

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
October 25, 2011
Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m.

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

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

Others present: Loren Gage, Amy Buckingham, Tom Thelen, Sug Pinnow, Joel Palmer, Sr., Jack Elliott, Jon Szerlag, Deb Thailson, Mark Novak, Dan and Wendy Thomas, William Rockwell, Jr., Lisa McCafferty, Stephanie Hurlbut and Tonda Rich

Approval of Agenda

The Chair noted the following addition to the agenda: Added item I. #4 under New Business. Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Jack Elliott commented on the Rails to Trails project.

Did You Know?

Commissioner Tiejema stated a fact of interest.

Consent Calendar

- A. Approve minutes of the previous minute(s)
- B. Approve per diem and mileage
- C. Approve payment of General Fund payroll and accounts payable for the month of September 2011 - \$1,424,502.80
- D. Approve payment of Health Fund bills - \$137,520.96

Commissioner Tiejema requested to pull Commissioner Calley's voucher regarding the September 20, 2011 committee-of-the-whole meeting. Commissioner Lower requested his voucher be amended to reflect \$25 for the September 20th meeting and to also add the September 8th and 15th budget meetings. Discussion took place concerning the per diem allowed for a regular meeting verses a committee-of-the-whole meeting. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to approve amending the vouchers submitted to reflect the per diem for the September 20, 2011 committee-of-the-whole meeting should be \$25. Motion carried by voice vote.

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

Unfinished Business

A. Appointments

1. Board of Canvassers – Moved by Vroman, supported by Mason, to appoint Gloria Cook to the Board of Canvassers. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Banks, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Carmon Ferman to the Board of Canvassers. Motion carried by voice vote, with Lower voting no.

2. Construction Board of Appeals – Moved by Tiejema, supported by Vroman, to appoint Robert Cusack, Gregg Yeomans, Nathan Sprague, Debora Sullivan and Tracie McCarn-Dinehart to the Construction Board of Appeals. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Department of Human Services Board – Moved by Vroman, supported by Tiejema, to appoint Mel Haga to the Department of Human Services Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

B. Moved by Banks, supported by Calley, to approve the (4) PA 116 Farmland Agreements filed by Brian and Debra Henney, for properties located in Sebewa and Berlin Townships (local file numbers 11-008, 009, 010 and 011-FA). Motion carried by voice vote.

New Business

A. Loren Gage, Park Manager, and William Rockwell, Jr., Certified Forester, met with the Board to discuss a forest management plan for Bertha Brock Park. The plan would cost \$4,400 to be reimbursed from future timber sales. Moved by Banks, supported by Mason, to approve the Forest Management Plan for \$4,400 from the 102 Fund.

Commissioner Tiejema moved to amend the motion to reflect funds to come from the Designated Capital Fund, to be paid back when future timber sales occur. The motion was supported by Vroman. The Chair called for a vote on the amended motion. Motion carried by voice vote.

The Chair called for a vote on the original motion. Motion carried by voice vote, with Vroman voting no.

B. Moved by Mason, supported by Vroman, to approve the increase in the Palmer Lodge Rental Rates from \$275 to \$325 per day and weekend rates at \$600. Motion carried by voice vote.

- C. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Banks, to approve filling the Environmental Health position. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. Moved by Mason, supported by Calley, to approve the Michigan Department of Community Health and Ionia County Health Department Comprehensive Planning Budgeting and Contracting Agreement, and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Lower, to approve the contractual allowance adjustment of \$21,373.21 and write off adjustment in the amount of \$975.34 for a total adjustment of \$22,348.55 for the Health Department's fiscal year 2010. Motion carried by voice vote.
- F. Moved by Mason, supported by Lower, to approve the continuation letter between Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission and Ionia County/Ionia County Substance Abuse Commission and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to approve the continuation letter between Ionia County/Ionia County Substance Abuse Initiative and the contracted Clinicians and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to approve the letter of agreement with Ionia County/Ionia County Substance Abuse Initiative and Candy Straubel-Sower and authorize appropriate signatures. Motion carried by voice vote.
- G. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Mason, to approve the journal entry as presented regarding the vaccine inventory. Motion carried by voice vote.
- H. Moved by Banks, supported by Vroman, to approve the Airport Manager Agreement. Motion carried by voice vote.
- I. Chair Shattuck acknowledged the filing of PA 116's from Adam and Mona Reiff, Frank and Janet Selleck, Larry and Therese Simon and Dallas Beland.
- J. A lengthy discussion took place concerning the rails-to-trails project with the Chair giving each commissioner the opportunity to voice their concerns and/or comments. Moved by Mason, supported by Tiejema, to establish a \$15,000 budget for the Rails-to-Trails project, with \$5,000 to be taken from the Capital Project Fund in 2012, 2013 and 2014 FY. Motion carried by voice vote, with Lower and Shattuck voting no.
- K. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Vroman, to approve the budget amendment as presented for the various departments. Moved by Lower, supported by Banks, to

table the motion until the Board is given ample time to review the amendments.
Motion carried by voice vote, with Mason voting no.

- L. Moved by Mason, supported by Banks, to authorize non-union county employees, at the discretion of the employee, to receive a payout for paid time off with 100% paid for vacation time and 50% paid for personal or sick time if the employee used (5) days of vacation, in conjunction with the 2011 Open Enrollment period. Motion carried by voice vote.
- M. Chair Shattuck opened up the discussion on the County Administrator position and gave each Commissioner the opportunity to comment on the current position. Discussions included defining the job description.

Moved by Lower, supported by Calley, appointing Stephanie Hurlbut as the permanent County Administrator, combining both the Administrator and Finance Director positions at the same wage as budgeted.

Moved by Vroman, supported by Tiejema, to table the appointment of Stephanie Hurlbut as County Administrator and further, approve Chairman Shattuck to work with Hurlbut, and the county's legal counsel if needed, to define the job description and bring it back to the Board for further discussion and approval. Commissioner Mason requested data on the hours of the support staff, as the support staffs hours were increased to assist Hurlbut in the two positions as Interim County Administrator and Finance Director. Motion carried by voice vote, with Lower voting no.

Interim County Administrator's report:

- 1) Attended a Sobriety Court session last week and commended Judge Voet on a great program.

The Chair opened up the second Public Comment period. Jack Elliott, Joel Palmer, Sr., and Wendy Thomas commented on the County Administrator/Interim County Administrator position. Mr. Palmer, Sr., also made a brief comment on foresters.

The Chair called for a brief recess at 8:31 p.m. and reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

Moved by Banks, supported by Lower, to enter into Closed Session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss a pending lawsuit. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes – all.

Moved by Banks, supported by Mason, to adjourn Closed Session at 8:47 p.m. and return to regular session. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Lower, supported by Vroman, to authorize the county attorney to proceed as recommended. Motion carried by voice vote.

Moved by Lower, supported by Banks, to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Jack Shattuck, Chair

Tonda Rich, Clerk

Minutes approved on:
