

**Board Conference Room
July 25, 2024
Board of Commissioners Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Oceana County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Beggs, on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 11:44 a.m.

Vice-Chairperson Beggs 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, and Mr. Hardy. Absent: Mr. Walker.

Also Present: Mr. John Wade, Oceana County Resident; Mr. Gary Becker, Oceana County Resident; Mr. Ryan Good, Oceana County Probate Judge Candidate; Ms. Judy Shatney, Oceana County Resident; Mr. James Kelly, MSU Director; Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Morse to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2024 Regular Board Meeting as amended.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

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

Vice-Chairperson Beggs asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Mr. Hardy requested to add #2024-85 (Silver Lake Rescue Boat) after Motion #2024-83(New Vendor W-9 Policy). It was also noted that Motion #2024-78 & Motion #2024-79 (Electrical and Mechanical Inspector contracts) were to be placed on hold until the August 8, 2024 Board meeting.

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

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mr. John Wade, W. Orchard Drive resident, voiced concerns regarding the abandonment of W. Orchard Drive by the Oceana County Road Commission.

Mr. Gary Becker, W. Orchard Drive resident, also voiced concerns regarding the abandonment of W. Orchard Drive by the Oceana County Road Commission.

Mr. Ryan Good, candidate for Oceana County Probate Judge. He gave a background on his qualifications.

Ms. Judy Shatney, W. Orchard Drive resident, as a concerned resident voiced concern with the abandonment of W. Orchard Drive by the Oceana County Road Commission, due to the accessibility for fire and ambulance services to be provided to the residents.

Agenda Items

MOTION #2024-78– ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR CONTRACT - NO ACTION

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by _____, to approve a contract with Kevin Greiner for the purpose of performing electrical inspections with the County’s Building Department to begin September 1, 2024 and allow the Chair to sign.

Roll call vote: Mr. Erickson – _1_; Mr. Hardy – ___; Mr. Morse– ___; and Mr. Beggs – ___.

Absent: Mr. Walker.

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-79 – MECHANICAL INSPECTOR CONTRACT -NO ACTION

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by _____, to approve a contract with Lance R. Gates for the purpose of performing mechanical inspections with the County Building Department to begin September 23, 2024 and allow the Chair to sign.

Roll call vote: Mr. Morse – _1_; Mr. Hardy – ___; Mr. Erickson – ___; and Mr. Beggs – ___.
Absent: Mr. Walker.

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-80 – STORM DRAIN SEALANT

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Hardy, to approve the bid with West Michigan Drain Solutions in the amount of \$4,493.12 for the purpose of sealing 25’ of storm drain with funds to come from public improvement fund.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-81 – CHILD CARE FUND BUDGET

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Morse, to approve the fiscal Year 2024-2025 Oceana County Child Care Budget in the amount of \$539,602.48 and authorize the Chairperson of the Board and County Administrator to sign the budget summary.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-82 – CONTRACT BETWEEN OTTAWA COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER AND OCEANA COUNTY

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Hardy, to adopt a three-year agreement between Oceana county and Ottawa County Juvenile Detention Center to be retro active to October 1, 2023 for the purpose of bed rental and allow the chair to sign.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-83 – NEW VENDOR W-9 POLICY

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Morse, to adopt the proposed New Vendor and W-9 Policy for the purpose of monitoring compliance with applicable IRS 1099 rules.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-85 – SILVER LAKE RESCUE BOAT

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Erickson, to allow the use of ARPA Funds in the amount of \$24,859.00 to cover the shortfall in the purchase of the Silver Lake Rescue Boat with \$50,000 to be covered by the USDA Funds and the remainder from donations.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-84 – PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Erickson, to adopt Motion #2024-84, approving the payment of accounts payable and release of funds for July 25, 2024

AMBULANCE	\$35,778.27
GIS	-0-
FOC	2,194.06
PENTWATER-HART TRAIL	-0-
SHELBY TWP COMM PARK	-0-
BROWNFIELD	-0-
AUTOMATION R.O.D.	1,460.96
INDIGENT DEFENSE	26,884.66
LCOT	-0-
K9 UNIT	-0-
CJT	-0-
CDBG	-0-
ARPA	-0-
VETERANS AFFAIRS	7,214.55
TECH & INNOVATION	14,114.32
CAPITAL PROG/EQUIP REP	-0-
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT	404.14
FORECLOSURE	-0-
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	14,636.44
GENERAL FUND	542,388.39
GRAND TOTAL	\$645,075.79

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

Motion carried.

Commissioner’s Reports

Mr. Hardy reported there was a 911 board meeting last week where the auditors report was handed out and went well.

Mr. Morse stated the WMSRDC meeting was last week. He announced he has earned and offered the position with the Village of Shelby Administrator.

Mr. Erickson talked about three days of harness racing during the fair. The micro wrestlers will be at the fair this year as well.

Mr. Beggs reported a good WMSRDC meeting.

Public Comment

Mr. John Wade, W. Orchard Drive resident inquired if the Silver Lake Rescue boats would be able to launch on Stony Lake? Sheriff Mast replied that they have the ability to launch from a private launch on the North side of Stony Lake. He also inquired as to why the public launch is in such poor condition? He felt that it needs to be improved.

Mr. James Kelly, MSU director, thanked Administrator Byard for forwarding the quarterly report to the commissioners and stated that the effect of the climate this year has brought a perfect asparagus season, cherries were affected by the storm damage and the apple season should be good. The 4-H program has a new coordinator - Jenny Payne. There is a new Ag water use educator who will be hired in Mason county and serving the area.

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

Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk

Date

Mr. Beggs, Vice-Chairperson

Finance and Administration Committee

The Finance and Administration Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hardy on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 11:26 a.m., in the Board Conference Room.

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

Also Present: Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Planning Commission; Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Kendra Gilchrist, Oceana’s Herald-Journal intern; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Morse to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2024 Finance and Administration Committee meeting as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Hardy asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Mr. Hardy requested to add discussion regarding Motion #2024-85 (Silver Lake Rescue Boat).

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported 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

Administrator Byard brought consideration to approve the Child Care Fund budget for submission to the state.

Administrator Byard brought consideration to approve a three-year agreement with Ottawa County Juvenile Detention Center for the purpose of bed rental.

Administrator Byard brought consideration of a new vendor and W-9 policy for the purpose of monitoring compliance with applicable IRS 1099 rules.

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			\$ 1,870.00	To Ferry Twp Fire Dept for 2nd qtr MFR costs
			\$ 13,640.00	To Grant Township for 2nd qtr MFR costs
			\$ 3,300.00	to Hesperia Township for 2nd qtr MFR costs

	\$ 4,422.10	to MMRMA for quarter liability insurance.
	\$ 5,390.00	Shelby- Benona Fire Department for 2nd qtr MFR costs.
	\$ 6,160.00	to Walkerville fire department for 2nd qtr MFR costs
215 - Friend of the Court	\$ 2,194.06	to Image Soft for monthly software expenditures
256 - Automation	\$ 1,460.96	to GovOS for monthly software expenditures
260 - Indigent Defense	\$ 7,281.00	to Good Law for court appointed attorney fees.
	\$ 4,902.00	to MKG Law Office, PLLC for court appointed attorney fees
	\$ 9,183.00	to Springstead Law Offices for court appointed attorney fees.
293 - Veterans Affairs	\$ 1,039.75	to Mears Service Center for oil change and repairs
298 -Technology and Innovation	\$ 11,781.67	to SHI International for software and support fees
549 - Building Department	\$ 4,527.00	to Randolph D Miller, LLC for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews
	\$ 2,611.60	to RVN Inspections, LLC for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews
	\$ 1,239.82	to Sonnie Smith for inspections
	\$ 1,500.00	to Thomas Story for inspections

General Fund		
101- Board of Commissioners	\$ 6,004.76	to H Security & Investigation for contractual security services
	\$ 2,370.54	to Cohl, Stoker & Toskey, P.C. for legal services.
	\$ 8,522.22	to MAC for Dues.
208 - Insurance	\$ 45,272.65	to MMRMA for quarter liability insurance.
245 - Remonumentation Budget	\$ 8,389.50	to A & A Land Surveying, Inc. for 30% monumentation surveyor agreement for 2024.
248 - General Services	\$ 4,143.12	to TASC for carryover to 2024 healthcare FSA
253 - County Treasurer	\$ 1,908.00	to Greenstone Insurance Co for policy period payment
257 - Equalization	\$ 18,150.00	to V&V Assessing for equalization and assessing services.
283 - Circuit court	\$ 4,223.92	to Hayes Law Office for monthly appropriations.
	\$ 3,300.00	to Heacock Reporting for court contracted services.
	\$ 9,512.09	to Mason County Treasurer for judge fringe benefits
	\$ 4,223.92	to Springstead Law Offices for monthly appropriations

286 - District Court	\$ 8,654.78	to Mason County Treasurer for judge fringe benefits
294 - Probate Court	\$ 2,539.51	to BIS for 2024-2025 service contract
301 - Sheriff	\$ 25,356.98	to Enterprise FM Trust for fleet vehicle lease and vehicle repairs
	\$ 1,874.50	to Arms Unlimited, INC for equipment
351 - Jail	\$ 15,536.15	to Advanced Correctional Healthcare for inmate healthcare
	\$ 1,960.10	to Gordon Food Service for inmate board and janitorial supplies
	\$ 3,656.91	to EPS for service contracts
430 - Animal Control	\$ 1,170.60	to Oceana Veterinary Clinic for spays and neuters
528 - Transfer Station	\$ 24,345.70	to American Classic Dumpster Services
568 - Conservation District	\$ 6,000.00	to Mason-Lake Conservation District for household hazardous waste program
595 - Airport	\$ 3,260.41	to Huntington National Bank for equipment repairs

	\$ 3,079.87	to Curtiss Lohman for travel and reimbursement for parts
	\$ 1,675.00	to Qtpod Petroleum on Demand for yearly plan
649 - Mental Health	\$ 10,647.92	to West Michigan CMH for quarterly appropriations
728 - Economic & Community Development	\$ 2,125.00	To MSUE for 2nd qtr clerical support
~ Total		\$ 310,407.11

Administrator’s Report (as provided by Ms. Byard):
BROADBAND MEETING

The Broadband committee met on July 11, 2024. The group discussed setting a purpose and goals for the committee. We will continue to meet with the hybrid option to allow those unable to attend to meet via zoom. There was discussion relating to information being dispersed to the townships. It was suggested that information be shared at the MTA meeting. Their next meeting is scheduled for September. It was noted that if someone would like to speak at that meeting that they get in touch with them to ask to be added to the agenda for that meeting or one in the future. There was also discussion about a public event to share information about coverage throughout the county and what is upcoming and setting that meeting around the ISP’s.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

The Department Heads met last week. Information was provided about the budget scheduled and the email that was sent out letting them know that they can start inputting their budgets. Budgets are due on August 19th. Discussion was held regarding the New Vendor and W-9 policy that will be going before the board for approval. The policy was reviewed informing them that all new vendors will be required to have a W-9 on file before a check will be released to them. Commissioner Morse has started a leadership dialogue with the group where a short video relating to leadership in some way is shown and discussion is held following. We also started a department minute allowing departments to share information about their department whether it be a new employee or something happening within the department. It is voluntary and it was great to hear from several of the departments.

ANIMAL CONTROL/CIVIL INFRACTION ORDINANCE

At a previous meeting there was discussion about an ordinance pertaining to civil infractions for dog at large. As advised by the Board of Commissioners, the request was sent on to our County Counsel requesting an ordinance. They asked if there was an ordinance we follow created by the board that established the shelter and the position of Animal Control Officer. I searched through files in our office and was unsuccessful but reached out to the County Clerk for any files she might have. I was able to locate a resolution creating the Dog Warden in that file along with an act pertaining to the creation of an animal shelter through the Department of Agriculture and shared that with them. We do not have an ordinance pertaining to Animal Control and we follow the State Dog Law of 1919. Since we follow the state law, we cannot change the misdemeanor to a civil infraction. Therefore, County Counsel suggested that the Board adopt an Animal Control Ordinance that would allow us to set a civil infraction

but would also cover Animal Control as a whole. A copy of the suggested ordinance will be shared with the Board of Commissioners. A copy has been forwarded to the Animal Control Director, Prosecutor and the Sheriff for review.

CHANGE TO THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

Effective January 1, 2025, the State is increasing the amount that allows us to exempt an employee from overtime. Jessica LaPointe, Human Resources, has reviewed the wages and established that there is one position that will be affected by this change.

FOLLOW UP

Chairman Walker and I worked through the bid for scales for the Transfer Station. A request for bids has been created.

An opioid meeting is being scheduled for the first part of August with Amy Dolinky of the Michigan Association of Counties and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Mr. Hardy brought for consideration to use ARPA funds to cover the shortfall in the purchase of Silver Lake Rescue Boat.

Department Head Reports

Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Planning Commission, stated that on September 19, 2024, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. the second program for the Oceana County Planning Commission training for townships at the County Services Building provided by Ms. Mary Reilly, MSU educator, the focus will be on Zoning Board of Appeals and the Open Meetings Act.

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 11:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk

Properties, Environment, and Economic Development Committee

The Properties, Environment, and Economic Development Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Erickson, on Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 10:03 a.m. in the Board Conference Room.

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

Also Present: Ms. Marilyn Morse, Patriots for Truth and Action; Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks and Recreation; Mr. Rich Pugsley, Friends of the Pentwater River Watershed Group; Dr. Claudia Russell-Hodan; Mr. Craig Mast, Oceana County Sheriff; Ms. Kendra Gilchrist, Oceana's Herald-Journal intern; Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator, and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2024 Properties, Environment, and Economic Development Committee as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

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

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

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Ms. Marilyn Morse, Patriots for Truth and Action, provided three brochures that she helped to produce. They are: "A Citizen's Guide to Oceana County's Public Schools, Local and County Government", "Civics & The Church 2024" and "Patriots for Truth & Action". She also reported on the efforts of the Oceana County Republicans and the Patriots for Truth and Action to engage the community in local politics.

Agenda Items

Mr. Garry McKeen introduced Mr. Rich Pugsley who reviewed the completed survey on the North Branch of the Pentwater River.

Dr. Claudia Ressel-Hodan gave an update on the progress of the Pentwater-Hart Trail.

Administrator Byard brought consideration to approve a contract with Kevin Greiner for Electrical Inspections for the Building department.

Commissioner Beggs asked for clarity on the wording regarding "Coverage in the event that the Contractor is "unavailable".

Administrator Byard brought consideration to approve the contract with Lance Gates for Mechanical Inspections for the Building Department.

Mr. Hardy suggested to send to the County Attorney for clarification and address at the August 8, 2024 meeting.

Administrator Byard brought forth consideration to approve a bid for seal coating for the storm drain. She explained that as a result of the heavy rain recently, there was once again water in the basement of the courthouse. It was the suggestion of the Maintenance Supervisor, Mr. Brian Schlaack, to have the storm drain seal coated by West Michigan Drain Solutions.

Public Comment

Sheriff Mast reported that currently there are 42 inmates in the Jail. He stated that two Road Patrol officers are riding along with other deputies in field training, however, should be on their own prior to

the Labor Day holiday weekend. He also mentioned that Donnie Hanson will be transitioning from Road Patrol to the Detective Bureau.

Mr. Garry McKeen, reported that the Soil Conservation District has hired Dr. Laura Ackerman to fill the position that was held by Ms. Suzie Knoll. There will be an open house for Ms. Knoll on Thursday, August 8, 2024 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Soil Conservation District office.

Chairperson Erickson asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk