

**Board Conference Room
May 9, 2024
Board of Commissioners Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Oceana County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Walker, on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 11:30 p.m.

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

Roll was called by Clerk Anderson. Present: Mr. Erickson, Mr. Morse, Mr. Beggs, Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Walker.

Also Present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Judge Middlebrook, 79th District Court Judge; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Beggs to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2024 Regular Board Meeting as amended.

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. No additions were mentioned.

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Morse to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Agenda Items

MOTION #2024-54 – MERS SURPLUS DIVISIONS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Erickson, to adopt a Defined Benefit Plan Surplus Division Adoption Addendum for the Building Department Division 11 and a Defined Benefit Plan Surplus Division Adoption Addendum for the remaining divisions and allow the Chair to sign the forms.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-55 – MERS SUPPLEMENTAL PENSION PAYMENTS

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Morse, to approve a supplemental payment in the amount of \$200,000 toward the General Fund and Sheriff's Defined Benefit divisions of MERS to be paid from the General Fund and a payment in the amount of \$100,000 toward the Building Department defined benefit division to be paid from the Building Department Fund to be applied to the surplus divisions.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-56 – CERTIFICATION OF COUNTY ALLOCATED TAX LEVY

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Beggs, to approve the certification of the levy of County allocated tax and authorized collection of County allocated tax on July 1, 2024 at the full amount allocated after application of the "Headlee millage reduction fraction, or 5.6084 mills and authorize the Oceana County Clerk and the Oceana County Board of Commissioners to sign the 2024 L-4029 Tax Rate Request and for the Clerk to send a copy of the form to the townships and city within Oceana County and provide a copy to the County Treasurer.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-57 – ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 24-10 ESTABLISHING DPA

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Beggs, to adopt Resolution #24-10 establishing West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commissioner (WMSRDC) as the Designated Planning Agency and participation in a multi-county MMP with other counties under contract with WMSRDC.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-58 – PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Morse, to adopt Motion #2024-58, approving the payment of accounts payable and release of funds for May 9, 2024.

AMBULANCE	\$263,825.43
GIS	-0-
FOC	2,194.06
PENTWATER-HART TRAIL	-0-
SHELBY TWP COMM PARK	-0-
BROWNFIELD	-0-
AUTOMATION R.O.D.	-0-
INDIGENT DEFENSE	12,595.78
LCOT	-0-
K9 UNIT	24.97
CJT	1,162.70
CDBG	-0-
ARPA	-0-
VETERANS AFFAIRS	6,152.25
TECH & INNOVATION	3,327.32
CAPITAL PROG/EQUIP REP	305.00
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT	-0-
FORECLOSURE	-0-
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	16,761.48
GENERAL FUND	359,372.80
GRAND TOTAL	\$665,721.79

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

Motion carried.

Commissioner's Reports

Mr. Morse stated Monday night was the West Central Alliance meeting and wanted to give praise to Tracy and her staff for a nice night.

Mr. Erickson indicated he has been in correspondence with Mr. Tiffany regarding the Crystal Valley Dam. The engineering report is in and has been shared with Hardon Construction for a solution to stabilize the dam. Another meeting will be on Tuesday to do some more hole drilling and a little more probing to get an accurate assessment underneath the spill way. It is completely doable. He received a letter from Gary McKeen regarding dam safety unit and there is a potential for money for stabilization of non-hydro electric dams. Marsh dam is moving forward. A letter went out from the Oceana County Republicans and they were trying to figure out a way to dissolve the party in Oceana County. The chair wants to resign at the next meeting, Erin McGregor has already given her resignation, the treasurer may resign. Not sure of the direction this is going.

Mr. Walker gave each of the commissioners a drawing regarding info on the Transfer Station done by West Michigan Scale and Joel McCormick. If moving forward with this, the information needs to go to American Classic for their input. There was a concurrence to move forward. Brian is working on several things for the county, one is the drawings for the building department. He has a very good quote for the electrical into the building. He is very close to bringing the proposal to the board for the sheriff generator.

Tracy stated she received an email from Kalamazoo County requesting assistance with Building Inspector after the tornado in Portage.

Mr. Walker stated our building inspectors are contracted and paid on a percentage of the permits. If we send anyone we will have to pay the fee and lodging.

Public Comment

Judge Middlebrook from 79th District Court said he has three needs right now. They are as follows:

- Adriana, 79th District Court Administrator/Magistrate is currently paid to work 35 hours and needs to be changed to 40 hours to allow for supervision.
- Mason county has 5 ½ employees covering the court. He feels there is a need for at least a full to part time court reporter.
- He would like to start a sobriety court in both Mason and Oceana County. This would address people with alcohol addiction, charges of OWI 2nd or even 3rd that could be reduced down to 2nd. Sheriff Mast and Prosecutor Bizon are interested as long as it would not allow for dismissal of charges. He will be applying for a grant from West Michigan Community Mental Health (WCMCH). He has had a conversation with Mr. Josh Snyder, Chief Clinical Officer, WCMCH, and will assist with the grant. He believes this 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 12:06 p.m.

Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk

Date

Mr. Walker, Chairperson

Finance and Administration Committee

The Finance and Administration Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hardy on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 10:22 a.m., in the Board Conference Room.

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

Also Present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Morse to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2024 Finance and Administration Committee meeting as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Hardy asked if there were any additions to the agenda. No additions were mentioned.

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

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Agenda Items

Ms. Byard requested consideration to establish two MERS Unfunded Accrued Liability surplus divisions and to authorize a supplemental payment for the General and Sheriff employees and a supplemental payment for the Building Department. Mr. Walker suggested sending a letter/email to all retirees who are on the defined benefits regarding the steps the Board has chosen to take for the future of the employees.

Ms. Byard also requested approval of the 2024 L4029.

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

REVIEW OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT (>= \$1,000 and Other Noteworthy Expenditures)

Fund #	Dept. #	Dept. Name	Amount	Purpose
Special Revenue Funds				
210 - Ambulance				
			\$ 6,820.00	To Hart area fire department for 1st qtr MFR costs
			\$ 2,860.00	To Hesperia area fire department for 1st qtr MFR costs
			\$ 6,600.00	To Pentwater area fire department for 1st qtr MFR costs

215 - Friend of the Court		\$ 2,194.06
260 - Indigent Defense		
	\$ 5,833.33	to Indigent Defense Consultants for managed assigned counsel services.
272 - Criminal Justice Training		
298 - Technology & Innovation		
549 - Building Department		
	\$ 3,780.15	to RVN Inspections, LLC for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews
	\$ 1,050.00	to Shoreline Inspection Service LLC for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
	\$ 1,908.72	to Sonnie Smith for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews
	\$ 1,050.00	to Thomas Story for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews
General Fund		
223 - County Auditing	\$1500.00	To Watkins Ross & Co for professional services
228 - Data Processing	\$26,574.00	To BS&A for software maintenance contract.

265 - Courthouse & Grounds	\$ 2,331.06	to City of Hart for utilities
301 - Sheriff	\$ 1,386.20	to AT&T mobility
	\$ 8,385.65	to Wex Bank for fuel purchases
	\$ 11,316.04	to Wex Bank for fuel purchases
	\$ 2,110.17	to NYE uniforms
	\$ 1,003.94	to Undersea Systems international for equipment
331 - Marine Law	\$ 1,330.35	to Charlie's Marina for fuel purchases
351 - Jail	\$ 1,141.54	to DTE for utilities
	\$ 1,728.55	to Gordon Food Service for inmate board and janitorial supplies
	\$ 3,182.89	to City of Hart for utilities
	\$ 1,659.82	to Anderson Mechanical for repairs and maintenance
	\$ 1,835.51	to Magnum Electronics for machinery and equipment
	\$ 3,378.75	to Muskegon Fire Equipment for repairs and maintenance
442 - Drain	\$ 1,930.00	to BS&A for software maintenance contract.
528 - Transfer Station	\$ 12,018.00	to American Classic Dumpster Services

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Total**\$ 374,126.29****Administrator's Report** *(as provided by Ms. Byard):***MERS**

A meeting was held Veronica from MERS to review the MERS Actuarial and as stated previously, we are currently 83.8% funded. There is one division that is over 180% funded and there is no new activity within that division. Therefore, 60% of those funds can be transferred to one of the underfunded divisions. This will not change the overall funding, but will increase the funding for that other division. We also discussed creating a surplus division, which is where additional payments submitted would increase the funding level of the plans and are not considered when calculating future annual required contributions. Contributions made to this new division may result in the unfunded accrued liability being paid off more quickly. This surplus division can be used for specific divisions, such as the General and Sheriffs Divisions, which is where the additional payments have been previously made.

AUDITORS

Items requested by the auditors have been gathered for our department. They are scheduled to be here for on-site work May 6th through the 10th and additional information may be required at that time.

FOLLOW UP

The wording for the rules and regulations for Parks and Recreation have been changed according to the motion made by the Board of Commissioners at their previous meeting. The updated version was forwarded to Mr. Garry McKeen for review. Copies will be distributed to their board and a copy to Mr. Stephen Carlson as it relates to the master plan for parks.

Additional Administrator's Report Items

A check for \$283,000.00 was received from BCBS for 2023 reimbursement of which \$267,000.00 was put back into the general fund.

Department Head Reports

There were no department head reports at this time.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Chairperson Hardy asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk

Courts and Public Safety Committee

The Courts and Public Safety Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Beggs, on Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 10:01 a.m. in the Board Conference Room.

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

Also Present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Mr. Jeff Stockhill, Life EMS Director of North Operations; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2024, Courts and Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Beggs asked if there were any changes to the agenda. No changes were mentioned.

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

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Agenda Items

Mr. Jeff Stockhill, Life EMS, provided a report for the second quarter. He indicated transports are about the same as last year. There is a full-time position which they are still trying to fill. He also informed the board that there are two retired police officers from Grand Rapids that have started a "2 THE RESCUE" group. Initially it was started to help with suicides, but have discovered that it offers so much more. The training helps in different areas of life and dealing with the emotional wellness. He indicated that they celebrated 44 years of operation on February 24, 2024 with an outing at the Grand Rapids Griffins' game. He also reported that the new EMS building is in progress which is located near the transfer station, and currently they are working on staffing for coverage for the Electric Forrest Festival.

Department Head Report

There were no department head reports at this time.

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 10:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk