

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Regular Meeting  
**April 26, 2011**  
7:00 p.m.

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

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

Others present: Diane Adams, Jack Elliott, Stephanie Hurlbut, Darlene and Ken Thompson, Don Lehman, Linda Sanchez, Tom Thelen, Pat Richard, Loren Gage, Jon Szerlag, Amanda Powell, Diane Smith, Marilyn Smith, Mark Howe and Tonda Rich

**Approval of Agenda**

A. Consideration of additional items

Shattuck noted the following additions to the agenda: Added Closed Session minutes from April 12, 2011 under the Consent Calendar, added item J. under New Business and further noted that the public hearing under New Business will be heard before Unfinished Business. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Lower, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Public Comment**

Jack Elliott and Ken Thompson commented on the Land Bank.

**Consent Calendar**

1. Approve minutes of the previous meeting(s)
2. Approve per diem and mileage
3. Approve payment of General Fund payroll and accounts payable for the month of March 2011 - \$1,059,726.33
4. Approve payment of Health Fund bills - \$103,170.74
5. Approve Closed Session minutes from April 12, 2011

The Closed Session minutes were presented and reviewed by the Board. Absent any objections, the Chair declared the Consent Calendar approved.

Moved by Banks, supported by Mason, to open up the public hearing at 7:15 p.m. on the Homebuyers Assistance Program. Motion carried by voice vote.

Marilyn Smith described how the Homebuyers Assistance Program works, as well as, the qualifications to participate in the Program.

Ken Thompson and Jack Elliott both commented on the Program.

Moved by Lower, supported by Mason, to close the public hearing at 7:26 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to adopt the Resolution for Housing Resource Fund Application. The resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote: Yes - all. The Resolution is as follows:

**HOUSING RESOURCE FUND APPLICATION  
2011-5**

**WHEREAS**, Ionia County is interested in continuing efforts to provide affordable housing opportunities for its low-to-moderate income residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ionia County Board of Commissioners recommend that Ionia County make an application for Housing Resource Funds for homebuyer purchase and rehabilitation projects (HPR); and

**WHEREAS**, the Ionia County Board of Commissioners is requesting the application for funds not to exceed \$200,000;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners authorizes the preparation of the application for funding through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority's Housing Resource Fund.

**Unfinished Business**

- A. Appointments
  - 1. Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Advisory Council – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to appoint Ojars Smits, Judith Kalmanek and Norma Kilpatrick to the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Advisory Council. Motion carried by voice vote.
  - 2. Economic Development Corporation/Brownfield Redevelopment Authority – Moved by Banks, supported by Mason, to appoint Mark Bender, Debra Seese and Terry Frewen to the Economic Development Corporation/Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. Motion carried by voice vote.
  - 3. Land Bank Authority – Moved by Lower, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Terence Frewen to the Land Bank Authority. Motion carried by voice vote.
  
- B. Discussion concerning the position of director of the animal shelter took place and whether the Board should hire a director or contract the position out. In addition, the Animal Care and Control Department Policy was discussed. Moved by Banks, supported by Mason, to adopt the Animal Care and Control Department Policy as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. County Administrator, Mark Howe, stated

that the interview process will begin shortly and the director position will be added on the next agenda for more discussion.

- C. Moved by Banks, supported by Calley, to approve the two PA 116 Farmland Agreement Applications filed by Philip and Mary Seidelman for properties located in Ronald and Easton Townships. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **New Business**

- B. Diane Adams, Register of Deeds, met with the Board to discuss a book scanning project of 388 books currently located in the Deeds Office. Adams stated that the funding would come from the Register of Deeds Automation Fund, and further described the various proposals/bids that she received for completing the project. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to approve the Ionia County Register of Deeds Book Scanning Project in an amount not to exceed \$70,000, with the project being fully funded from the Register of Deeds Automation Fund. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. Moved by Mason, supported by Calley, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between MSUE and Ionia County for the 50% funding of an Agriculture Educator for the 2011 calendar year. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to approve the amended Memorandum of Agreement between Ionia County and MSUE that reflects 50% of Diane Smith's (Extension Educator and ICEA staff) wages will be paid by the County of Ionia and the other 50% of her wages to be paid from MSUE funds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. Pat Richard, with the Michigan State Police, discussed installing the county software onto the in-car computers used by MSP, which would allow all troopers, county deputies and the city police to communicate with one another countywide, as well as, Central Dispatch. In addition, Central Dispatch will be able to locate each patrol car by way of a computer screen. In order to proceed with installing the software, a Memorandum of Understanding is needed between the Ionia Post and the County of Ionia that specifies each participating party's responsibility for the upkeep and maintenance of the actual computer equipment and also the two software programs. Moved by Banks, supported by Mason, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Michigan State Police – Ionia Post and the County of Ionia, and to authorize the Chairman's signature. Motion carried by voice vote.
- F. Budget Amendments
  - 1. Sheriff's Department

A brief discussion took place concerning no representation from the Departments' requesting the budget amendments.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to approve the budget amendment for the Sheriff's Department as presented. Motion carried by voice vote, with Lower voting no.

2. Friend of the Court

Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to approve the budget amendment for the Friend of the Court Office as presented. Motion carried by voice vote, with Lower voting no.

3. Parks

Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to approve the budget amendment for the Parks as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

H. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to approve the grant agreement between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Ionia County Board of Commissioners for the Development of Engineering Plans for Rehabilitation of Hangar Taxilanes at the Ionia County Airport – Contract No. 2011-0306, Federal Project No. F-26-0048-2210, and authorize the signature of Chairman Jack Shattuck. Motion carried by voice vote.

I. A brief discussion took place concerning establishing a budget calendar. It was the consensus of the Board to hold a budget meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. on May 10, 2011.

J. A discussion took place concerning court security and what the current committee's goals are. Howe stated he would send a copy of the State Court Administrative Office Report that was done regarding security and will continue discussions at the next meeting.

## **Reports**

Commissioner Mason congratulated the Health Department on their recent audit from an accreditation group.

## **Public Comment**

Jack Elliott addressed the Board concerning security.

The Chair called for a brief recess at 9:25 p.m. and reconvened at 9:32 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 Lower, supported by Calley, to adjourn the Closed Session and return to regular session at 9:50 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

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

Moved by Lower, supported by Banks, to adjourn the Closed Session and return to regular session at 9:59 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Banks, supported by Tiejema, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

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Jack Shattuck, Chair

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Tonda Rich, Clerk