

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

Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; Ms. Erin MacGregor, Benona Township resident; Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident, Ms. Carol Keck, City of Hart resident; and Mr. Richard Rafaelli, Shelby Township resident; Mr. Matthew Barngrover, Service Employees International Union; Ms. Lindita Siegel, Oceana County Medical Care Facility CNA and Union Steward; Ms. Nanisha Patterson, Oceana County Medical Care Facility CNA; Ms. Samantha Olsen, CNA; and Ms. Jennifer Teal, Oceana County Medical Care Facility CNA, were also present.

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2022 regular board meeting as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

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

Chairperson Walker asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Mr. Hardy requested that the motion regarding the ARPA distribution be removed from the agenda pending further review by commissioners.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Erickson to approve the agenda as amended.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Ms. Erin MacGregor, Benona Township resident, raised the following questions regarding the residence of Mr. Erickson.

"The following remarks are addressed to the Oceana County Board of Commissioners in general and to Paul Erickson specifically.

It's interesting that Paul Erickson hasn't provided any of the information requested at the last Commission Meeting. Why would that be?"

Another question comes to mind:

Is the address listed on his auto insurance the same as that on his driver's license? Where does he tell the insurance company that his car is garaged? It's

easy enough to provide a declaration page with the dates and location. That would certainly help clear up any confusion over where he resides.

It will be very interesting to see if he keeps up this charade for the next 4 years. It makes you wonder why it is worth all that trouble and worth risking prosecution just to be a county commissioner.

It has also come to my attention that Mr. Erickson supposes that I have some kind of hidden agenda. My agenda is not hidden at all. I will shout it from the rooftops. My agenda is clean politics in Oceana County. That means electing and keeping honest, open citizens at all levels of government and maintaining the highest level of election integrity.

In my opinion, that should be everyone's agenda."

Ms. MacGregor requested that her comments be included in the minutes.

Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident, agreed with Ms. MacGregor's comments. She pleaded for the board to be honest and warned that the truth will come out. She also urged the Commissioners not to vote for MSU contract.

Ms. Carol Keck, City of Hart resident, made comments in support of Mr. Erickson. She also suggested that the citizens of Oceana County should work together instead of against each other.

Mr. Richard Raffaelli, Shelby Township resident, suggested that a practice be developed where the Administrator's office respond to all comments either in writing or online. The response does not have to have a solution or debate, simply and acknowledgement that the County has heard the comments. Mr. Raffaelli requested that the County utilize the elected Boards and Councils to deliver messages to the residents. As Shelby Township Supervisor, he would be willing to provide a county update at the monthly township meetings.

The following was received from Mr. Raffaelli and requested to be included in the minutes:

"Dear all

Please take my comments with all the respect that they are given.

I have watched from afar where there have been several great comments from the public and several people have come forward just to create chaos. (Im not either judge or jury...just my perception) This is the life of a public office. One thing they have in common is that all the residents have a right to voice an opinion or ask questions. Currently the commission does not respond to comments and that makes sense given the focus to have an efficient meeting and the need to maintain decorum.

I would like to offer up a suggestion that the communication committee develop a process where the administrators office respond to all comments within 10 days or so in writing or online. The response does not need to have a solution or debate it merely stands as a testament that the County has heard the comments. Obviously when you can, have a document that provides a specific response but again that may not be feasible, and it will purely be based on each individual situation. I believe the above process will

strengthen the Counties communication plan and Oceana County will lead the State in "best-in-class" communication.

I also offer up another suggestion where the County utilize all elected Boards and Councils to deliver messages to the residents. As the Shelby Township Supervisor, I would be more than willing to add into our agenda monthly a line item where I would deliver a county update. (Obviously, this information would come from the County office)

I appreciate your time and willingness to hear me out and as always, I don't expect the County to react to my comments I just ask that you consider them

Regards  
Richard"

### **Public Hearing for Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budgets and Tax Levies**

Chairperson Walker opened the Public Hearing for Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budgets and Tax Levies at 11:46 a.m.

Mr. Christians thanked the Commissioners for their diligence with the work put into the budget process.

Mr. Morse commented on the budget process.

### **MOTION #2022-15 – FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET AND TAX LEVIES ADOPTION**

Motion #2022-15, made by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Beggs to adopt Resolution #22-75,

**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 2023 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 20, 2022, and a public hearing on the proposed budget was held on October 27, 2022; 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 reduced by the headlee millage reduction fraction is required; 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 5.6571 mils; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Oceana County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the Fiscal Year 2023 General Appropriations Act; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oceana County Board of Commissioners approves a

levy of 0.1374 of a mil for Mason-Oceana 911, 0.0986 of a mil for Veterans Affairs, 0.9838 mil for Council on Aging, 0.9000 of a mill for Ambulance, 1.9730 mills for the Medical Care Facility, and 0.0379 of a mil for Medical Care Facility debt retirement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the 2023 Oceana County General Fund (#101) budget of \$12,122,123 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 \$25,853,908 be adopted by line-item activity as described in this resolution, for a total Fiscal Year 2023 budget for all funds of \$37,976,031; 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 2023 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, 2023, unless otherwise authorized by resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, collective bargaining agreements in effect for Fiscal Year 2023 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 2023 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 2023 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.

**2023 GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT SUMMARY  
GENERAL FUND**

Acct # / Description	Revenue
402-449 Taxes	\$7,900,074
450-474 Special Assessments	\$0
475-500 Licenses & Permits	\$52,000
501-538 Federal Grants	\$516,300
539-579 State Grants	\$1,327,201
580-599 Contrib. from Local Units	\$0
600-654 Charges for Services	\$962,332
655-663 Fines and Forfeitures	\$44,200
664-670 Interest and Rent	\$70,080
671-698 Other Revenue	\$374,227
699 Transfers In	\$736,708
692 Previous Year-End Balance (unassigned fund balance)	\$139,001
<b>Total Available Revenue</b>	<b>\$12,122,123</b>

**2023 GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT SUMMARY  
GENERAL FUND**

<b>Dept # /</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
101-000	General	\$860,082
101	Board of Commissioners	\$219,193
172	County Administrator	\$361,409
208	Insurance	\$185,574
209	Unemployment	\$3,000
215	County Clerk	\$209,075
216	Jury Board	\$2,585
223	County Auditing	\$35,400
228	Data Processing	\$44,900
229	Technology Department	\$109,170
245	Remonumentation	\$36,950
248	General Services	\$428,859
249	Plat Board	\$582
250	Microfilming	\$1,500
253	County Treasurer	\$288,527
255	Tax Tribunal Refunds Ordered	\$5,000
256	Contingency	\$50,000
257	Equalization	\$223,520
262	Elections	\$24,851
265	Courthouse and Grounds	\$271,948
283	Circuit Court	\$612,083
286	District Court	\$390,857
289	Friend of the Court	\$512,899
294	Probate Court	\$304,015
295	Circuit Probation/Parole	\$2,200
296	Prosecuting Attorney	\$511,553
298	Family Counseling	\$2,500
301	Sheriff	\$2,872,496
331	Marine Law	\$120,812
332	Snowmobile Enforcement	\$36,367
333	Road Patrol	\$92,997
351	Jail	\$1,484,098
426	Emergency Management	\$104,668
430	Animal Control	\$186,268
442	Drain	\$157,807
445	Drains - Public Benefit	\$1,820
528	Transfer Station/Recycling	\$308,190
568	Soil Conservation	\$20,000
595	Airport	\$122,104
601	District Health Department #10	\$284,155
605	Contagious Diseases	\$2,000
648	Medical Examiner	\$65,685
649	Mental Health	\$130,000
701	Planning Commission	\$22,600
710	MSU Extension	\$150,462
711	Register of Deeds	\$208,028
728	Economic & Comm Dev	\$53,334
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$12,122,123</b>

Budgetary note:

<sup>1</sup>General Fund transfers to these "departments" can be found under 101 - 000 General in the table above.

**2023 GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT SUMMARY  
SPECIAL REVENUE AND DEBT SERVICE FUNDS**

<b>Fund # / Description</b>	<b>Budget</b>	
208	Parks and Recreation Fund	\$63,985
210	Ambulance Fund	\$1,217,851
211	GIS Fund	\$0
213	WM Field Rail Trail	\$0
214	Court Improvement Fund	\$4,300
215	Friend of the Court Fund	\$44,000
218	Animal Care Fund	\$9,400
238	Pentwater Hart Trail Fund	\$32,062
239	Shelby Twp Community Park	\$50,000
251	Interim Elderly Fund	\$32,000
252	County Land Bank Authority	\$1,715
255	Homestead Denials	\$0
256	Register of Deeds Auto Fund	\$68,000
259	Emergency Mgmt Reserve Corp	\$0
260	Indigent Defense	\$560,052
261	Mason/Oceana E-911	\$377,295
262	Victim Services Fund	\$1,500
263	Concealed Pistol Licensing Fund	\$19,000
264	Local Corrections Ofc Trng Fund	\$3,500
267	K-9 Unit	\$8,500
269	Law Library Fund	\$5,000
272	Criminal Justice Training Fund	\$4,500
275	Senior Citizen Tax Fund	\$1,301,650
277	CDBG Fund	\$18,782
286	American Rescue Plan	\$721,208
287	MCF Depreciation Fund	\$6,700
288	Parks & Rec Matching Grant	\$10,000
290	Oceana/Mason DHHS Fund	\$0
292	Child Care Fund	\$377,804
293	Veterans Affairs Fund	\$157,576
298	Technology and Innovation Fund	\$142,700
361	Ambulance Debt Retirement Fun	\$30,900
381	Airport Term Debt Service	\$20,600
391	MCF Building Debt Retirement	\$247,200
405	Capital Projects - Equip Replace	\$20,000
408	Parks & Rec Capital Projects	\$3500
512	S.W. Medical Care Facility	\$19,620,685
516	Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund	\$0
518	New Foreclosure Fund	\$55,000
520	100% Tax Pmt - 2020	\$350
521	100% Tax Pmt - 2021	\$450
522	100% Tax Pmt - 2022	\$2,500
523	100% Tax Pmt - 2013	\$0
524	100% Tax Pmt - 2014	\$0
525	100% Tax Pmt - 2015	\$0
526	100% Tax Pmt - 2016	\$0
527	100% Tax Pmt - 2017	\$0
528	100% Tax Pmt - 2018	\$0
529	100% Tax Pmt - 2019	\$125
535	Housing Commission	\$3,000
549	Building Department Fund	\$400,018
595	Sheriff Department Commissary	\$0
639	Drain Equip. Revolving	\$0
721	Library	\$106,500
801	Drain Fund	\$40,000

802	Drain Revolving Fund	\$0
841	Lake Level Fund	\$2,500
843	Crystal Pond Lake Impr Board	\$0
848	Stony Lake Board	\$40,500
851	Drain Debt Service Fund	\$21,000
891	Drain Construction Fund	\$0

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**Total Special Revenue Funds      \$25,853,908**

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**County Elected Officials' Annual Salaries for FY 2023**

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

Treasurer	\$63,180
Drain Commissioner	\$63,180
Register of Deeds	\$63,180
Clerk	\$63,180
Sheriff	\$87,645
Prosecuting Attorney	\$107,816

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Christians pointed out that the Public Hearing for Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budgets and Tax Levies has not been closed.

Chairperson Walker declared the Public Hearing for Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budgets and Tax Levies closed at 11:51 a.m.

**MOTION 2022-16 – 2022 APPORTIONMENT REPORT APPROVAL**

Motion #2022-16, moved by Mr. Christians and supported by Mr. Hardy to adopt Resolution #22-76,

**WHEREAS**, the Oceana County Board of Commissioners has examined a summary of all millages to be spread in the county and local units, authorities, school district and community college for the 2022 tax year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oceana County Equalization Department has determined that all of the applicable compiled laws; that is, Headlee, Truth-in-Assessing; Truth-in-Taxation and Truth-in-Equalization have been followed by all of the governmental units levying property taxes with Oceana County and documentation of compliance, as required by law, is on file in the Equalization Department.

**WHEREAS**, copies of the aforementioned documents are also on file with the County Clerk.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the 2022 Apportionment Report of Oceana County millage rates, as calculated and compiled by the Oceana County Equalization Department, is approved and that the Oceana County Equalization Director is authorized to complete and sign Michigan Department of Treasury Form L-4402 to be submitted to the Michigan Department of Treasury in a timely fashion.



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

Motion carried.

**MOTION 2022-17 – SNOW PLOW BIDS**

Moved by Ms. Meyette and supported by Mr. Erickson to adopt Motion #2022-17, to approve a bid for Snowplowing Services from Hallack Contracting for locations #1 & #2 and Beckman Brothers for locations #3 & #4 for snowplowing County grounds in the amounts listed below:

BIDDER NAME	LOCATION / GROUP #	SNOW-PLOWING	SNOW REMOVAL	SALTING
Hallack Contracting	#1	\$161/per	\$100/hr truck \$120/hr loader	\$85
Hallack Contracting	#2	\$96/per	\$100/hr truck \$120/hr loader	\$60
Beckman Bros.	#3	\$35/per	n/a	n/a
Beckman Bros.	#4	\$40/per	n/a	n/a

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Beggs noted that these were the only bids submitted.

**MOTION 2022-18 – HEALTH INSURANCE HARD CAPS**

Motion #2022-18, moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Hardy to adopt Resolution #22-77, 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, 2023 for eligible employees. The plans are:

- Blue Care Network HMO \$250 Deductible
- 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. Beggs – yes; Mr. Hardy – yes; Ms. Meyette – yes; Mr. Morse – yes; Mr. Christians – yes; Mr. Erickson – yes; and Mr. Walker – yes.

Motion carried.

#### **MOTION 2022-19 – MSU EXTENSION MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

Motion #2022-19, moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Christians to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Michigan State University Extension and Oceana County for Fiscal Year 2023 and allow the Chairperson to sign.

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

Motion carried.

#### **MOTION 2022-21 – DHHS BOARD REAPPOINTMENT**

Motion #2022-21, moved by Mr. Christians and supported by Mr. Morse, to reappoint Mr. Alvin Doctor to the Department of Health and Human Services Board for a three- year term from November 1, 2022 to October 31, 2025.

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

Motion carried.

Ms. Meyette commented that she disagreed with the decisions that were made by the health entities in this county, district and state in regards to Covid-19.

#### **MOTION 2022-22 – LAND BANK AUTHORITY BOARD REAPPOINTMENT**

Motion #2022-22, moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Beggs, to reappoint Mr. Gayle Forner to the Oceana County Land Bank Authority Board for a three-year term from September 30, 2022 to October 1, 2025.

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

Motion carried.

#### **MOTION 2022-23 – MDOT BLOCK GRANT CONTRACT**

Motion # 2022-23, moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Hardy, to adopt the contract between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Oceana County Board of

Commissioners for the Airport Lighting Project under the Block Grant Program and allow the County Administrator to sign.

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Christians mentioned that between the Finance Meeting and the Board of Commissioners, a call was placed to Mr. Curtiss Lohman, Airport manager. He reported that this contract is for four lights to be replaced. He stated that he supports the board decision to proceed.

**MOTION 2022-24 – PAYMENT OF CLAIMS**

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Morse to approve, Motion #2022-24, to allow for the payment of accounts payable and release of funds for October 27, 2022 in the tentative amounts as follows:

<b>AMBULANCE</b>	<b>\$33,473.27</b>
<b>GIS</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>FOC</b>	<b>1,908.26</b>
<b>PENTWATER-HART TRAIL</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>SHELBY TWP COMM PARK</b>	<b>17,688.72</b>
<b>AUTOMATION R.O.D.</b>	<b>2,035.42</b>
<b>INDIGENT DEFENSE</b>	<b>33,195.36</b>
<b>VICTIM'S SERVICES</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRNG</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>CDBG</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>ARPA</b>	<b>20,463.75</b>
<b>VETERAN AFFAIRS</b>	<b>12,075.87</b>
<b>TECHNOLOGY &amp; INNOVATION</b>	<b>61,941.84</b>
<b>CAPITAL PROJ-EQUIP REPLAC</b>	<b>450.00</b>
<b>PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>FORECLOSURE</b>	<b>150.00</b>
<b>BUILDING DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>21,974.49</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>417,785.99</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 623,143.00</b>

Mr. Christians inquired if the ARPA fund expenses included in the total were from the motion that was removed from today's agenda? Mr. Hardy clarified that these were previous expenses.

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

Motion carried.

**Commissioners' Reports**

Mr. Morse was happy to see new faces in the citizen section of the meeting. He will have the revised rules for public commenting done and brought before the Commissioners in early

December for feedback.

Mr. Christians attended the Michigan Municipal League (MML) workshop. Residents and township/village officials were also in attendance.

Mr. Christians also attended the First Impression Tourism (FIT) Assessment on October 26<sup>th</sup>. They provided positive feedback on how to promote tourism.

Later today, Mr. Christians will join other officials in the Pentwater area to assess what West Michigan Regional Shoreline Development Commission (WMRSDC) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) plan to do for the Big Sandy Bend Project in the Pentwater River.

Mr. Erickson echoed Mr. Christians comments regarding the FIT Assessment hosted by the MSU Extension office and was impressed with the ideas on how to promote tourism by using local strengths and overcoming any challenges that could be presented.

Mr. Erickson also attended the Medical Care/DHHS meeting, as of September 30<sup>th</sup>, one month in to the fiscal year, the Medical Care Facility already showed a \$211,000 loss. Contract costs are increasing regardless of a utilizing a smaller staff.

Mr. Erickson requested to have Dr. Warren Reed be added to an agenda in November to discuss inter-hospital transfers and how a smaller workforce is affecting transport times. Chairperson Walker suggested having a conversation with Life EMS before having Dr. Reed coming before the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Morse proposed speaking with Dr. Reed before Life EMS so that valid concerns could be relayed to Life EMS.

Mr. Hardy noted that he attended the 911 Board Meeting and they voted to take the first steps towards encryption for the radios.

Ms. Meyette suggested that everyone enjoy the decent weather and magnificent fall colors this weekend.

Ms. Byard gave a brief overview regarding the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) and their take on legislative updates. Ms. Byard also mentioned meeting with American Classic regarding the Transfer Station and more information will be available soon.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Matthew Barngrover, Service Employees International Union (SEIU), spoke briefly regarding Oceana County Medical Care Facility (MCF), improvements needed, and how staff members are leaving for better paying jobs.

Ms. Lindita Siegel, First Shift CNA and Union Steward at the MCF, has been an employee for ten years. She is unimpressed with the bad working environment and takes issue with Temp Agency workers receiving hours that permanent staff members could handle. She provided the Commissioners with cards/notes that were written in support of the MCF permanent staff.

Ms. Nanisha Patterson, MCF CNA, is unclear as to why the temp workers make more than the permanent employees, when the permanent employees provide a higher quality of care.

Ms. Samantha Olsen, CNA, was previously employed at the MCF and left due to higher wages being offered in Mason County. She sees the lack of quality care being offered by temp

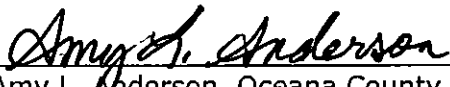
workers.

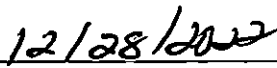
Ms. Jennifer Teal, MCF CNA, has been an employee for thirteen years and reiterated the concern for lack of quality care from the temp workers. She suggested paying permanent employees more, to entice hiring and employee retention, rather than paying top dollar to a Temp Agency. Ms. Teal noted that MCF CNA's make slightly more than fast food workers, but have to work in all types of conditions.

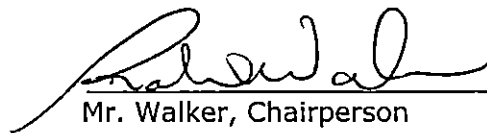
Chairperson Walker thanked the MCF employees and suggested having the employees meet with Mr. Erickson and the DHHS Board, to see if there could be headway made. Mr. Erickson recognized and thanked the MCF employees and understands their concerns and hopes that a meeting could be beneficial.

Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident, spoke briefly in support of the MCF employees. She believes that the current administration is unable to keep costs at an affordable rate seeing as how the MCF is already \$211,000 over budget, only one month in to their fiscal year.

Chairperson Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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, October 27, 2022, at 9:01 a.m.

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

Also present: Ms. Tracy Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Amy Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; Mr. Edward VanderVries, Oceana County Equalization Director; Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident; Mr. James Kelly, MSUE Director; Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission; Mr. Mike Lewis, Grant Township resident; and Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana's Herald-Journal correspondent.

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the minutes from the October 13, 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. Morse and seconded by Mr. Christians to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident, recited a prayer.

Mr. Morse provided an update and facilitated discussion regarding Zencity 360. Mr. Morse stated that he is advocating for a program such as this to some degree as community involvement is a part of the County's Strategic Plan. However, he is not advocating the monitoring portion. Discussion continued on the various avenues that are available to engage the community. It was the consensus of the Board explore these avenues.

Ms. Byard sought consideration of Resolution #22-75, to adopt the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and Tax Levies.

Ms. Meyette stated that she appreciated the department heads for their diligence in adhering to the budget.

Mr. VanderVries stated that three times a year the taxpayers receive statutory mailings and offered that information regarding community engagement be included in some of these mailing. He also stated that in the spring of 2023 the State will be performing another flyover for GIS imagery.

Mr. Edward VanderVries, Oceana County Equalization Director, requested consideration of Resolution #22-76, to approve the 2022 Apportionment of millage rates.

Ms. Byard broached the topic of snow plow bids for County properties. She stated that two bids were received.

Ms. Byard solicited consideration of Resolution #22-77, to adopt the Health Insurance Hard Cap and Health Insurance vendor. This would include a change in brokers and moving from fully-funded to self-funded. This would provide a savings to the county as well as better insurance for the employees. She continued on with the explanation of the difference between fully-funded and self-funded insurance.

Ms. Byard sought consideration to approve the MSU Extension Memorandum Agreement for Fiscal Year 2023. Mr. James Kelly, MSU Extension Director, was present to answer any questions the board may have.

Ms. Byard garnered consideration of the approval for ARPA Fund appropriations.

Ms. Byard requested consideration to reappoint Mr. Alvin Doctor to the Department of Health and Human Services for a three-year term.

Ms. Byard suggested consideration of the reappointment of Mr. Gayle Forner to the Oceana County Land Bank Authority Board for a three-year term as recommended by the County Treasurer.

Ms. Byard sought consideration to approve the contract between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Oceana County Board of Commissioners for the airport lighting project.

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
<b>Special Revenue Funds</b>				
210 - Ambulance Fund			\$ 4,070.00	to Ferry Township Area Fire for 3rd quarter MFR fees.
			\$ 11,440.00	to Grant Township Area Fire for 3rd quarter MFR fees.
			\$ 3,410.00	to Hesperia Area Fire for 3rd quarter MFR fees.
			\$ 4,950.00	to Shelby - Benona Fire Department for 3rd MFR fees.
			\$ 4,950.00	to Walkerville Area Fire for 3rd quarter MFR fees.
			\$ 3,930.80	to MMRMA for quarter liability insurance.
239 - Shelby Twp Community Park Fund			\$ 6,738.75	to Kennari Consulting for professional services. Fully reimbursed via private donations.
			\$ 10,000.00	to Landscape Architects & Planners for project services. Fully reimbursed via private donations.
256 - Automation Fund			\$ 2,035.42	to GovOS for software fees.
260 - Indigent Defense Fund			\$ 7,710.00	to Good Law for court appointed attorney fees.
			\$ 6,126.00	to MKG Law Office, PLLC for court appointed attorney fees.
			\$ 10,474.99	to Springstead Law Offices for court appointed attorney fees.
			\$ 4,284.00	to Hayes Law Office for court appointed attorney fees.

286 - American Rescue Plan Fund	\$ 4,600.00	to Custom Tree Service, Inc for removal of trees at the District Health Department.
	\$ 11,402.00	to Mike Blackmer Electric, Inc for Black Lake electrical project.
	\$ 4,461.75	to West Michigan Seal Coat, Inc for seal coating the District Health Department parking lot.
292 - Child Care Fund	\$ 2,500.00	to Ottawa County for the Detention of Juveniles
549 - Building Department Fund	\$ 4,769.05	to Randy Miller for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
	\$ 4,674.78	to Richard Story for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
	\$ 2,775.30	to Randy Neuman for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
	\$ 5,885.00	to BS&A for software maintenance contract.
<b>General Fund</b>		
101 - Board of Commissioners	\$ 2,940.00	to Smith, Haughey, Rice and Roegge for legal services.
172 - County Administration	\$ 1,595.32	to TASC for November COBRA payment.
208 - Insurance	\$ 95,658.70	to MMRMA for quarter liability insurance.
245 - Remonumentation	\$ 5,040.00	to A & A Land Surveying, Inc. for monumentation surveyor contract for 2022.
257 - Equalization	\$ 18,150.00	to V&V Assessing for equalization and assessing services.
265 - Courthouse and Grounds	\$ 4,076.61	to City of Hart for Utilities.
283 - Circuit Court	\$ 2,750.00	to Heacock Reporting for contracted court services.
	\$ 3,621.92	to Hayes Law Office for court appointed attorney fees.
	\$ 3,621.92	to Springstead Law Offices for court appointed attorney fees.
294 - Probate Court	\$ 1,125.00	to Barkow Law for conservatorship guardian fees.
301 - Sheriff	\$ 14,007.74	to Enterprise for fleet vehicle management.
	\$ 1,637.00	to Yacht Basin Marina for repairs.
351 - Jail	\$ 14,107.00	to Advanced Correctional Healthcare for on-site medical services per contract.
	\$ 1,283.54	to Hansen Foods.
	\$ 1,704.00	to EPS for security system.
	\$ 3,069.08	to Gordon Food Service.



528 - Transfer Station	\$ 19,435.01	to American Classic Dumpster for removal of trash and recycling material.
711 - Register of Deeds	\$ 1,993.00	to Integrity Business Solutions for new countertops
~ <b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 317,003.68</b>	

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

An Administrator’s Report was not available at this time.

**Department Head Reports**

Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks and Recreation Commission, reported that the electrical improvement at Black Lake Campground was completed and the bid was for \$15,000, but the actual amount was \$11,400. Therefore, the excess ARPA money requested will be returned to the ARPA Fund. He also stated that the Black Lake Campground day use area will also benefit Leavitt Township and wanted to assure that the eastern side of the County will benefit from ARPA funds. He also reported that Cedar Point Park had a dedication last Saturday and there was a good number of attendees.

**Public Comment**

Ms. Peggy Wittman, City of Hart resident, stated that she had several concerns regarding today’s agenda and asked if there could be a meeting for citizens to ask questions regarding the 2023 budget. She also inquired if the Board members will be considered full time employees next year. She stated that she was pleased with the Board’s decision to not enter into an agreement with Zencity. She also had concerns with the self-funding insurance. Another concern was with the MSUE contract. She asked if the ARPA distribution documents could be provided for her review. She had concerns with the re-appointment of Mr. Alvin Doctor to the DHHS Board.

Mr. Mike Lewis, Grant Township resident commented on the Airport Lighting Contract and offered some insights on the project and commended the Board members for the questions that have been raised.

Mr. Walker commented that the Commissioners do not receive the same benefits of full-time employees.

Mr. McKeen commented that he was very appreciative of the items that were made available to the Parks and Recreation Commission from the Sheriff’s Property room.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Hardy adjourned the Finance and Equalization Committee meeting at 10:27 a.m.

Respectfully,

Amy L. Anderson  
Oceana County Clerk

