

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
February 12, 2013
4:00 p.m.

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

Members present: Tiejema, Banks, Cowling-Cronk, Wirtz, Shattuck and Calley
Members absent: Mason

Others present: Ken Bowen, JoAnne Eakins, Deb Thailson, Jim Valentine, Walter Barnes, Lisa McCafferty, Marilyn Smith, Don Ransom, Karen Bota, Diane Adams, Dale Miller, Mark Jones, Stephanie Hurlbut and Tonda Rich

Approval of Agenda

A. Consideration of additional items

The Chair noted one addition under New Business (item L.) for the request to fill a Nurse position at the Health Department. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Consent Calendar

A. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)

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

New Business

A. Marilyn Smith, who works with the Home Improvement Program discussed the Federal Fair Housing Law and answered questions from the Board. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to adopt the Fair Housing Resolution. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote: yes – all. The Resolution is as follows:

**FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION
2013-5**

WHEREAS, under the Federal Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, it is illegal to deny housing to any person because of race, color, religion, gender, physical or mental disabilities or national origin; and,

WHEREAS, under the Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, PA 453 of 1976, as amended, it is illegal to deny the opportunity to obtain housing to any person because of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status;

LET IT BE KNOWN TO ALL PERSONS that it is the policy of IONIA COUNTY to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons

regardless of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status. Therefore, IONIA COUNTY does hereby pass the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Executive Order 11063, IONIA COUNTY shall not discriminate in the sale, rental, leasing, or financing of housing because of religion, race, color, gender, physical or mental disabilities, national origin, age, height, weight, familial status, or marital status;

IONIA COUNTY will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of religion, race, color, gender, physical or mental disabilities, national origin, age, height, weight, familial status, or marital status to seek equity under federal and state laws by providing information to said persons on how to file a complaint with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

IONIA COUNTY will at a minimum post this policy or the Fair Housing poster or other posters, flyers or other information which will bring to the attention of owners of real estate, developers and builders their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Law and Michigan Elliott Larsen Act.

- B. Moved by Banks, supported by Wirtz, to approve the Ionia County Home Improvement Guidelines as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. (A copy of the Guidelines are on file in the Clerk's Office)
- C. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Tiejema, to approve the Ionia County Section 3 Handbook (Section 3 is a provision of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968), as presented. The Ionia County Section 3 Handbook was adopted by the following roll call vote: yes – all. (A copy of the Section 3 Handbook is on file in the Clerk's Office)
- D. Information Technician Director, Walter Barnes, requested changing the County's internet service to Charter Communications. Barnes stated that our current internet service is through the Intermediate School District at 20Mbs of bandwidth. Charter Communications will be at a speed of 100Mbs. Moved by Banks, supported by Wirtz, to approve a contract with Charter Communications for internet service and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Wirtz, to approve the amendment to the Radio Tower Agreement between the City of Ionia and County of Ionia (Central Dispatch) including the County's Central Dispatch total not to exceed the annual reimbursement to the City indicated in the amended document and to authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.
- F. Sheriff, Dale Miller, stated that Lt. Jones, who has been acting as Jail Administrator, with dual responsibilities of Lieutenant, be officially moved into the Jail Administrator role and be paid at Grade 15, Step 4. Moved by Cowling-Cronk, supported by Wirtz, to authorize the Jail Administrator pay at a Grade 15, Step 4 and added to the Administrative MERS retirement. Motion carried by voice vote.

- G. Miller requested authorization to hire two part-time deputies for court security. Miller stated that currently a full time deputy is manning this position. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to approve hiring two part-time deputies for court security. Motion carried by voice vote.
- H. Miller further requested authorization to hire three part-time corrections officers to help reduce the overtime costs. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Wirtz, to approve hiring three part-time corrections officers each at 700 – 1000 hours per year. Motion carried by voice vote.
- I. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to approve filling a deputy position created due to the promotion of Charlie Noll to Undersheriff. Motion carried by voice vote.
- J. Chair Calley acknowledged the filing a PA 116 for the Read Trust.
- K. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Cowling-Cronk, to approve the FY 12/13 Substance Abuse Agreement between the County of Ionia on behalf of the Ionia County Substance Abuse Initiative and Patricia Cornell and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.
- L. Moved by Banks, supported by Tiejema, to authorize the filling of the Public Health Nurse II position at the Health Department. Motion carried by voice vote.

County Administrator's Report

1. The pension discussion will take place at the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting on February 19, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Tiejema requested to expand the discussion on the pension plan concerning the differing legal opinions and how the Board interprets the Plan. Commissioner Banks and Chairperson Calley stated that the discussion at the next Committee-of-the-Whole should be kept simple and to hold off on certain issues concerning the Pension Plan, such as the death benefit, for a later discussion.

2. District Court was awarded a \$50,000 collaboration grant.

Other Reports

Commissioner Tiejema stated that the Facilities Committee is going to discuss the Central Dispatch lease.

Commissioner Shattuck announced that there will be a Bertha Brock Park fundraiser on Saturday, February 16th, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Steele Street Hall (former K of C Hall).

Moved by Shattuck, supported by Tiejema, to adjourn the meeting at 5:06 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Julie A. Calley, Chairperson

Tonda Rich, Clerk

Minutes approved on:
