

Board Conference Room
October 28, 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 County Building, on Thursday, October 28, 2021, at 11:52 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Chairperson Walker.

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

Also present: Dr. Sobie, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; Ms. Laura St. Louis, Disability Network West Michigan; Ms. Peggy Wittman, Hart City resident; Ms. Amy Trudell, Hart City resident; and Mr. Tom Allison, Golden Township resident.

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Christians to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2021 meeting as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Walker asked if any commissioners wished to declare a conflict of interest on the agenda items. Mr. Beggs declared a conflict of interest regarding the bids for snow removal and snowplowing. Mr. Beggs conducts business with those that submitted bids.

Chairperson Walker requested a change to the agenda with the addition of a resolution opposing the Apportionment Plan for County Commissioner Districts that was submitted to the Secretary of State. He requested that it be added prior to the approval of release of funds. He also noted that the resolution regarding the approval of the bylaws for the Oceana County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board and the resolution authorizing per diem and mileage reimbursement for meetings held by the Oceana County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board be postponed.

Moved by Mr. Walker and seconded by Mr. Beggs to approve the agenda as amended.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Ms. Laura St. Louis, Disability Network of West Michigan gave a brief overview of her organization and the services provided.

Public Hearing

Chairman Walker opened the public hearing regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budgets and Tax Levies at 12:01 p.m.

Ms. Wittman requested that the minutes reflect that she would like to participate in the discussion, but was not given information prior to the meeting.

Mr. Hardy provided a listing of some of the important proposed budgetary items including pension contributions and liability, health insurance and special revenue funds. He also reported that some American Rescue Plan funding will be used to assist the General Fund.

Chairperson Walker reported the property tax millage rates that were adopted in June and August by the commissioners and are a subject of this public hearing.

Chairperson Walker asked for public comments regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budgets and Tax Levies. Ms. Wittman criticized the manner that this meeting was conducted and threatened to sue the County and asked for Dr. Sobie's resignation. Chairman Walker asked that the commissioners make no comments or statements as this individual has threatened to sue.

Ms. Amy Trudell, Hart City resident, also agreed that she would have appreciated to have been afforded the documentation to review prior to today.

Chairman Walker declared the public hearing regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budgets and Tax Levies closed at 12:10 p.m.

Chairman Walker asked Undersheriff Schiller to escort Ms. Wittman out of the meeting after commenting several times without being recognized.

RESOLUTION NO. 1 – ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION FOR LOCAL SERVICES

Moved by Mr. Beggs and seconded by Mr. Christians to authorize the County Administrator to sign a Memorandum of Agreement between Oceana County and Michigan State University Extension for the continuation of services in Oceana County at a cost of \$143,544. The term of the agreement shall be January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 – ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGETS AND TAX LEVIES

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Morse to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, Public Act 2 of 1968, as amended, indicates that the Legislative body shall adopt a balanced budget for all budgeted funds by passing an Appropriations Act; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known as the Fiscal Year 2022 General Appropriations Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to State law, notice of a public hearing on the proposed budget was published in a newspaper of general circulation on October 21, 2021, and a public hearing on the proposed budget was held on October 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Oceana County voters authorized millage requests of 0.1394 of a mil for Mason-Oceana 911, 0.1000 of a mil for Veterans Affairs, 1.0000 mil for Council on Aging, 1.0000 of

a mil for Ambulance, 2.0000 mils for the Medical Care Facility, and 0.5000 of a mil for Medical Care Facility debt retirement; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners authorized a general property tax levy on all real and personal property within the County for County general operations of 5.6999 mils; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oceana County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the Fiscal Year 2022 General Appropriations Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oceana County Board of Commissioners approves a levy of 0.1385 of a mil for Mason-Oceana 911, 0.0994 of a mil for Veterans Affairs, 0.9913 mil for Council on Aging, 0.9000 of a mill for Ambulance, 1.9880 mills for the Medical Care Facility, and 0.2000 of a mil for Medical Care Facility debt retirement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2022 Oceana County General Fund (#101) budget of \$11,983,898 be adopted by line-item activity as described in this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other fund budgets (Special Revenue and Debt Service funds totaling \$27,537,098) be adopted by line-item activity as described in this resolution, for a total Fiscal Year 2022 budget for all funds of \$39,520,996; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any amendment to increase an employee wage or Capital Outlay line-item in excess of \$2,500 shall be approved by the Board of Commissioners; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any amendment to increase the total budget of any fund or department in excess of \$2,500 shall be approved by the Board of Commissioners; except that any amendment to decrease the General Fund Contingency Account shall be approved by the Board of Commissioners; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Administrator be authorized to make such other budget amendments as necessary with the exception of those specified in this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the approved Position Allocation List contained in this resolution shall limit the number of permanent employees who can be employed in all departments, offices, and the courts, and no funds are appropriated for any permanent or temporary, full time or part time, position not on the Position Allocation List; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as position vacancies occur during the budget year, and as budget constraints allow, the County Administrator shall be authorized to approve court and department requests to refill positions. All court and department requests to create a new position not currently included on the Position Allocation List shall only be approved by specific Board of Commissioners authorization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certain positions contained in the Position Allocation List which are supported in some part by a grant, cost sharing, reimbursement, or some other source of outside funding are only approved contingent upon the County receiving those budgeted revenues; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event that some outside funding is not received or the County is notified that it will not be received, said positions shall be considered not funded and removed from the approved Position Allocation List if the Board of Commissioners does not act to appropriate funds from County sources to cover the shortfall; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is understood that revenues and expenditures may vary

from those which are currently contemplated and may be changed from time to time by the Board of Commissioners during the 2022 fiscal year, as deemed necessary. Consequently, there may be a need to increase or decrease various portions of the budget and impose labor-related cost reduction measures due to unforeseen financial changes; therefore, it is within the Board of Commissioners authority to change the approved Position Allocation List at any time. County Elected Officials and County Department Heads shall abide by whatever changes are made by the Board of Commissioners, if any, relative to the approved positions and the number of employees stated in the Position Allocation List; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the salary and wages of County employees, including the County’s Elected Officials, shall follow the salary and wage rates for non-represented employees approved by the Board of Commissioners and effective January 1, 2022, unless otherwise authorized by resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, collective bargaining agreements in effect for Fiscal Year 2022 that establish salary and wage rates shall be followed for represented employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the line-item appropriations which represent the estimated costs of operating the Courts in Fiscal Year 2022 are contingent upon reimbursements to Oceana County by the State of Michigan in accordance with MCL 600.151(b). County appropriations to the Courts, in accordance with Public Act 374 and 375 of 1996, are made contingent upon conformance to all county policies and procedures regarding court personnel and the expenditure of funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all County Elected Officials and County Department Heads shall abide by all applicable policies set by the Board of Commissioners including but not limited to budgets, purchasing, travel, and per diems; as well as the Oceana County Policy Handbook, and that budgeted funds for these purposes are appropriated contingent upon compliance with all County policies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oceana County Policy Handbook shall apply to all employees and elected officials, including those who function under a policy handbook or agreement that has been jointly approved by the Board of Commissioners and an Elected Official who has co-employer status; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the County Administrator shall be authorized to make year-end transfers and amendments between line item activities or Funds or with such amounts that may be available in the General Fund Contingency Account, as may be necessary to ensure that departments and Funds do not end Fiscal Year 2022 in a deficit condition. Any such transfers and amendments shall be reported to the Board of Commissioners at their next regularly scheduled meeting or as soon thereafter.

2022 GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT SUMMARY

GENERAL FUND

Acct # / Description	Revenue
402-449 Taxes	\$7,569,992
450-500 Licenses & Permits	\$27,755
501-538, 591 Federal Grants	\$449,672
539-579 State Grants	\$1,346,569
580-599 Contrib. from Local Units	\$0

600-654	Charges for Services	\$1,106,520
655-663	Fines and Forfeitures	\$27,700
664-670	Interest and Rent	\$57,790
671-698	Other Revenue	\$261,157
699	Transfers In	\$717,755
401	Previous Year-End Balance (unassigned fund balance)	\$418,988

Total Available Revenue \$11,983,898

2022 GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT SUMMARY

GENERAL FUND

Dept # / Description	Expenditure
101-000 General	\$767,405
101 Board of Commissioners	\$222,006
131 Circuit Court	\$680,261
132 Circuit Ct. Probation/Parole	\$2,700
136 District Court	\$380,711
141 Friend of the Court	\$424,781
148 Probate Court	\$287,058
172 County Administrator	\$340,739
202 County Auditing	\$35,400
215 County Clerk	\$228,211
216 Jury Board	\$1,785
228 Data Processing	\$48,500
229 Technology Department	\$106,645
245 State Survey/Remonumentation	\$36,950
248 General Services	\$518,769
249 Plat Board	\$607
250 Microfilming	\$1,500
253 County Treasurer	\$286,274
257 Equalization	\$223,938
261 MSU Extension	\$159,925
262 Elections	\$66,590
265 Courthouse and Grounds	\$258,052
267 Prosecuting Attorney	\$406,777
268 Register of Deeds	\$203,269
275 Drain Commission	\$147,428
280 Soil Conservation District	\$18,000
301 Sheriff	\$2,835,091
331 Marine Law	\$137,696
332 Snowmobile Enforcement	\$33,671

333	Road Patrol	\$93,064
351	Jail	\$1,422,753
426	Emergency Management	\$125,718
430	Animal Control	\$174,434
445	Drains - Public Benefit	\$1,145
528	Transfer Station/Recycling	\$305,314
537	Airport	\$104,689
602	District Health Department #10	\$284,155
605	Contagious Diseases	\$2,000
648	Medical Examiner	\$72,999
721	Planning Commission	\$17,600
728	Economic Alliance	\$129,288
865	Insurance	\$199,500
870	Unemployment Compensation	\$3,000
899	Tax Tribunal Refunds	\$5,000
969	Dept. of Health & Human Serv	\$0 ¹
970	Child Care	\$0 ¹
971	Community Mental Health	\$130,000
972	Contingency	\$50,000
973	Family Counseling	\$2,500
974	Law Library	\$0 ¹
975	Parks and Recreation	\$0 ¹

Total Expenditures \$11,983,898

2022 GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT SUMMARY

SPECIAL REVENUE AND DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

Fund # / Description	Budget
208 Parks and Recreation Fund	\$49,465
210 Ambulance Fund	\$1,154,770
211 GIS Fund	\$0
213 WM Field Rail Trail	\$0
214 Court Improvement Fund	\$1,000
215 Friend of the Court Fund	\$133,226
218 Animal Care Fund	\$9,440
238 Pentwater Hart Trail Fund	\$0
239 Shelby Twp Community Park	\$0
245 Public Improvement Fund	\$0
246 Animal Control Bldg Improve	\$0
249 Building Department Fund	\$391,872
251 Interim Elderly Fund	\$32,200

252	County Land Bank Authority	\$1,815
254	Foreclosure Fund	\$43,000
255	Homestead Denials	\$2,641
256	Register of Deeds Auto Fund	\$68,500
259	Emergency Mgmt Reserve Corp	\$500
260	Indigent Defense	\$549,765
261	Mason/Oceana E-911	\$371,940
262	Victim Services Fund	\$900
263	Concealed Pistol Licensing Fund	\$18,000
264	Local Corrections Ofc Trng Fund	\$6,078
267	K-9 Unit	\$8,250
269	Law Library Fund	\$7,000
275	Senior Citizen Tax Fund	\$1,293,410
277	CDBG Fund	\$37,286
286	American Rescue Plan	\$698,155
287	MCF Depreciation Fund	\$0
288	Parks & Rec Matching Grant	\$0
290	Oceana/Mason DHHS Fund	\$0
292	Child Care Fund	\$667,343
293	Veterans Affairs Fund	\$160,752
298	Technology and Innovation Fund	\$131,700
320	Criminal Justice Training Fund	\$5,000
353	Co Airport Terminal Debt Serv	\$21,200
360	Ambulance Debt Retirement	\$26,650
391	MCF Building Debt Retirement	\$244,100
405	Capital Projects – Equip Replace	\$167,000
408	Parks & Rec Capital Projects	\$0
512	S.W. Medical Care Facility	\$19,620,685
516	Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund	\$0
520	100% Tax Pmt – 2020	\$0
521	100% Tax Pmt – 2021	\$3,000
522	100% Tax Pmt – 2022	\$0
523	100% Tax Pmt – 2013	\$0
524	100% Tax Pmt – 2014	\$0
525	100% Tax Pmt – 2015	\$500,000
526	100% Tax Pmt – 2016	\$400,000
527	100% Tax Pmt – 2017	\$500,000
528	100% Tax Pmt – 2018	\$0
529	100% Tax Pmt – 2019	\$0
535	Housing Commission	\$3,000
595	Sheriff Department Commissary	\$0
639	Drain Equip. Revolving	\$800
721	Library	\$100,500

801	Drain Fund	\$32,000
802	Drain Revolving Fund	\$0
843	Crystal Pond Lake Impr Board	\$0
848	Stony Lake Board	\$40,500
851	Drain Debt Service Fund	\$33,655
891	Drain Construction Fund	\$0

Total Special Revenue Funds \$27,537,098

County Elected Officials' Annual Salaries for FY 2022

(Presented in accordance with Public Act 154 of 1879 as amended)

Treasurer	\$61,180
Drain Commissioner	\$61,180
Register of Deeds	\$61,180
Clerk	\$61,180
Sheriff	\$85,645
Prosecuting Attorney	\$105,816

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 – ACCEPTING BIDS FOR SNOWPLOWING SERVICES

Moved by Ms. Meyette and seconded by Mr. Morse to accept bid proposals for snow plowing and removal services for the 2021-2022 winter season from:

BIDDER NAME	LOCATION / GROUP #	SNOW- PLOWING	SNOW REMOVAL	SALTING
Hallack Contracting	#1	\$146/per	\$90/hr truck \$110/hr loader	\$82
Hallack Contracting	#2	\$90/per	\$90/hr truck \$110/hr loader	\$55
Beckman Bros.	#3	\$22/per	n/a	n/a
Pete Roskam	#3	\$24/per	n/a	n/a

Hallack Contracting	#3	\$44/per	n/a	n/a
Beckman Bros.	#4	\$38/per	n/a	n/a
Pete Roskam	#4	\$39/per	n/a	n/a

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

Motion carried.

Chairman Walker stated that Mr. Beggs chose to abstain from voting on this resolution as he has a business relation with the parties that submitted bids.

RESOLUTION NO. 4 – ADOPTING THE HARD CAP PROVISION OF THE PUBLICLY FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION ACT, PUBLIC ACT 152 OF 2011

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve using the “hard cap” provision of the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, Public Act 152 of 2011, to control the maximum allowable health care costs paid by Oceana County. All eligible employees shall be required to pay healthcare premiums that exceed the legally allowable health care costs paid by Oceana County.

Oceana County’s current insurance plans shall be renewed beginning January 1, 2022 for eligible employees. The plans are:

- Blue Care Network HMO \$1,000 Deductible
- Blue Care Network HSA HMO \$3,000 Deductible
- VSP Direct Vision Plan
- Delta Dental PPO
- The Standard Life Insurance

Furthermore, employer contributions to employee health savings accounts shall be adjusted or eliminated in accordance with current collective bargaining agreements between Oceana County and the Police Officers Association of Michigan and the Fraternal Order of Police, as well as prior resolutions adopted by the Oceana County Board of Commissioners for non-union employees.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 5 – EXEMPTION OF COUNTIES WITH POPULATIONS LESS THAN 75,000 FROM CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN

MEETINGS ACT

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Beggs to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Oceana County Board of Commissioners has concerns regarding recent changes made to the Michigan Open Meetings Act; and

WHEREAS, prior to the recent changes made to the Open Meetings Act, members of a public body could attend and participate in a public meeting virtually so long as a quorum of the public body was physically present at the meeting location; and

WHEREAS, effective April 1, 2021, the only authorization under the Open Meetings Act for a board member to attend and participate in the meeting virtually is if the board member is physically absent due to military duty, a health condition, or there is in place a statewide or local state of the emergency/state of disaster; and

WHEREAS, this eliminates a public body's previous flexibility to allow one or two members to participate in public meetings virtually; and

WHEREAS, the Oceana County Board of Commissioners believes that technology is sufficient to provide a reliable and clear method of virtual communication, that flexibility is essential to the recruitment and retention of qualified county commissioners, and that having a county commissioner attend and participate in a board meeting virtually is better than not having the county commissioner attend at all.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oceana County Board of Commissioners request that the State of Michigan Legislature and Governor Whitmer make changes to the Open Meetings Act to exempt counties with a population of 75,000 or less to be exempt from the portions of the Open Meetings Act that restricts a member of a public body from attending and participating in a public meeting virtually, as long as a physical quorum of the public body is in attendance at the meeting location.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senator John Bumstead, Representative Scott VanSingel, the Michigan Association of Counties, and to each County in the State of Michigan.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 6 – OPPOSITION TO APPORTIONMENT PLAN

Moved by Mr. Erickson and **supported by** Mr. Morse to adopt the following Resolution on this 28th day of October, 2021:

WHEREAS, the Apportionment of County Boards of Commissioners Act, Public Act 261 of 1966, requires that every 10 years following the U.S. census that county commission districts be evaluated and adjusted if necessary to ensure that residents of each county

have equal representation on their County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Public Act 261, Oceana County's Apportionment Commission ("Apportionment Commission"), consisted of the County Clerk, County Treasurer, County Prosecuting Attorney, and the County Chairpersons of the two political parties (Republican and Democrat) receiving the greatest number of votes cast for Secretary of State in the last preceding general election; and

WHEREAS, following public notices, the Apportionment Commission met on July 14, 2021; September 14, 2021, and October 8, 2021 to review and finalize a commission district reapportionment plan; and

WHEREAS, the Oceana County Prosecuting Attorney, serving as the chairperson of the Apportionment Commission, released a statement indicating the following:

- The committee had decided it was in Oceana County's best interest to keep all townships and municipalities intact and whole and not divide those units. We also had a desire to keep like communities as connected as possible, utilizing existing township boundaries and school districts as a guide as much as possible;
- It became evident we could not keep a seven (7) commissioner board and retain the integrity of the townships as a whole. Ultimately, the committee decided it was necessary to reduce the number of commissioners to five (5), as this was the only way to draw conforming districts without dividing townships; and

WHEREAS, the Apportionment Committee submitted a plan to the Secretary of State with five (5) commissioner districts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Oceana County Board of Commissioners strongly opposes the plan submitted to the Secretary of State that reduces commissioner districts from seven (7) to five (5) because it negatively impacts citizen representation when fewer elected officials are available to engage their constituents in matters of county government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the complexities and workload of Oceana County government requires a minimum of seven (7) county commissioners and by reducing the number of commissioners, those elected to the positions will have a greater concentration of duties and responsibilities assigned to them that includes more than 24 overall appointments to internal and external boards, commissions, and liaison positions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a County Board of Commissioners with five (5) members increases the likelihood that the board can be captured by special interests that would only need three (3) members elected to the board to advance policies that may not be in the best interest of businesses, individuals, families, and visitors to our great county, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Oceana County Board of Commissioners affirms its strong opposition to a reduction in commissioner districts in Oceana County.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 7 – PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and **seconded by** Mr. Christians to approve the accounts payable and release of funds for October 28, 2021 in the tentative amounts as follows:

AMBULANCE FUND	\$36,850.00
FRIEND OF THE COURT FUND	1,849.88
GIS FUND	-0-
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT	-0-
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	17,808.27
TECHNOLOGY	10,992.63
FORECLOSURE	2,072.54
K-9 UNIT	-0-
VETERANS AFFAIRS	8,832.67
MEDICAL RESERVE	-0-
AUTOMATION FUND – R.O.D.	134.98
PENTWATER HART TRAIL	-0-
SHELBY TWP COMMUNITY PARK	-0-
CDBG	-0-
ARPA	-0-
INDIGENT DEFENSE FUND	21,308.76
LOCAL CORR OFFICERS TRNG FUND	-0-
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRNG	-0-
VICTIMS SERVICES	-0-
CAP PROJ-EQUIP REPLACEMENT	-0-
GENERAL FUND	263,908.97
TOTAL	\$363,758.70

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

Motion carried.

Chairperson Walker asked for a moment of silence in support of the people from Oceana County that are being held hostage in Haiti.

Commissioner’s Reports

Mr. Morse commented that there was a prayer vigil for the missionaries that are being held hostage at the Hart Commons last Sunday.

Mr. Christians reported that several of the commissioners were present at the West Michigan County Alliance event at the MSUE Research Station.

Mr. Erickson expressed his appreciation of the Parks and Recreation Commission for their efforts and passed out a County Parks survey card to each of the commissioners. He also commented that the bed census continues to be low. He also wanted to clarify that there

is not a vaccination mandate for the employees in place at the Oceana County Medical Care Facility.

Mr. Hardy reported that the last meeting for the Mason Oceana County 9-1-1 Board was cancelled as there was one reported case of Covid-19 in the facility. He also mentioned that at a previous personnel meeting, there was discussion regarding increasing the pay rate in order to entice applicants to apply. This will be continued to be discussed at the November 3 personnel meeting. He also reported that a computer power unit was ordered to keep communications open in the event of a loss of power.

Ms. Meyette noted that although there are no County Parks in Newfield and Greenwood Township, there are some very nice parks in these townships.

Dr. Sobie mentioned that there is a statement on the County's website that we are currently undergoing a forensic investigation of an unauthorized intrusion into our IT network.

Chairman Walker indicated that this was a very difficult meeting, but felt that it was necessary for him to take the action to restore order to the meeting.

Public Comment

Mr. Allison thanked Mr. Erickson for clarifying some of the issues at the Oceana County Medical Care Facility.

Chairperson Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk

Date

Mr. Walker, Chairperson