

Board Conference Room
April 13, 2021
Board of Commissioners Minutes

The regular meeting of the Oceana County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Walker in the Board Room of the Oceana County Courthouse on Thursday, April 13, 2021, at 11:40 a.m. via Zoom.

Roll was called by the Clerk. Present: Mr. Hardy, Ms. Meyette, Mr. Morse, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Christians, and Mr. Walker. Mr. Beggs attended via Zoom.

Dr. Sobie, Oceana County Administrator, and Ms. Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk, were also present.

Moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Mr. Christians to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2021 meeting as presented.

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Ms. Meyette to approve the closed session minutes of the Special Closed session meeting of March 31, 2021.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public participation was provided via audio/videoconference using Zoom. The online meeting ID was 829 8481 5914.

Mr. Walker asked if any commissioners wished to declare a conflict of interest on the agenda items. No conflict of interest was declared.

No public comment at this time.

RESOLUTION NO. 1 – APPROVING THE 2021 EQUALIZATION REPORT

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Christians to approve the 2021 Oceana County Equalized Valuation of \$1,847,926,940 with an equalized value of real property of \$1,780,444,040 and equalized value of personal property of \$67,482,900 as shown by the 2021 Analysis for Equalization in compliance with Section 211.34 M.C.L. 1948, as amended.

Furthermore, the County Clerk and Chairperson of the Board are authorized to sign the "L-4024 as Assessed and Equalized Valuations Report" for the political subdivisions of the County and the State Tax Commission. The 2021 County Equalization Value reflects a 2.61% increase in Equalized Value and a 2.80% increase in Taxable Value overall when compared to the 2020 values.

Roll call vote: Mr. Hardy – yes; Mr. Christians – yes; Mr. Erickson – yes; Ms. Meyette – yes; Mr. Morse – yes; Mr. Beggs – yes; and Mr. Walker – yes.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 – REAPPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE OCEANA COUNTY JURY BOARD

Moved by Ms. Meyette and seconded by Mr. Hardy to reappoint Ms. Janice Foster to the Oceana County Jury Board effective May 1, 2021 for a six year term expiring April 30, 2027. The reappointment is made upon the recommendation of the 27th Judicial Chief Circuit Judge Robert Springstead and is pursuant to Public Act 454 of 2000.

Roll call vote: Ms. Meyette – yes; Mr. Hardy – yes; Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Beggs – yes; Mr. Christians – yes; Mr. Morse – yes; and Mr. Walker – yes.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 – APPROVING A PAID SICK LEAVE ASSISTANCE POLICY FOR EMPLOYEES

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Ms. Meyette to accept the Oceana County Administrator’s recommendation to approve a COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Assistance Policy as presented. The purpose of the policy is to provide paid sick leave assistance to qualifying county employees during the continuing pandemic outbreak of COVID-19. The policy shall be effective retroactive to March 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, unless otherwise extended by the Oceana County Board of Commissioners.

Roll call vote: Mr. Christians – yes; Ms. Meyette – yes; Mr. Beggs - yes; Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Morse – yes; Mr. Hardy – yes; and Mr. Walker – yes.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 4 – ESTABLISHING A NEW FUND FOR RECORDING FINANCIAL ACTIVITY STEMMING FROM A FUNDING ALLOCATION FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Christians to authorize the County Administrator to establish a new fund, American Rescue Plan Fund, for recording financial activity occurring from a funding allocation derived from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Establishing the fund will allow for a more efficient means of accounting and reporting the use of the funds to the U.S. Department of Treasury. A fund number will be assigned once the Michigan Department of Treasury offers guidance on the appropriate fund number to use.

Roll call vote: Mr. Hardy – yes; Mr. Christians – yes; Ms. Meyette – yes; Mr. Beggs - yes; Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Morse – yes; and Mr. Walker – yes.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 5 – POST-APPROVAL OF THE OCEANA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION’S GRANT APPLICATION

Moved by Mr. Erickson and seconded by Ms. Meyette to post-approve the Oceana County Parks and Recreation Commission’s grant application to the American Association of Retired Persons for a Community Challenge grant in the amount of \$10,000 to be used for a shelter at Doolittle Park; and to authorize acceptance of the grant if it’s awarded.

