

The regular meeting of the Oceana County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Walker at 11:30 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 Clerk. Present: Mr. Beggs, Mr. Morse, Ms. Meyette, Mr. Christians, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Erickson, and Mr. Walker.

Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; Mr. James Draper, Newfield Township resident; Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident; Mr. George Sadler, Weare Township resident; and Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana's Herald-Journal, were also present.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2022 regular board meeting as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Walker inquired if any of the commissioners wished to declare a conflict of interest on agenda items. No conflicts were declared.

Chairman Walker asked if there were any additions to the agenda. No additions were added.

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mr. James Draper, Newfield Township resident, encouraged the Board to vote against the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority appointment. He also encouraged the Board to vote for the purchase agreement for the property for the proposed jail site.

RESOLUTION NO. 1 – OCEANA COUNTY BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD APPOINTMENT

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Ms. Meyette to accept the recommendation from the Oceana County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board to appoint Mr. Ron Maynard to complete the term of Mr. Steve Bruch who resigned from the board. The current term expires September 30, 2024.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 – AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER OF AP TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

Moved by Mr. Christians and supported by Mr. Morse to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the County Administrator to administer the affairs of the county in accordance with an established job description, including any other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, The County Administrator discussed with the Board Chair a proposal to transfer the county's Accounts Payable function from the County Clerk's Office to the County Administrator's Office and the benefits to be derived from such a transfer; and

WHEREAS, the "County Boards of Commissioners Act," Public Act 156 of 1851, grants a Board of Commissioners certain powers such as those described in MCL 46.13a, often referred to as the County Administrator's statute, to appoint a County Administrator and to assign duties directly from the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Section 14 of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, Public Act 2 of 1968 as amended, states "The chief administrative officer of the local unit of government shall have a final responsibility for...the control of expenditures under the budget and the general appropriations act;" and

WHEREAS, the county's accounts payable function constitutes the second largest single category of expenditures in the county's annual budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the transfer of the accounts payable function following a timeline to be developed and implemented by the County Administrator and the County Administrator's staff with the cooperation of the County Clerk and the County Clerk's staff; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Administrator is authorized to establish and fund from the General Fund an Administrative Assistant/Accounts Payable position in the County Administrator's Office to assume duties directly related to the accounts payable functions and all other duties to be assigned by the County Administrator in a formalized job description.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 – PURCHASE AGREEMENT AUTHORIZATION FOR A PARCEL OF LAND

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Hardy to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2022, the Oceana County Board of Commissioners ("Board") unanimously approved submitting a ballot proposal to the electorate on August 2, 2022 for a new additional millage for the purpose of constructing, equipping, furnishing, financing, and operating a new county jail and Sheriff's Department offices ("Project"); and

WHEREAS, a parcel of land has been identified as benefiting the county's Project by providing the Project with increased road frontage on Oceana Drive, Hart, Michigan and is identified as parcel ID #007-020-200-17 owned by Nodon Properties LLC; and

WHEREAS, if the electorate passes the ballot proposal on August 2, 2022, and because the Board may desire to acquire the additional road frontage, the Oceana County Administrator ("Administrator") is provided the purchase agreement that was negotiated between the Administrator and the property owner contingent upon approval of the ballot proposal by the electorate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board authorizes the purchase agreement for the purchase of the parcel identified in this resolution in the amount of \$150,000.00 and that any such purchase shall be contingent upon approval by the electorate of the ballot proposal submitted to the electorate for its consideration on August 2, 2022.

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Walker requested that the resolution regarding the auto insurance reform to the agenda for the July 14, 2022 meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 4 – PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Morse to approve the accounts payable and release of funds for June 23, 2022 in the tentative amounts as follows:

AMBULANCE	\$50.49
GIS	-0-
FOC	4,105.02
PENTWATER-HART TRAIL	-0-
SHELBY TWP COMM PARK	1,950.00
AUTOMATION R.O.D.	2,398.50
INDIGENT DEFENSE	31,320.00
VICTIM'S SERVICES	-0-
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRNG	-0-
CDBG	7,990.80
ARPA	145.00
VETERAN AFFAIRS	9,395.20
TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION	4,738.14
CAP PROJECT-EQUIP REP	3,701.20
FORECLOSURE	558.00
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	17,630.58
GENERAL FUND	337,639.52
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 421,622.45

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.

Commissioner's Reports

Mr. Erickson reported that the meeting at Benona Township was very informative. He also clarified that Medical Care Facility (MCF) is owned by Oceana County not the State.

Mr. Walker interjected that the community wants the MCF to be County owned.

Mr. Christians stated that he attended Oceana County Road Commission's open house on June 9. He also reminded that the County Alliance meeting will be held on July 25, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Peterson Farms Complex which will include a tour.

Mr. Morse noted that he attended a meeting with Ms. Chris Conroy, Pentwater resident, regarding the availability of high-speed internet in the county. It was discovered that there are a lot of holes in the county for coverage. Invited Mr. Tom Stephenson, Community Technology Advisor, Connect Michigan to attend the next Planning Commission meeting to discuss the options available for the County. He also asked what the status was for the sign up for EMS classes and the Crystal Valley dam status.

Mr. Beggs stated that TrueStream is fast but agrees that there are pockets where it is unavailable. He also mentioned that due to the fact that the Electric Forest Festival is in progress which impacts the county in many different ways.

Mr. Walker stated that he spoke with Mr. Mark Meijer, Life EMS, who indicated that he will be going to the festival to determine if additional personnel are required.

Mr. Hardy reported that the ARPA committee met yesterday and is waiting for follow up on the letters of intent which are due in July. There were more than 50 requests which exceed the budget by approximately \$1.5 million.

Mr. Walker stated that the last two weeks have been very interesting for Ms. Byard. He received a text that asked when the meetings will be live (streaming). He announced that the next meeting will be live.

Sheriff Mast reported that Oceana County has suffered its 1st homicide in many years. The suspect was arrested without incident and is being held without bond. The Sheriff's Marine Division received ARPA money to go towards electronics on the Marine boat to be installed next week. The updated electronics will be a great asset.

Sheriff Mast also reported that there are several Electric Forest attendees that are being held in our jail. Arrangements were made to move ten inmates to the Mason County jail in order to have space available for any additional arrests during the festival.

Public Comment

Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident, questioned the residency of one of the candidates that filed for Oceana County Commissioner.

Mr. George Sadler, Weare Township resident, asked what is being done to protect the County regarding the helicopter rides that are offered out of Oceana County Airport. He also noted that the millage proposal for a new jail is a very important topic for most people and feels that educating the people would be very beneficial.

Chairperson Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Amy L. Anderson

Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk

12/28/2022

Date

Robert Walker

Mr. Walker, Chairperson

FINANCE AND EQUALIZATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Finance and Equalization Committee Meeting was called to order, in the Board Conference Room of the Oceana County Courthouse, by Chairperson Hardy on Thursday, June 23, 2022, at 10:23 a.m.

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

Also present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; Mr. Craig Mast, Oceana County Sheriff; Mr. Casey Powell, AdvisaCare representative; Sheriff Mast; Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident; and Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana’s Herald-Journal correspondent.

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Mr. Morse to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2022 meeting as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairman Hardy asked if there were any additions to the agenda at this time.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and seconded by Mr. Christians to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Mr. Casey Powell, AdvisaCare representative, provided a presentation in regard to Auto Insurance Reform.

Ms. Byard brought forth consideration of a resolution to authorize the purchase agreement for a parcel of land. Sheriff Mast stated that the purchase of this parcel is conditional on the passage of the millage.

Ms. Byard did not read the payment of claims, but the following was provided:

Oceana County Administrator				
REVIEW OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT (>= \$1,000 and Other Noteworthy Expenditures)				
Fund #	Dept. #	Dept. Name	Amount	Purpose
Special Revenue Funds				
215 - Friend of the Court Fund			\$ 2,194.08	to Image Soft for professional services.
239 - Shelby Twp Community Park Fund			\$ 1,600.00	to Prince & Monton, PLC for attorney fees. Costs covered by a grant.
256 - Automation Fund			\$ 2,398.50	to GovOS for software fees.
260 - Indigent Defense Fund			\$ 6,021.00	to Good Law for court appointed attorney fees.
			\$ 10,315.00	to Springstead Law Offices for court appointed attorney fees.

	\$ 6,232.00	to Hayes Law Office for court appointed attorney fees.
	\$ 5,416.67	to Indigent Defense Consultants for managed assigned counsel services.
263 - Concealed Pistol Licensing	\$ 2,476.00	to Identisys for new CPL card printer.
277 - CDBG Fund	\$ 2,000.80	to NCCS center for non-profit housing for contractual services program income.
	\$ 5,990.00	to Sam Near Roofing LLC for final payment.
292 - Child Care Fund	\$ 1,699.20	to Fountain Hill Center for out-of-home placement.
298 - Technology and Innovation Fund	\$ 1,204.50	to Huntington National Bank for equipment.
	\$ 1,637.35	to SHI International for computer equipment.
405 - Capital Projects	\$ 2,621.00	to Martech to install A/C in the jail.
	\$ 1,000.00	to Ruggles & Son Masonry for sidewalk repairs at the Health Department.
549 - Building Department Fund	\$ 5,383.90	to Randy Miller for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
	\$ 4,690.60	to Richard Story for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
	\$ 4,819.40	to Randy Neuman for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
General Fund		
101 - Board of Commissioners	\$ 1,110.00	to Mika Myers, PLC for professional services.
223 - County Auditing	\$ 5,000.00	to Gabridge & Company, PLC for 2021 financial statement audit report.
283 - Circuit Court	\$ 4,265.59	to Hayes Law Office for court appointed attorney fees.
	\$ 2,813.45	to Heacock Reporting for contracted court services.
	\$ 4,265.59	to Springstead Law Offices for court appointed attorney fees.
301 - Sheriff	\$ 14,833.45	to Enterprise for fleet vehicle management.
	\$ 1,887.60	to IDWholesaler for supplies for employee ID badges.
	\$ 2,930.18	to Kiesler's Police Supply for various supplies.
	\$ 7,944.00	to the State of Michigan for statewide records management system.
351 - Jail	\$ 3,146.22	to Gordon Food Service.

	\$ 14,107.00	to Advanced Correctional Healthcare for on-site medical services per contract.
	\$ 2,675.31	to City of Hart for Utilities.
	\$ 1,267.14	to EPS for security system.
442 - Drain Commissioner	\$ 2,062.49	to Miss Dig for annual membership and service fees.
528 - Transfer Station	\$ 5,878.21	to American Classic Dumpster for removal of trash and recycling material.
	\$ 2,400.00	to Ferry Township for annual lease payment.
648 - Medical Examiner	\$ 6,170.50	to WMU Homer Stryker M.D. for autopsies.
~ Total	\$ 150,456.73	

Administrator’s Report (as written by Ms. Byard)

Parks and Recreation

I met with Garry Mckeen to discuss the Oceana County Parks. He provided information pertaining to each of the parks and projects that have been completed or are in progress. I also had the opportunity to meet with Garry again on June 20th to tour the County Parks and see these projects.

Broadband

Prior to my move to Oceana County, I had the opportunity to meet via zoom with Chris Conroy, Phil Morse and Point Broadband. Chris has been working diligently to make people aware of the shortage of broadband throughout the county and Point Broadband provided information showing where the need is most prevalent. A follow-up meeting with Chris Conroy, Phil Morse, Ron Maynard and myself was held on June 16th. Chris informed the group that the State will have regions throughout the state and they will be appointing a representative for each area. Chris was asked if she would continue to be an advocate for Oceana County and our voice with the new representative.

ARPA Funds

The second tranche of ARPA Funds have been received in the amount of \$2,570,452.

Economic Alliance

I had a meeting with Ron Maynard, Executive Director, Oceana County Economic Alliance to discuss ongoing projects. We will be meeting once a month to stay on track with those projects.

I attended the Brownfield Redevelopment Meeting on Friday, June 17, 2022. The Board asked that the paperwork for the grant through the EPA be finalized for submission. Ron Maynard and I met on June 21st to review the documents that need to be submitted for that grant. Steve Bruch had submitted the initial paperwork, which led to being awarded the \$300,000 EPA grant, but the follow-up paperwork needs to be submitted including several forms. Mr. Bruch had many of these forms prepared for the most part but there were some changes that needed to be made. Ron and I will be meeting again next week to finalize those documents to get them submitted.

Marshville Dam

I had the opportunity to attend a presentation on the Marshville Dam project with information provided by the Parks and Recreation, WMSRDC and the DNR. The group provided history of the creek and answered questions pertaining to the changes and how that would affect the creek and the fish, reassuring everyone that these changes are what’s best for the wild life and the creek.

West Michigan County Alliance

The West Michigan County Alliance will be holding a meeting on July 25, 2022 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Baldwin. An RSVP needs to be submitted no later than June 30th.

Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency

I had communication with Jill Sutton from the Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency thanking the board for allowing her to speak at their Board Meeting and asking that they consider appointing someone to their board. A question was raised at the meeting about them being able to continue holding meeting via zoom and Jill’s response to that was that they are proposing a statewide effort as it relates to all CAA’s.

Ms. Byard proposed a change to the agendas. Currently, there are resolutions for every action on the agenda. She stated that resolutions are typically made for “special” occasions. She suggested that rather than presenting a resolution for every action item, a simple motion could be presented. Discussion continued and it was the consensus that the Board members would like to review a sample as Ms. Byard has proposed.

Public Comment

Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident, stated that from a citizen’s standpoint it would appear that a discussion was actually taking place to determine the direction that is chosen rather than what appears to have been staged. She also commented on the information provided by Mr. Powell.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Hardy adjourned the Finance and Equalization Committee meeting at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk

PERSONNEL, LICENSING, & INSPECTION SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

The Personnel, Licensing, and Inspection Services Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Christians at 10:05 a.m. on Thursday, June 23, 2022 in the Board Conference Room.

Present: Ms. Meyette, Mr. Morse, Mr. Beggs, Mr. Walker, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Erickson and Mr. Christians.

Also present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident; Mr. James Draper, Newfield Township resident; and Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana's-Herald Journal correspondent.

Moved by Mr. Walker and seconded by Mr. Morse to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2022 Personnel, Licensing, & Inspection Services Committee as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Christians asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

Moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public comment

Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident, had questions regarding the removal of AP from the County Clerk's office to the County Administrator's office.

Ms. Byard requested consideration of a resolution to authorize the transfer of the accounts payable function to the County Administrator's Office.

Public Comment

Mr. James Draper, Newfield Township resident, expressed his views concerning the removal of accounts payable from the Clerk's office. Mr. Draper also noted he believes that there were problems in Oceana regarding the November 2020 election.

Ms. Wittman agreed with Mr. Draper and stated that the Primary election is critical by not addressing this now. This would create chaos by removing this duty at this time.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Christians adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

The Planning and Environmental Services Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Morse on Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Also present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident; Mr. James Draper, Newfield Township resident; and Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana's Herald-Journal correspondent.

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2022, Planning & Environmental Services Committee as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Ms. Meyette to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident, expressed her opposition to the Oceana County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board.

Mr. James Draper, Newfield Township resident, also expressed his opposition to the Oceana County Redevelopment Authority Board.

Ms. Byard sought consideration of a resolution to appoint a member to the Oceana County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board. It was her recommendation that the Board appoint Mr. Ron Maynard to complete the term of Mr. Steve Bruch who resigned from the board. The current term expires September 30, 2024.

Public comment

Ms. Peggy Wittman, city of Hart resident, expressed her opposition regarding the Oceana County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Morse adjourned the Planning and Environmental Services meeting at 10:04 a.m.

Respectfully,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk