

**Board Conference Room
March 9, 2023
Board of Commissioners Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Oceana County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Walker, on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 11:43 a.m.

Chairperson Walker led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll was called by Chief Deputy Clerk Coon. Present: Mr. Erickson, Mr. Morse, Mr. Beggs, Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Walker. Absent: None.

Also Present: Ms. Becker, Oceana County Financial & Human Resources Coordinator; Ms. Coon, Oceana County Chief Deputy Clerk; Mr. F. Lee Hyslop, Crystal Township Supervisor; and Mr. Kyle Oomen, Crystal Township Trustee.

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Beggs to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2023 Regular Board Meeting as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

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

Chairperson Walker asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Mr. Morse requested the addition of Motions #2023-41 and #2023-42. Mr. Erickson requested an addition regarding an update on Crystal Dam.

Moved by Mr. Erickson and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the agenda as amended.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Agenda Items

MOTION #2023-36 – MASON-OCEANA 911 SURCHARGE

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Beggs, to adopting Motion #2023-36, approving the recommendation of the Mason-Oceana 911 Board to continue the assessment of a local telephone surcharge in the amount of \$2.09, with no change.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-14 – REDUCTION IN PERMIT FEES FOR SHELBY ACRES

Motion #2023-14, moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Morse, to allow for a reduction in Building, Electrical, Plumbing and Mechanical Permit Fees by 45% and a 50% reduction in Drain Commission Permit Fees for the Shelby Acres housing development project.

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Beggs and Mr. Walker strongly dissented due to not having the appropriate policy in place for projects such as this. Mr. Walker indicated that Ms. Martin, Oceana County Drain Commissioner, is not in favor of this motion passing.

MOTION #2023-28 – REMONUMENTATION AGREEMENTS

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Hardy, to adopt Motion #2023-28, approving Monumentation Surveyor Agreements, with Mr. Noah Penn and Mr. Alex Altmaier, as required under the Remonumentation Plan through October 1, 2023, or when funding is exhausted, whichever occurs first, and allow Board Chair to sign.

Roll call vote: Mr. Morse – yes; Mr. Hardy – yes; Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Morse – yes; and Mr. Walker – yes.

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-37 – ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION #23-05 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP

Motion #2023-37, moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Beggs, to adopt Resolution #23-05, entering into an intergovernmental agreement between Greenwood Township and Oceana County to manage the floodplain development for the National Flood Insurance Program.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-38 – FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DESIGNATIONS FOR DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Motion #2023-38, moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Erickson, designating the following financial institutions for the deposits and investments for Oceana County Funds to be utilized as the discretion of the Oceana County Treasurer during the fiscal year 2023:

**Shelby State Bank
Fifth Third Bank
West Shore Bank
Huntington Bank
Flagstar Bank
Lake-Osceola State Bank
Multibank Securities
Michigan CLASS Investments
CDARS-Government Authorized Investment Group
CIBC formerly known as Private Bank**

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-39 – BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANT AND REMONUMENTATION

Motion #2023-39, moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Hardy, to approve Budget Adjustment #02-2023, increasing the Federal Grant revenue line and the Contract Other line within the Economic Development Budget for the Workforce Development Grant and Budget Adjustment #03-2023, correcting lines for the Remonumentation Budget to coincide with the contract.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-40 – APPOINTMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Morse, to approve Motion #2023-40, reappointing Mr. Jim Prince and appointing Mr. Robert Walker to the Community Mental Health Board for a three-year term to expire on March 31, 2026.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-35 – PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Erickson, to adopt Motion #2023-35, post approving the payment of accounts payable and release of funds for February 23, 2023, and approving the payment of accounts payable and release of funds for March 9, 2023.

