

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, February 11, 2021, at 12:00 via Zoom.

Roll was called by the Clerk. Present: Mr. Beggs, Ms. Meyeette, Mr. Morse, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Christians, and Mr. Walker.

Mr. Sobie, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; and Craig Mast, Oceana County Sheriff; were also present.

Public participation was provided via audio/videoconference using Zoom. The online meeting ID was 826 2556 4234.

No public comment at this time.

RESOLUTION NO. 1 – SERVING AS FIDUCIARY FOR THE PENTWATER-HART BIKE TRAIL PROJECT

Moved by Mr. Erickson and seconded by Mr. Christians to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Oceana County Board of Commissioners encourages development of new parks and recreational opportunities through the efforts of our Oceana County Parks and Recreation Commission, as well as through local community and business organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Oceana County Parks and Recreation Master Plan historically references goals and objectives targeting increased parks and recreational opportunities for county residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the Pentwater-Hart Trail Committee was formed in September 2015 following a public meeting regarding the making of a trail between the village of Pentwater, Michigan and the city of Hart, Michigan that received overwhelming support from attendees; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was conducted in September 2018 at the City of Hart Community Center in which the project received overwhelming support; and

WHEREAS, the Oceana County Road Commission Board approved the use of the Road Right-A-Way for the Pentwater-Hart Trail on September 26, 2018; and

WHEREAS, in June 2019, Senator Geoff Hansen announced that he had secured \$1.4 million in state funds for the creation of the Pentwater-Hart Trail Project administered by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and that as of January 2021, nearly \$300,000 has been spent on the project leaving a remaining balance of nearly \$1.1 million; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Oceana County Board of Commissioners supports the enhancement of regional transportation systems such as non-motorized walkways; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in cooperation with Friends of the Pentwater Hart Trail charitable trust, Oceana County Parks and Recreation Commission, local government officials, and other stakeholders, that the Oceana County Administrator is authorized to serve as a fiduciary for project related revenues and expenditures to be recorded in a newly established special revenue fund, #238 – Pentwater Hart Trail Fund; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that if it is deemed necessary to serve as a fiduciary for private donations that the Oceana County Administrator is authorized to establish a fiduciary agreement between Oceana County and the Community Foundation for Oceana County ("Foundation"), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, for the sole purpose of committing private donated funds received by the Foundation for the trail project.

Roll call vote: Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Christians – yes; Mr. Hardy – yes Mr. Beggs – yes; Ms. Meyette – no; Mr. Morse – yes; and Mr. Walker – yes.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 – AMENDING THE FY 2020 BUDGET

Moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the following end of year revenue and expenditure budget amendments for the Fiscal Year 2020 budget as described to address each over budget account:

General Fund (#101)

- Data Processing (#228)
 - Increase Other Contractual Services by \$1,613.40 from \$14,000 to \$15,613.40
- Sheriff's Department (#301)
 - Increase Other Supplies by \$3,643.29 from \$15,400 to \$19,043.29
 - Increase Salaries & Wages Overtime by \$698.87 from \$56,200 to \$56,898.87
 - Increase Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance by \$2,791.02 from \$59,536 to \$62,327.02
- Sheriff's Department Jail (#351)
 - Increase Salaries & Wages Permanent by \$4,443.57 from \$512,152 to \$516,595.57

Ambulance Fund (#210)

- Increase Other Contractual Services MFR Costs by \$14,510 from \$100,000 to \$114,510

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 – RENEWAL OF AMBULANCE SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH LIFE EMS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Christians to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2018 the Oceana County Board of Commissioners authorized the County Administrator to finalize a multi-year agreement for ambulance services with Life EMS and further authorized the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners to sign all necessary documents to implement an agreement; and

WHEREAS, the initial three-year agreement between Oceana County and Life EMS has entered the third and final year of the agreement requiring the Oceana County Board of Commissioners to decide if it wants to renew the ambulance services agreement with Life EMS or to pursue other options; and

WHEREAS, the current agreement between Oceana County and Life EMS will automatically renew for five years if proper notice by Oceana County to terminate the agreement is not given to Life EMS by the required date which is no later than February 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Life EMS submitted an addendum to the original agreement to the Oceana County Board of Commissioners for its consideration that includes paramedic ambulance services, equipment and building leases; and

WHEREAS the addendum agreement extends ambulance services for five years; and

WHEREAS, a six year renewal of Oceana County's ambulance millage occurred on August 4, 2020, continuing the funding necessary for the Oceana County Board of Commissioners to enter into an agreement to fund ambulance services in the county.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Oceana County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners to enter into a new ambulance services agreement with Life EMS for a period of five years with the effective date of the new agreement to be October 1, 2021 and expiring September 30, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that tax revenue derived from the ambulance millage be used to pay all costs attributable to the ambulance services agreement with Life EMS.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 4 – TENTATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCEANA COUNTY AND THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LABOR COUNCIL

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Mr. Beggs to accept the recommendation of Oceana County's management team to approve a tentative agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council for a new multi-year collective bargaining agreement as described below:

Multi-year contract

- Four (4) year collective bargaining agreement with no wage reopener; Effective January 1, 2021 and expiring December 31, 2024

Wage improvements as follows:

- 2021 – 3.0% (retroactive to 01/01/2021); \$32.7267/hr rate; \$68,071.5360/annual
- 2022 – 2.5%; \$33.5488/hr rate; \$69,773.1840/annual
- 2023 – 2.5%; \$34.3834/hr rate; \$71,517.4720/annual
- 2024 – 2.5%; \$35.2429/hr rate; \$73,305.2320/annual

Health Savings Account

- Beginning January 1, 2021, and each January 1 thereafter, a reduction in employer contributions to employee health savings accounts until fully eliminated as follows:
 - January 1, 2021 – 25% reduction
 - January 1, 2022 – 50% reduction
 - January 1, 2023 – 75% reduction
 - January 1, 2024 – 100% reduction (no contribution)
- Additionally, all new members of this bargaining unit shall not be eligible for an employer contribution if joining the unit prior to the employer contribution being fully eliminated

Add an additional level to the longevity schedule for 25+ years of service as follows:

- 5 years - \$300
- 10 years - \$400
- 15 years - \$600
- 20 years - \$1,200
- 25+ years - \$1,500 **NEW**

Preliminary edits to contract language to add clarity:

- Replace all references to the County Clerk with County Administrator
- Remove Section 8.5 (re: “temporary or irregular employees”) because it is not applicable to the command unit
- Add to Section 11.0 a reference to calendar years being either 26 or 27 pay periods
- Add to Section 12.3 a definition of “timely fashion” for making health insurance premium payments to state that it is 14 business days, excluding weekends and holidays

Furthermore, the County Administrator is authorized to amend the Fiscal Year 2021 General Fund budget as necessary and in accordance with the tentative agreement.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 5 – APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND RELEASE OF FUNDS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Ms. Meyette to approve the accounts payable and release of funds for February 11, 2021 in the tentative amounts as follows:

AMBULANCE FUND	\$229,888.23
FRIEND OF THE COURT FUND	181.53
GIS FUND	-0-
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT	-0-
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	15,061.13
CDBG	-0-
TECHNOLOGY	7,920.02
FORECLOSURE	3,358.56
K-9 UNIT	-0-
VETERANS AFFAIRS	2,936.15
MEDICAL RESERVE	-0-
AUTOMATION FUND – R.O.D.	126.85
INDIGENT DEFENSE FUND	14,144.14
LOCAL CORR OFFICERS TRNG FUND	-0-
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRNG	-0-
VICTIMS SERVICES	-0-
CAP PROJ-EQUIP REPLACEMENT	6,925.55
GENERAL FUND	306,743.76
TOTAL	\$587,285.92

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

Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administration

Contract negotiations with the Police Officers Association of Michigan will resume on March 3 and 4. All parties have been notified.

Friend of the Court

I’ll be meeting with the Friend of the Court soon to revisit an earlier conversation about starting a new technology project involving a document management system for the FOC office. The project would be funded by a special revenue fund (FOC Fund #215).

Community Development Block Grant

TrueNorth developed a press release to solicit additional emergency home repair projects. A copy of the press release has been distributed to commissioners.

Economic Development

In December, the Oceana County Economic Alliance (Alliance) submitted an application to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) seeking some funding

assistance for a proposed Village of Shelby water service extension project. The Alliance is expected to learn soon if some funding assistance will be provided.

Additionally, the Alliance has partnered with Connected Nation Michigan to collect data through an online survey regarding access to rural broadband. A copy of a press release has been distributed to commissioners.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Sheriff Mast reported that the Road Deputies have been busy with slide-off accidents due to the weather conditions lately. He also mentioned that the department has participated in some water safety rescue training with the Coast Guard and fire departments. The jail population is at 85%. It is preferable to keep the population at/about this number in order to try and keep the risk of exposure to Covid-19 as low as possible and to keep a space for quarantine if necessary. He also noted that Officer Wakeman has left employment with Oceana County Sheriff's Office, however an offer has been made to fill this vacancy.

Mr. Beggs stated that he attended the Road Commission hearing regarding a possible road abandonment in Pentwater Township. The abandonment of the road was voted down.

Ms. Meyette mentioned that a member of the Veteran's Affairs Department invited the County Commissioners to attend a meeting to become familiar with them. She reported that there is a meeting for the Traveling Wall Memorial for anyone that would like to volunteer. The meeting will be held at the Hart VFW Hall on Saturday, February 13, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. Ms. Meyette also reported that MiWorks is looking for a new location in Oceana County. Former Commissioner Byl has been assisting with locating a new building. The goal is to find a centralized location within the county.

Mr. Morse reported that there has been conversation with WMSRDC regarding the removal of Marshville Dam.

Mr. Christians stated that he is very excited with the cooperation regarding the agreement with the FOP contract. He also mentioned that the Pentwater – Hart Bike Trail will have a great economic benefit to this area.

Mr. Erickson met with Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks and Recreation Committee, and discussed the various projects that are ongoing with the parks in Oceana County. He also mentioned that DHD #10 has had approximately 22,000 first doses of the Covid-19 vaccination and approximately 8,900 second doses. Unfortunately, the supply is not meeting the demand.

Clerk Anderson mentioned that Deputy Clerk Jana Boundy was in attendance today to observe the process of the Committee and Board meetings in the event that she may need to fill in for the Clerk at some point. She also mentioned that there will be a new employee starting in her office next week, which should be very helpful with the workload one she is trained.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Chairperson Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m.



Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk



Date



Mr. Walker, Chairperson