

Organizational Meeting  
January 14, 2021

The Organizational Meeting of the Oceana County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk, on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Roll was called with the following members present: Ms. Meyette, Mr. Walker, Mr. Beggs, Mr. Christians, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Erickson and Mr. Morse. Absent: None.

Also present: Dr. Sobie, Oceana County Administrator, and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Clerk Anderson led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Dr. Sobie started discussion regarding the Code of Ethics and Conduct of County Commissioners Policy and other related topics. Dr. Sobie requested that each Commissioner sign this policy and turn in to him today.

Clerk Anderson noted that according to the statute (MCL 46.3a), the election of the Chairperson of the County Board is the only time Commissioners are allowed to vote a secret ballot; however, in order to do so, a motion must be passed prior to the vote.

Clerk Anderson asked if there was any discussion or if anyone wished to make such a motion.

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Mr. Erickson to vote by secret ballot. Clerk Anderson was asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carried.

The board members were given a ballot to mark and all ballots were returned to the Clerk. The Clerk tallied the votes and determined that there was a unanimous vote cast for Mr. Walker to be elected as Chairperson of the Oceana County Board of Commissioners.

Clerk Anderson turned the 2021 Organizational meeting over to Chairperson Walker.

Chairperson Walker thanked the Board members for the opportunity to serve as Chairperson of the Board.

Chairperson Walker requested nominations for Board Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Morse nominated Mr. Erickson for Vice-Chairperson of the Board.

Mr. Morse nominated Mr. Erickson for Vice-Chairperson of the Board.

Moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Mr. Christians to elect Mr. Erickson as Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners.

Chairperson Walker asked for any further nominations. There being none, it was moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Mr. Christians to close the nominations and Chairman Walker

asked the County Clerk for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carried.

Chairperson Walker presented the Board of Commissioners' Rules of Procedure for review. *(He pointed out Section 5 of the Rules of Procedure which notes that if the Chair of a committee is attending via zoom, the Vice-Chair that is present should conduct the meeting)*. Once adopted, the rules will be placed on file in the County Clerk's Office and the Administrator's office and posted in the Board Conference Room.

Mr. Walker read a statement regarding the role of county commissioners.

Chairperson Walker reminded all Board members that when they attend meetings such as a township, village, city board meeting, they are there representing themselves, unless there is something that the County Board acted on that is being discussed. Mr. Walker requested that if there is ever a concern, complaint or idea presented to them, it should first be brought to the attention of the County Administrator. He will then keep the Chairperson as well as the appropriate Committee Chair person informed.

There being no comments or changes, it was moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Ms. Meyette to adopt the Oceana County Board of Commissioners' Rules of Procedure as presented.

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

Motion carried.

Dr. Sobie noted minor changes to the Rules of Procedures from the previous version. There are a couple of changes to the County Board meeting schedule. Meetings are usually held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month; however, the first meeting in April of 2021 will be held on **Monday, April 13** to comply with the State Tax Commission's 2021 Property Tax, Collections and Equalization Calendar. The second meeting in April will be held on April 29, 2020. This year Veteran's Day will be Thursday, November 11, 2021 so it was proposed that the meeting be held on Wednesday, November 10. December meetings will be on the first and third Thursday of the month. Dr. Sobie also explained that the start time is noted as 9:00 a.m., but if there are few agenda items, the start time may be adjusted.

Motion by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Beggs to adopt the meeting schedule as presented.

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

Motion carried.

Chairperson Walker designated the following Committees and assigned a Chairperson to each of them respectively as follows:

### **Finance and Equalization Committee**

- Chairperson – Craig Hardy
- Vice Chairperson – Phil Morse
- Members – All Other Members of the Board of Commissioners

### **Personnel and Licensing and Inspection Services Committee**

- Chairperson – Ron Christians
- Vice Chairperson – Craig Hardy
- Members – All Other Members of the Board of Commissioners

### **Planning and Environmental Services Committee**

- Chairperson – Phil Morse
- Vice Chairperson – Martha Meyette
- Members – All Other Members of the Board of Commissioners

### **Health and Human Services and Parks and Recreation Committee**

- Chairperson – Paul Erickson
- Vice Chairperson – Tim Beggs
- Members – All Other Members of the Board of Commissioners

### **Buildings, Grounds and Insurance Committee**

- Chairperson – Martha Meyette
- Vice Chairperson – Paul Erickson
- Members – All Other Members of the Board of Commissioners

### **Law and Safety Committee**

- Chairperson – Tim Beggs
- Vice Chairperson – Ron Christians
- Members – All Other Members of the Board of Commissioners

Chairperson Walker recommended the following two-year appointments:

- Chairperson Walker appointed Commissioner Paul Erickson to the **District Health Department #10 Board** and appointed Commissioner Martha Meyette as an Alternate to the **District Health Department #10 Board of Health** expiring 12/31/2022.
- Chairperson Walker appointed Commissioner Paul Erickson as the Board of Commissioners' liaison to the Oceana County **Department of Health and Human Services Board** expiring 12/31/2022.
- Chairperson Walker appointed Commissioner Tim Beggs as the Board of Commissioners' liaison to the Oceana County **Board of Road Commissioners** expiring 12/31/2022.
- Chairperson Walker appointed Commissioner Martha Meyette as the Board of Commissioners' liaison to the Oceana County **Department of Veteran's Affairs** expiring 12/31/2022
- Chairperson Walker appointed Commissioner Craig Hardy to the Airport Advisory Committee expiring 12/31/2022
- For all **Lake Improvement Boards**, Chairperson Walker appointed the commission member representing the commission district in which the lake is located expiring 12/31/2022.

Chairperson Walker asked if there were any public comments at this time. There were no public comments at this time.

Chairperson Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the Organizational Meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

  
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Amy L. Anderson, County Clerk

02/09/2021

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Date

  
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Mr. Walker, Chairperson