Roll call vote: Mr. Erickson–yes; Ms. Meyette–yes; Mr. Christians–yes; Mr. Hardy–yes; Mr. Morse–yes; Mr. Beggs–yes; and Mr. Walker – yes.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 7 – RELEASE OF FUNDS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Morse to approve the accounts payable and release of funds for April 13, 2021 in the tentative amounts as follows:

AMBULANCE FUND	\$3,626.36
FRIEND OF THE COURT FUND	2,524.25
GIS FUND	-0-
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT	-0-
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	18,035.40
CDBG	-0-
TECHNOLOGY	847.84
FORECLOSURE	13,100.00
K-9 UNIT	1,146.00
VETERANS AFFAIRS	5,532.14
MEDICAL RESERVE	-0-
AUTOMATION FUND – R.O.D.	2,562.13
INDIGENT DEFENSE FUND	15,945.59
LOCAL CORR OFFICERS TRNG FUND	-0-
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRNG	-0-
VICTIMS SERVICES	-0-
CAP PROJ-EQUIP REPLACEMENT	1,358.18
GENERAL FUND	538,723.70
TOTAL	\$603,411.59

Roll call vote: Mr. Hardy – yes; Mr. Morse – yes; Mr. Erickson – yes; Ms. Meyette – yes; Mr. Beggs –yes; Mr. Christians - yes; and Mr. Walker – yes.

Motion carried.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Commissioner's Reports

Mr. Morse mentioned that April is National Child Abuse Prevention month and requested that this be formally recognized with a resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 8 – RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Mr. Christians to adopt the following resolution on this 14th Day of April, 2021:

WHEREAS, Child Abuse Prevention Month is acknowledged throughout the United States annually in April; and

WHEREAS, Child Abuse Prevention Month provides an opportunity to raise awareness and educate the community on the various ways to support families and prevent abuse and neglect; and to recognize that child abuse and neglect is a complex and ongoing problem in our society; and

WHEREAS, every child is entitled to be loved, cared for, nurtured, feel secure, and be free from verbal, sexual, emotional, and physical abuse, and neglect; and children are vital to our county's success, prosperity, and quality of life, and are our most valuable assets for the future; and

WHEREAS, preventing child abuse and neglect is a community problem affecting the current and future quality of life of our community; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be prevented by making sure every family and caregiver have the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, the majority of child abuse and neglect cases originate from situations and conditions that are preventable; and with the help of an engaged and supportive community, child maltreatment can be eradicated by effective prevention strategies;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; That the Oceana County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month in Oceana County and encourages citizens, community agencies, faith-based groups, to join in our local, state, and national efforts to prevent the maltreatment of children to further strengthen the communities in which we live.

Roll call vote: Mr. Morse – yes; Mr. Christians – yes; Mr. Beggs – yes; Ms. Meyette – yes; Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Hardy – yes; and Mr. Walker – yes.

Motion carried.

Mr. Beggs urged the Board members to support this resolution with actions that are wholly committed to the prevention of child abuse.

Ms. Meyette spoke briefly about The Hope Project, an organization out of Muskegon County, that assists individuals that have been trafficked.

Mr. Erickson stated that he attended a very productive Parks & Recreation Commission meeting last week. He is very impressed with Mr. McKeen's leadership. He also attended a District Health Department #10 meeting, in Cadillac, which was an in-person.

Mr. Christians reported that he attended the Weare Township Board meeting. One topic of discussion was road improvements.

Mr. Morse informed the Board that fiber optic cables have begun to be installed in areas of the county.

Mr. Hardy mentioned that Starlink, a satellite internet constellation, is being constructed by SpaceX to provide satellite internet access. He also mentioned that Mason-Oceana 911 is ready to kick-off its CAD system soon.

Mr. Sobie noted that he received the names of the individuals that are interested in the vacancy on the Road Commission Board. They are: Joshua Draper, John Hendrixon, Dennis Koch, David Spitler, and Andrew Sebolt.

Mr. Walker stated that he attended an Economic Development meeting today where Mr. Richard Rafaelli commended the County of Oceana for the partnership with the Right Place.

Chairperson Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.


Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk

05/18/2021
Date


Mr. Walker, Chairperson