AMBULANCE	\$2,047.91
GIS	-0-
FOC	-0-
PENTWATER-HART TRAIL	2,042.50
SHELBY TWP COMM PARK	21,254.50
BROWNFIELD	-0-
AUTOMATION R.O.D.	-0-
INDIGENT DEFENSE	36,555.96
LCOT	-0-
K9 UNIT	1,153.99
CDBG	-0-
ARPA	-0-
VETERANS AFFAIRS	5,758.51
TECH & INNOVATION	27,983.55
CAPITAL PROG/EQUIP REP	2,819.34
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT	-0-
FORECLOSURE	6,699.75
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	2,729.19
GENERAL FUND	344,118.33
GRAND TOTAL	\$453,163.53

AMBULANCE	\$397.56
GIS	-0-
FOC	10,970.45
PENTWATER-HART TRAIL	-0-
SHELBY TWP COMM PARK	-0-
BROWNFIELD	-0-
AUTOMATION R.O.D.	1,818.02
INDIGENT DEFENSE	7,389.45
LCOT	-0-
K9 UNIT	164.97
CDBG	-0-
ARPA	20,802.34
VETERANS AFFAIRS	3,382.91
TECH & INNOVATION	1,524.00
CAPITAL PROG/EQUIP REP	-0-
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT	-0-
FORECLOSURE	3,507.87
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	6,222.94
GENERAL FUND	304,770.11
GRAND TOTAL	\$360,950.60

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-41 – FORMALIZATION OF BROADBAND WORKGROUP

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Hardy, adopting Motion #2023-41, formalizing the creation of an Ad Hoc Broadband Workgroup to lead efforts in research, called the Oceana County Broadband Task Force, with Mr. Phil Morse as the board liaison, and request from OCEA that their Executive Director be their main point of contact.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-42 – BROADBAND LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR ROBIN GRANT

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Beggs, to adopt Motion #2023-42, encouraging the Oceana County Board of Commissioners to draft a letter of support of Great Lakes Energy, Charter, and Frontier; expressing support of the Robin Grant and that a single point of contact in Oceana County appointed by the Oceana County Broadband Task Force. The letter to be written and released today by the Financial/HR Coordinator in the Administrator’s Office as the grant deadline is approaching.

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

Motion carried.

Crystal Township Dam Update/Discussion

Mr. Erickson provided an update regarding the Crystal Dam. Through diligent research, it was found that the parcel, where Crystal Dam is located, was deeded by President Ulysses S. Grant to Chief William Cobmoosa as part of the Indian Reservation. The Crystal Dam was a WPA Project, built in 1937, under President Roosevelt’s New Deal. Mr. Erickson feels due to the historical value, that the Crystal Dam should be repaired and maintained.

Mr. Morse questioned if the funding for reparation would come from the Historical Society of Michigan. Mr. Erickson suggested that if the county cannot find funding to repair/maintain the dam, that perhaps it should be gifted back to the township.

Commissioner’s Reports

Mr. Hardy provided a brief update regarding Mason-Oceana 911.

Mr. Morse indicated that the Workforce Diversification Survey is now available for residents. The targeted demographic would be people under 20 years of age, just leaving high school, and those who are in the workforce currently, ages 45 and younger. Mr. Morse also vocalized his appreciation of the new Oceana County website.

Mr. Erickson recognized Mr. Garry McKeen and noted that Mr. McKeen was re-elected as the Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission Chair. Mr. Erickson spoke briefly regarding the Oceana County Medical Care Facility resident census and a recent wave of Covid in the facility. Mr. Erickson also thanked Mr. Kyle Oomen for attending the meeting.

Ms. Coon indicated that there will be a May 2023 Election. There are proposals from Fremont Public Schools, Mason County Central School District, Muskegon Area Intermediate School District, and Shelby Public Schools; which effect eleven jurisdictions in Oceana County.

Ms. Becker announced that the new hire in the Administrator’s Office, Ms. Brittany Bostrom, has started and is a great asset to their office.

Mr. Walker noted that Life EMS will be on the agenda for the next meeting. He also expressed that several different organizations have received grant money to study mental health in schools. Before the meeting today, Mr. Walker met with Mr. Brian Schlaak, Oceana County Maintenance Department, and toured the chiller area in the basement; to which he noted that the power supply will need replaced.

Public Comment

Mr. F. Lee Hyslop, Crystal Township Supervisor, spoke briefly regarding the Crystal Dam.

Mr. Kyle Oomen, Crystal Township Trustee, also spoke in favor of repairing/maintaining the Crystal Dam.

Chairperson Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Melanie A. Coon, Oceana County Chief Deputy Clerk

Date

Mr. Walker, Chairperson

Finance and Administration Committee

The Finance and Administration Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hardy on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 10:25 a.m., in the Board Conference Room.

Present: Mr. Erickson, Mr. Morse, Mr. Beggs, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Hardy.

Also Present: Ms. Becker, Oceana County Financial and Human Resources Coordinator; Ms. Coon, Oceana County Chief Deputy Clerk; Mr. Richard Raffaelli, Shelby Township Supervisor; Mr. F. Lee Hyslop, Crystal Township Supervisor; Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Planning Commission; and Mr. James Kelley, Michigan State University Extension Director.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Walker to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2023 Finance and Administration Committee meeting.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Hardy asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Mr. Morse requested an addition regarding Great Lakes Energy and an addition of formalizing the broadband group. Ms. Becker noted that the Remonumentation Agreements were updated with the correct dates.

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

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Agenda Items

Mr. Richard Raffaelli, Shelby Township Supervisor, was not present at the beginning of the discussion, but the Board of Commissioners revisited his request for a reduction in Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical, and Drain Permit fees for Shelby Acres. Mr. Morse noted that he is drafting policy regarding permit reductions for future projects.

Mr. Walker vocalized his concerns. Currently, there is an opening for a Plumbing/Mechanical Inspector, but feared that two separate inspectors will have to be hired because HVAC/Plumbing are now split inspector positions. With the current backlog of 300+/- permits, which had been paid for at the time of being pulled, the new inspector(s) will need to be paid as well for the 300+/- permits and could very easily be an astronomical amount. Mr. Walker recommended, going forward, that 50% of the permit fee be paid at the time it is pulled and that the remaining 50% be paid at the time of a completed inspection.

Mr. Walker expressed that Ms. Byard had contacted other counties to see how permit fees were paid to inspectors; none of the counties that were contacted paid inspectors immediately upon a permit being pulled. Mr. Walker acknowledged that if a reduction in permits is allowed for Shelby Acres, then at what point would a reduction in permit fees cease and what would the deciding factors be for others who request the same reductions. Mr. Walker suggested that this should be looked at from a business perspective and not just a personal perspective and to remember that the county has already spent \$50,000 on the Shelby Acres housing project.

Mr. Raffaelli noted that the \$50,000 was actually from ARPA funding, federal funds with specific requirements on how they could be used, and not from Oceana County's budget. He indicated that private nonprofit 501(c)(3) developers will not build in Oceana County unless there are permit fee reductions; there is nothing to draw them in. Mr. Raffaelli noted that, in the last census, Shelby Township was the only township to show growth because of their ability to attract and retain their populace.

Mr. Walker indicated that he does not support the request for permit fee reductions.

Mr. Raffaelli corrected a statistic from the last meeting and opined upon the poverty exemption. Mr. Beggs requested explication regarding the poverty exemption and suggested that an objective policy should be written to cover any like projects in the future.

Mr. Erickson thanked Mr. Raffaelli for his explanations regarding 501(c)(3) organizations. Mr. Beggs was apprehensive regarding how the public will react to permit fee reductions and recognized the time sensitivity for Shelby Acres request, but still insisted that policy be set in place. Mr. Hardy suggested having 501(c)(3) status be the qualifier for future developers.

Mr. Morse requested consideration of a motion to provide a letter of support for a Robin Grant for Great Lakes Energy. Mr. Walker wondered if by writing a letter of support that the cost for broadband would be lessened for customers. Mr. Morse indicated that the cost for consumer use would be stated in the Robin Grant as part of the stipulation.

Mr. Morse facilitated discussion regarding a motion to formalize the ad hoc broadband workgroup.

Ms. Becker brought forth consideration of a motion to approve the updated Remonumentation Agreements for Noah Penn and Alex Altmaier.

Ms. Becker sought consideration of a motion to approve the intergovernmental agreement between Greenwood Township and Oceana County to manage the floodplain development for the National Flood Insurance Program.

Ms. Becker facilitated consideration of a motion to designate the financial institutions for the deposit and investment of Oceana County Funds as provided by the County Treasurer.

Ms. Becker requested consideration of a motion to approve a budget adjustment for the processing of the Workforce Development Grant and for the correction of the Remonumentation budget.

Ms. Becker proposed consideration of a motion to reappoint Mr. Jim Prince and to appoint Mr. Robert Walker to the Community Mental Health Board for a term of three years.

Ms. Becker did not read the February 23, 2023 claims for payment, but the following was provided:

Oceana County Administrator				
REVIEW OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT (\geq \$1,000 and Other Noteworthy Expenditures)				
Fund #	Dept. #	Dept. Name	Amount	Purpose
Special Revenue Funds				
238 - Pentwater Hart Trail Fund			\$ 2,042.50	to Fleis & Vandenbrink for professional services. Costs covered by a grant.
239 - Shelby Twp Community Park Fund			\$ 18,000.00	to Landscape Architects & Planners for project services. Fully reimbursed via private donations.
			\$ 3,252.50	to Kennari Consulting for professional services. Fully reimbursed via private donations.
260 - Indigent Defense Fund			\$ 4,605.00	to Hayes Law Office for court appointed attorney fees.
			\$ 6,946.00	to Good Law for court appointed attorney fees.
			\$ 5,625.00	to Indigent Defense Consultants for managed assigned counsel services.
			\$ 11,702.00	to Springstead Law Offices for court appointed attorney fees.
			\$ 3,466.00	to MKG Law Office, PLLC for court appointed attorney fees.

298 - Technology and Innovation Fund	\$ 21,693.00	to Kroll Associates, Inc for professional services.
	\$ 4,092.38	to SHI for Machinery and Equipment.
405 - Capital Projects	\$ 1,185.72	to X-Cel Chemical Specialties North LLC for equipment.
518 - Foreclosure Fund	\$ 6,309.75	to Title Check, LLC for parcel administration.
General Fund		
101 - Board of Commissioners	\$ 6,176.99	to H Security & Investigation for courthouse security for February 2023 and January 2023 OT.
265 - Courthouse and Grounds	\$ 2,351.44	to City of Hart Utilities.
	\$ 1,185.58	to Huntington National Bank for pallet truck and supplies.
283 - Circuit Court	\$ 4,048.95	to Heacock Reporting for court contracted services.
	\$ 4,223.92	to Hayes Law Office for court appointed attorney fees.
	\$ 4,223.92	to Springstead Law Offices for court appointed attorney fees.
289 - Friend of the Court	\$ 1,082.65	to Thomson Reuters for online, software subscription.
301 - Sheriff	\$ 13,283.48	to Enterprise for fleet vehicle management.
	\$ 5,320.00	to Axon for taser supplies.
	\$ 4,943.00	to Dive Right In Scuba for equipment.
	\$ 7,026.32	to Norm's Sport and Marine and Scuba Zoo for dive equipment.
	\$ 1,432.80	to Emergency Services, LLC for equipment.
	\$ 1,150.00	to Stopstick, Ltd for equipment.
331 - Marine	\$ 1,150.00	to the Village of Pentwater for 2023 slip fee.
351 - Jail	\$ 1,028.13	to Hansen Foods.
	\$ 13,470.37	to Advanced Correctional Healthcare for on-site medical services per contract.
	\$ 1,140.20	to Amazon Capital Services for supplies and equipment.
	\$ 4,097.09	to Gordon Food Service.
528 - Transfer Station	\$ 5,655.00	to American Classic Dumpster for removal of trash and recycling material.
595 - Airport	\$ 1,020.00	to Hallack Contracting for snow plowing.
648 - Medical Examiner	\$ 7,376.28	to Mid Michigan Medical Examiner Group for administrative services.
~ Total		\$ 180,305.97

Ms. Becker also did not read the March 9, 2023 claims for payment, 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			\$ 10,970.45	to Image Soft for professional services and icloud storage
256 - Automation Fund			\$ 1,818.02	to GovOS for software fees.
260 - Indigent Defense Fund			\$ 4,607.00	to Hayes Law Office for court appointed attorney fees.
286 - American Rescue Plan Fund			\$ 3,542.34	to Chrouch Communications for ARPA purchase from Shelby Benona Fire Department for Equipment.
			\$ 2,500.00	to Shelby Township Treasurer for ARPA reimbursement towards contractual services
			\$ 14,760.00	to Strategic Sourcing for ARPA purchase towards 20 Panasonic docking stations for the Sheriff's Department.
292 - Child Care Fund			\$ 1,915.14	to The Fountain Hill Center for out-of-home placement
298 - Technology & Innovation Fund			\$ 1,524.00	to SHI International for purchase of laptop and surface dock for Prosecuting Attorney's Office
518 - Foreclosure Fund			\$ 1,853.67	to Title Check, LLC for parcel administration.
549 - Building Department Fund			\$ 1,872.70	to Randy Miller for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
			\$ 1,989.35	to Randy Neuman for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
General Fund				
172 - County Administration			\$ 1,991.11	to TASC for February COBRA payment.
257 - Equalization			\$ 23,875.00	to V&V Assessing for equalization and assessing services.
262 - Elections			\$ 6,635.00	to Election Source for annual contract for election software.
265 - Courthouse and Grounds			\$ 1,804.96	to DTE Energy for utilities
301 - Sheriff			\$ 1,082.81	to AT&T mobility
351 - Jail			\$ 1,805.69	to DTE Energy for utilities
			\$ 2,785.30	to Gordon Food Service.
728 - Economic & Community Development			\$ 45,000.00	to Oceana County Economic Alliance for Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriation of funds.
		Total	\$ 132,332.54	

Administrator's Report (as provided by Ms. Byard):

Opioid Settlement

The first settlement payment has been receipted in. The County Treasurer has created a budget specifically for this purpose. This will be discussed during my report as we need to decide on how those funds will be spent and if we plan to enter into the new settlements.

Update: Discussion will be held about the direction the Board wishing to go during board meeting scheduled for March 23rd.

Broadband

There have been several companies that have been reaching out to our Broadband Group in the county. We will be getting together to just keep things moving forward at this time and discuss what is happening here and what will be coming next. We were asked to provide a letter of support for Great Lakes Energy to submit with their grant application for the Robin Grant being submitted to MIHI. That letter has been submitted. We will continue to share this information as it becomes available.

Accounts Payable Position

The Administrator's office has selected an Accounts Payable/Administrative Assistant candidate after completing interviews last week. Her start date is Monday, February 27, 2023. She will be introduced to the Board of Commissioners at their first meeting in March.

Update: Brittany Bostrom started her position with our office on February 27, 2023.

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Grant

The first draw down for the Brownfield Redevelopment has been submitted. Approval for a property in the Brownfield will be forthcoming.

Workforce Development Grant

The first invoice for the Workforce Development has been submitted. Once the invoice has been paid we can submit for reimbursement through ASAP.

Update: There is a budget adjustment on the agenda for approval. The invoice has been submitted for payment and the reimbursement will be processed shortly after.

Materials Management Grant

RSS Recycle.com has completed the draft of the materials management engagement grant report and has forwarded to our office for review. Once the review is complete, the report will be submitted.

On March 29th a new statute will be put in place for a Materials Management Plan. Oceana County has started this process already through the Materials Management Grant.

A meeting was held on February 15, 2023 with EGLE to discuss the new statute and I will be reviewing these items with RSS Recycle.com to assure that we are in line with what is being requested of the counties. There will be \$60,000/year provided to each of the counties with an additional \$10,000 for multi county. There will also be .50/capita for a three-year period. They haven't entirely explained what is required but there will be several meetings like the one I attended today as well as information on their website. If a county chooses not to write a plan, EGLE will write it for them but it will need to be implemented by the county.

Update: The Materials Management report has been finalized. Documents signed by the Administrator and submitted by Curtis Burdette.

County Administrator's Meeting with MAC

County Administrator's met with MAC on February 9, 2023 to discuss what they are working on. They did discuss the revamping of the Open Meetings Act allowing pre-pandemic virtual participation in meeting and how they will continue push this forward. They also discussed increased resources for juvenile justice services, compensating local governments for funds diverted by the Veterans property tax exemption and revamping the personal property tax exemption to provide annual reimbursements to local governments.

They also provided information on the Governor's Budget and a 17 percent boost in county revenue sharing. This is broken down in such a way that 5% is an increase to the county rate for one time, 2% increase for public safety ongoing and another 5% increase for public safety one-time. So, they are earmarking some of the funds being increased if it were to pass the way it is written. There is also a \$30 million increase in base funding for public health department, a 60 percent increase for funding to support essential public health services, \$2 million for the Juvenile Justice Services Division, \$220.9 million for MIDC to cover the standards and \$19.3 million to increase the daily rate for foster families, to mention a few.

Public Comment

Mr. F. Lee Hyslop, Crystal Township Supervisor, had questions and concerns regarding the Shelby Acres housing development.

Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Planning Commission, commented on the initiative of providing affordable housing. He also noted that Dogwood Development is currently an established 501(c)(3). Mr. McKeen posited if permit fees could be waived for all upcoming development for Black Lake County Park.

Mr. James Kelley, Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) Director, provided an update regarding MSUE events; such as the Asparagus Day in New Era.

Chairperson Hardy asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Coon
Oceana County Chief Deputy Clerk

Courts and Public Safety Committee

The Courts and Public Safety Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Beggs, on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Conference Room.

Present: Mr. Erickson, Mr. Morse, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Beggs.

Also Present: Ms. Becker, Oceana County Financial & Human Resources Coordinator; Ms. Coon, Oceana County Chief Deputy Clerk; Mr. F. Lee Hyslop, Crystal Township Supervisor; Sheriff Mast; and Mr. Troy Maloney, Oceana County Emergency Management Director.

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2023, Courts and Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Beggs asked if there were any changes to the agenda. None were presented.

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

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mr. F. Lee Hyslop, Crystal Township Supervisor, delivered an update regarding Crystal Township issues and suggested road maintenance. Mr. Erickson requested clarification which stretch of Madison Road would need maintained. Mr. Hyslop clarified that the stretch of Madison Road is between 120th Avenue and 126th Avenue.

Agenda Items

Ms. Becker sought consideration of a motion to approve the Mason-Oceana 911 Board recommendation for the continued assessment of a local telephone surcharge in the amount of \$2.09, no change. Mr. Hardy noted that the local telephone surcharge was approved by the Mason-Oceana 911 Board at their last meeting.

Department Head Reports

Sheriff Mast provided an update regarding the jail population and new staff members. Mr. Beggs questioned what positions will still be available. Sheriff Mast clarified that Corrections Officers will be fully staffed, but there are still positions available for Road Patrol.

Mr. Erickson inquired as to when the jail millage will be put on a ballot again. Sheriff Mast imparted that he is still looking at different election dates and trying to plan accordingly with other issues that may be put forth on a ballot.

Mr. Troy Maloney, Oceana County Emergency Management Director, delivered an update regarding the local region/area. He also indicated that all of the fire departments in Oceana County combined and joined Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), as a single entity, and can now qualify/guarantee for hazmat response and training.

Mr. Maloney requested assistance with MFR funding for Hart Fire Department, if needed. Mr. Beggs noted that Hart Fire Department had previously been approved for MFR funding. Mr. Walker suggested finding alternate funding due to overbudgeting.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Chairperson Beggs asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Coon
Oceana County Chief Deputy Clerk