continued concerning the fee being charged by Abraham & Gaffney. Moved by Mason, supported by Lower, to amend the motion to include that the County Administrator shall negotiate the contract's annual fees. Motion carried by voice vote.

5. Moved by Lower, supported by Calley, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Emergency Management Coordinator Services between the City of Ionia and the County of Ionia through 2014. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. Commissioner Mason presented and reviewed the Trail Authority Budget for 2013 with the Board. (The Trail Authority budget for 2013 is on file in the Clerk's office).

Chairperson's Report

1. Chair Shattuck, on behalf of the Board and County, voiced his condolences to the family of Nancy Hickey, who passed away. Shattuck stated that the County is accepting donations for the family to disburse to the charities of Nancy's choice. The funeral will take place, Saturday, December 1st at St. Edwards Catholic Church in Lake Odessa.

County Administrator's Report

1. Distributed a copy of the County's Dashboard and stated that to date, the dashboard has received over 400 hits.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott questioned the Board on the County Treasurer position.

The Chair called for a brief recess at 7:59 p.m. and reconvened at 8:02 p.m.

Moved by Lower, supported by Tiejema, to enter into Closed Session to discuss the Pitsch lawsuit at 8:02 p.m. Chair Shattuck stated that since the Health Department Officer is already present the Board should consider going into Closed Session to discuss Health Department union negotiations first. Commissioner Lower withdrew his motion.

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

Moved by Banks, supported by Lower, to adjourn Closed Session and return to regular session at 8:14 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Banks, supported by Lower, to enter into Closed Session at 8:14 p.m. to discuss the Pitsch lawsuit. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes – all.

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

Moved by Banks, supported by Lower, to enter into Closed Session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss a property purchase. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes – all.

Moved by Vroman, supported by Tiejema, to adjourn Closed Session and return to regular session at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Vroman, to approve the tentative agreement for the Health Department’s Clerical-Technical and Professional Units. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Banks, supported by Mason to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Jack Shattuck, Chair

Janae K. Cooper, Chief Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved on:
