

Board Conference Room
November 10, 2022
Board of Commissioners Minutes

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; and Mr. Garry McKeen, Benona Township resident were also present.

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the minutes from the October 27, 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. No additions were mentioned.

Moved by Mr. Christians and supported by Ms. Meyette to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

There was no public comment at this time.

MOTION #2022- 20 – ARPA FUNDS APPROPRIATION

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Beggs to adopt Motion #2022-20, appropriation of ARPA Funds for the following:

- Shelby Township Housing Development Project - \$50,000
- Pentwater-Hart Trail and Safe Route to Schools - \$50,000
- Village of Hesperia pavilion - \$25,000
- Conservation District development of nature preserve for Stony Creek - \$50,000
- Leavitt Township upgrades to Campbell Lake Park and boat launch - \$38,560
- Elbridge Township park upgrade - \$20,000
- Shelby Township 35-acre park development - \$50,000
- Register of Deeds imaging project - \$25,000

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.

MOTION 2022-25 – CRYSTAL VALLEY DAM

Moved by _____ and supported by _____ to adopt Motion #2022-25, allocating funds to fix the Crystal Valley Dam.

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

Motion carried.

No action taken at this time.

MOTION 2022-26– BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Moved by Mr. Christians and supported by Mr. Morse to adopt Motion #2022-26, requesting the approval of a proposal provided by Envirollogic Technologies Inc. for the purpose of Brownfield Redevelopment.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION 2022-27 – ROAD COMMISSION WAGE INCREASE

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Hardy, to adopt Motion #2022-27, allowing a wage increase of \$1,500 for the Oceana County Road Commissioners. This is to become effective January 1, 2023.

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 2022-29 – PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION REAPPOINTMENT

Motion #2022-29, moved by Ms. Meyette and supported by Mr. Christians, reappointing Mr. Jeff Hiddema to the Parks & Recreation Commissioner for a three-year term ending on December 31, 2025.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION 2022-30 – WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Motion # 2022-30, moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Hardy approving the contract between Oceana County and Jeffrey Donohoe Associates, LLC for Workforce Development services and allow chair to sign.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION 2022-28 – PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Beggs, to adopt Motion #2022-28, approving the payment of accounts payable and release of funds for November 10, 2022 in the tentative amounts as follows:

AMBULANCE	\$242,479.53
GIS	-0-
FOC	1,908.26
PENTWATER-HART TRAIL	-0-
SHELBY TWP COMM PARK	-0-
AUTOMATION R.O.D.	-0-
INDIGENT DEFENSE	9,111.84
VICTIM'S SERVICES	-0-
LOCT FUND	1,512.50
K9 UNIT	139.98
CDBG	-0-
ARPA	-0-
VETERAN AFFAIRS	3,816.55
TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION	6,350.89
CAPITAL PROJ-EQUIP REPLAC	-0-
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND	-0-
FORECLOSURE	2,498.96
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	15,606.67
GENERAL FUND	260,954.51
GRAND TOTAL	544,379.69

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

Motion carried.

Commissioners' Reports

Mr. Walker reported that he has been working with Ferry Township officials on issues concerning the Transfer Station. He is very hopeful that this will be a positive endeavor.

Ms. Meyette reported on activities regarding the Veterans' Affairs Department.

Mr. Walker asked Ms. Meyette if the Veterans' Affairs Department has anything in place to accept donations for the vehicle to transport veterans to and from medical appointments. Ms. Meyette responded that she will report on that at a later date.

Mr. Morse noted that there have been individuals creating maps to show the internet coverage within the county. He also asked if the Board would prefer private ownership or County ownership of the ISP lines in the county. The consensus of the Board was that County ownership of ISP lines would not be in the best interest of the County.

Mr. Christians announced that he went on an excursion to examine the erosion issues at Big Sandy Bend on the North Branch of the Pentwater River.

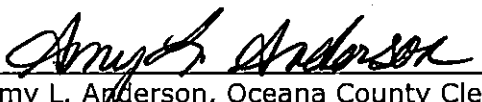
Mr. Erickson thanked Mr. Walker for his efforts regarding the ambulance transport and Medical Care Facility issues and reported that District Health Department #10 has retained a dentist at the Hart location.

Mr. Hardy confirmed that the pavilion in Hesperia is indeed located in Oceana County.

Public Comment

Mr. Garry McKeen, Benona Township resident, stated that he began volunteering at the USS Silversides Museum in Muskegon 12 years ago and read a story that was written by a gentleman that served on the USS Silversides in honor of Veteran's Day.

Chairperson Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.



Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk

12/28/2022

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, November 10, 2022, at 11:08 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. Ron Maynard, Oceana County Economic Alliance; and Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana’s Herald-Journal correspondent.

Moved by Mr. Christians and seconded by Mr. Morse to approve the minutes from the October 27, 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. Walker to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Ms. Byard brought forth consideration of Motion #2022-20, approval of ARPA Fund appropriations and an additional request for the Register of Deeds imaging project.

Ms. Byard requested consideration of Motion #2022-22, proposing an increase of wages for Road Commissioners in the amount of \$1,500.

Mr. Walker explained that there has been no change in the salary for the Road Commissioners in 14 years.

Ms. Byard sought consideration of Motion #2022-30, approval for of the contract for Workforce Development Services.

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				
210 - Ambulance Fund			\$ 240,605.43	to Life EMS for the quarterly service agreement.
260 - Indigent Defense Fund			\$ 6,515.00	to Good Law for court appointed attorney fees.
264 - Local Corrections Officer Training Fund			\$ 1,512.50	to West Shore Community College

298 - Technology and Innovation Fund	\$ 1,940.89	to SHI for a laptop.
	\$ 4,410.00	to Solid Design Software Solution for 12 month subscription.
518 - Foreclosure Fund	\$ 1,853.67	to Title Check LLC for parcel administration.
549 - Building Department Fund	\$ 4,751.40	to Randy Miller for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
	\$ 4,996.35	to Richard Story for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
	\$ 3,564.55	to Randy Neuman for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
General Fund		
228 - Data Processing	\$ 3,750.00	to Merit Network for annual internet service fee.
248 - General Services	\$ 1,905.86	to Government Jobs for 2023 subscription.
265 - Courthouse and Grounds	\$ 2,661.27	to City of Hart for Utilities.
286 - District Court	\$ 3,106.80	to State of Michigan for JIS fees.
294 - Probate Court	\$ 3,188.83	to State of Michigan for JIS fees.
301 - Sheriff	\$ 1,088.64	to AT&T mobility
	\$ 7,990.13	to Wex Bank for fuel.
	\$ 1,811.21	to Cardmember Services for employee travel and contractual services.
351 - Jail	\$ 3,101.25	to Gordon Food Service.
	\$ 3,778.63	to City of Hart for utilities.
648 - Medical Examiner	\$ 6,888.78	to Mid Michigan Medical Examiner Group for administrative services.
701 - Planning	\$ 7,255.71	to West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission for County Dues.
	\$ 309,421.19	

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

FY 2022 Budget

The FY22 budget is coming to a close. I have been working through the budget to prepare for year end and it looks as though use of fund balance will be minimal to none as revenues came in higher than expected.

Transfer Station

A meeting is being scheduled with Ferry Township and American Waste. Information will be forthcoming.

Legislative Update

The Lame Duck sessions will begin on November 9th. MAC is unsure what they will attempt to complete in Lame Duck. They believe they will be meeting between 6 and 9 sessions days before they adjourn. MAC will continue to push for the following in Lame Duck:

- Creation of a revenue sharing trust fund and increase to county revenue sharing.
- Back filling losses associated with the disabled veteran's property tax exemption.
- Remote participation via the Open Meetings Act.
- Restoration to collect fees for criminal defendants to help fund courts.
- Blocking privatization of the mental health system.
- Appropriations of remaining ARP funds for infrastructure.
- Securing reimbursement for the expansion of the personal property tax exemption.

MAC remains hopeful that these items will be accomplished.

Health Insurance

Health Insurance documents are being finalized in preparation for open enrollment.

Public Comment

Mr. Morse invited Mr. Maynard, Oceana County Economic Alliance, to speak on a project that he has been working on to bring new jobs to Oceana County. He stated that Purdue Chicken will be coming to Shelby and will be located in the former Oceana Foods building. He also commented on the watermain extension project that involved a grant through MEDC.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Hardy adjourned the Finance and Equalization Committee meeting at 11:17 a.m.

Respectfully,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AND PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Health & Human Services and Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting was called to order in the Board Conference Room at the Oceana County Building by Chairperson Erickson on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

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

Also present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; Mr. F. Lee Hyslop, Crystal Township Supervisor; Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission; Mr. Pat Ruggles, Crystal Township resident; Mr. John Warner, Oceana County Deputy Drain Commissioner; Mr. Ron Maynard, Crystal 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.

Chairperson Erickson asked if there were any changes to be made to the agenda.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Hardy to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Discussion ensued regarding the Crystal Valley Dam. Ms. Byard provided the Board with a report from on the options for the Crystal Valley Dam from the Spicer Group.

Mr. Walker encouraged the Board listen to all information prior to making any decision.

Mr. Hyslop, Crystal Township Supervisor, requested additional time to procure more information. He he has received several bids for this project and is expecting additional bids to be received. He has also discussed some options with De Wind Wells and De Watering. Mr. Hyslop also asked to be placed on the agenda for the December 15, 2022, meeting so that he can provide the information gathered.

Mr. Beggs raised concern with language in a deed that would allow property surrounding the dam to revert back to original owners/heirs.

Mr. Erickson shared a legal opinion that was obtained on this subject dated February 21, 2022, that addressed this issue.

Mr. Pat Ruggles, Crystal Township resident, offered a possible solution to repair the dam.

Mr. John Warner, Oceana County Deputy Drain Commissioner, advised that permit(s) from EGLE with engineered plans would be required.

Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission, offered the names of several agencies that may be able to assist with issues at the Crystal Dam.

Ms. Byard began discussion regarding the Brownfield Redevelopment RFP. The Brownfield Redevelopment Board is requesting the acceptance of Envirollogic Technologies, a consulting firm that assists the Brownfield Redevelopment Board, to assess various projects.

Ms. Byard recommended the reappointment of Mr. Jeff Hiddema to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Mr. McKeen advocated for the re-appointment of Mr. Hiddema.

Public Comment

Mr. Hyslop asked if the Board had any questions that they would like addressed by the December 15th meeting that would be critical in their decision making. Mr. Morse stated that he would like to know how vested financially the people of the township would be.

Mr. McKeen, reported that on November 21, 2022, there will be a meeting at the County Services Building to discuss questions, concerns, and ideas regarding the benefits of a new recreation club in the county.

Mr. Walker noted that Mr. McKeen brought a request to the Administrator's office for reforestation regarding the area surrounding Marshville Dam.

Mr. McKeen expressed that there is a potential grant available through Conservation Resource Alliance (CRA) and would like a letter of support from the County Board of Commissioners. He also announced that he applied for a \$2,500 grant, from the Community Foundation of Oceana County, for two benches to be replaced at Gales' Pond.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Erickson adjourned the Health & Human Services and Parks & Recreation Committee meeting 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk