

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 8, 2009

Regular Meeting

3:30 p.m.

Vice-Chair Vroman called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Mason, Shattuck, Vroman, Tiejema and Calley (arrived at 3:35)

Members absent: Banks and Powell

Others Present: Cheryl O'Connor, Jim Valentine, Stephanie Hurlbut, Tom Thelen, Lynette Seiler, Nancy Hickey, Lisa McCafferty, Holly Setter, Mark Howe and Janae Cooper

Vroman expressed his condolences regarding the death of Phil Wilson, who had previously served as an Ionia County Commissioner.

Vroman noted the following changes to the agenda: Added Closed Session Minutes from November 24, 2009 to the Consent Calendar.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Vroman opened up the first Public Comment Period. No one addressed the Board.

Consent Calendar

1. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)
2. Approve Closed Session minutes from November 24, 2009

Absent any objections, the Vice-Chair declared the Consent Calendar approved.

New Business

1. Director of Equalization, Cheryl O'Connor, distributed handouts and presented the Annual Equalization Report to the Board.
2. It was the consensus of the Board to remove item #2 from the agenda regarding a contract amendment with Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission so the Board has time to review the amendment.
3. The County Travel Policy was discussed at length. Lisa McCafferty, Nancy Hickey and Lynette Seiler each addressed the Board with comments and suggestions regarding the Travel Policy. Commissioner Mason proposed keeping the mileage rate the same as set by the IRS, with the exception of Commissioners' receiving .38 cents per mile for meetings attended in Ionia County

and receiving the IRS rate when attending meetings outside of Ionia County. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Tiejema, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners change the mileage reimbursement rate for 2010 to .38 cents per mile. Motion carried, with Commissioners' Mason and Vroman voting no. County Administrator, Mark Howe, stated that per the Boards' Bylaws, policy changes must be passed by a majority of those elected and serving and due to the absence of two commissioners, the motion does not pass. Discussion continued regarding the Travel Policy and it was the consensus of the Board to put this matter on the next Committee-of-the-Whole agenda for further discussion.

4. Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners approve the Michigan Works Agreement. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. Budget amendments:
 - a. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Shattuck, to approve the budget amendment for Bertha Brock Park to cover the 2009 upgrades to the park buildings, as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - b. Moved by Mason, supported by Calley, to approve the budget amendment for the Sheriff's Department to increase the gas expense, as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - c. Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to approve the budget amendment for the Shop with a Cop Program, as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - d. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Calley, to approve the budget amendment for Juvenile Court for the increase in the grant amount for juvenile transports, as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - e. Moved by Mason, supported by Shattuck, to approve the Friend of the Court budget amendment for the increase in the state grant, as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - f. Moved by Shattuck, supported by Calley, to approve the budget amendment for the Veterans Trust Fund due to additional revenue and expenditures, as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - g. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to approve the budget amendment for Circuit Court for the attorney fee reimbursement fund, as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

Chairperson's Report

Vice Chair Vroman stated that Chair Banks is ill and was unable to attend today's meeting.

1. Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners change the time of the December 22nd meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote. Vroman stated that he would notify Banks and Powell of the time change.

County Administrator's Report

1. Howe stated that he does not see many amendments to the year-end budget.
2. Howe asked the Board for suggestions regarding how/what they want reported to them.

3. Howe reported that the \$330,000 in Fund Balance that was budgeted in 2010 may not have to be used as the County is getting a reimbursement on a Workers Comp Claim.
4. Howe distributed a Deputy Cost Analysis to the Board regarding the cost for the officer in Saranac, which will increase 7.14%.

Appointments

Appointments to the Central Dispatch Board of Directors will be approved at the December 22, 2009 meeting.

Vice Chair Vroman opened up the second Public Comment period. Lisa McCafferty informed the Board that the H1N1 Clinics are now open to the general public.

Vroman called for a brief recess at 4:55 p.m. and reconvened at 4:57 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 Shattuck, supported by Tiejema, to adjourn Closed Session at 5:19 p.m. and return to regular session. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Shattuck, supported by Calley, to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mark Vroman, Vice-Chair

Janae Cooper, Chief Deputy Clerk