

**Board Conference Room
August 10, 2023
Board of Commissioners Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Oceana County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Walker, on Thursday, August 10, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.

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

Chairperson Walker announced that the public hearing regarding the annexation of lands to the Village of Shelby had been cancelled and asked Mr. Brady Selner, Shelby Village Administrator to explain the reason why it was necessary to cancel. Mr. Selner explained that in order for a public hearing to take place, a notice is required to be published three weeks in a public newspaper or a public location. The notice was published two weeks, however, was not published for the third week. Chairperson Walker thanked Mr. Selner for the explanation.

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, Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana's Herald-Journal correspondent; Mr. Brady Selner, Shelby Village Administrator; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the minutes from the July 27, 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.

Moved by Mr. Beggs 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 #2023-91 – ANNEXATION OF LAND TO THE VILLAGE OF SHELBY

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by _____ to adopt Resolution #2023-09 annexing lands to the Village of Shelby resulting in lands to be included within the corporate limits of the Village of Shelby.

No action was taken on this motion and will be addressed at the September 14, 2023 meeting.

MOTION #2023 -86 – OVERTIME REQUEST FOR DISTRICT COURT

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Beggs to allow overtime hours for District Court staff up to \$4,000 with hours to be determined by the Magistrate.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-87 – HMEP PLANNING GRANT

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Erickson to approve the HMEP Planning Grant Agreement for Emergency Management in the amount of \$6,960.00 and allow the Chair to sign.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-88 – BLIGHT ELIMINATION GRANT

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Morse to accept the \$500,000 Blight Elimination Grant award for the Land Bank Authority and allow the Chair to sign.

Roll call vote: Mr. Erickson - Yes; Mr. Morse -Yes; Mr. Hardy - Yes; Mr. Beggs - Yes; and Mr. Walker - Yes.

MOTION #2023-89 – JUNETEENTH DISCUSSION

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Beggs to amend Section 6.22 of the Oceana County Policy Handbook to add Juneteenth to the list of paid holidays which are observed and payable to employees during applicable pay periods.

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

Motion failed.

Chairperson Walker commented that his vote had nothing to do with the holiday itself, but rather, the number of holidays that are already in place. Mr. Morse agreed with Chairperson Walker and stated that a line needed to be drawn and this seemed to be the right place. Mr. Beggs also commented that he was against burdening the taxpayers with extravagant holidays.

MOTION #2023-90– PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Morse, to adopt Motion #2023-90, approving the payment of accounts payable and release of funds for June 8, 2023.

AMBULANCE	\$8,527.71
GIS	-0-
FOC	-0-
PENTWATER-HART TRAIL	388.77
SHELBY TWP COMM PARK	-0-
BROWNFIELD	639.90
AUTOMATION R.O.D.	-0-
INDIGENT DEFENSE	5,654.04
LCOT	-0-
K9 UNIT	228.98
CJT	290.00
CDBG	-0-
ARPA	2,394.32

VETERANS AFFAIRS	4,673.15
TECH & INNOVATION	1,478.73
CAPITAL PROG/EQUIP REP	-0-
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT	-0-
FORECLOSURE	-0-
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	15,816.41
GENERAL FUND	397,547.61
GRAND TOTAL	\$437,639.62

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. Hardy noted that the Mason Oceana County 911 board meeting was cancelled due to lack of activity. He also mentioned that on Monday, August 14, there will be a hearing for treatment of Hart Lake.

Mr. Erickson reported that MCF is still struggling to attract and retain employees. He stated the Oceana County Fair will be in town next week. He also mentioned that on August 20, the sesqui-centennial for Mears will be celebrated.

Mr. Beggs noted that the Silver Lake Improvement and the Pentwater Improvement Boards passed their five-year plans.

Mr. Erickson inquired on the progress of the water quality in Silver Lake. Mr. Beggs responded it is slowly improving.

Mr. Morse reported on the lead lines, sewer replacement and paving projects in the Village of Shelby. He also mentioned the Oceana County Economic Alliance had changed from monthly board meetings to a board meeting every other month with sub-committee meetings on the off month. He also noted that he is the Chairperson for the Workforce Development Committee and is looking forward to working on goals as a result of a study that was recently completed.

Chairperson Walker mentioned that the Administrator informed him there are two individuals on the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board who do not wish to be re-appointed. He stated there will be a notice on the County website and asked that board members encourage anyone they felt were good candidates to contact the County Administrator.

Ms. Byard mentioned that Mr. Curtis Burdette, Workforce Development will be present at the next board meeting. She also mentioned that the housing needs will be discussed at the next board meeting as well.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Chairperson Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 11:52 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, August 10, 2023, at 10:36 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; Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana's Herald-Journal correspondent; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Walker and supported by Mr. Beggs to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2023 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. Beggs 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

Chairman Walker began discussion regarding the Blight Elimination Grant (Round 3). He stated that this time the amount is for \$500,000. He explained the process as follows:

1. the property owner places the treasurer's office on the property as a lien holder.
2. If the property is in the holder's possession for five years the lien is removed.
3. If sold before the five-year limit they have to pay it off and have structures removed.
(This is handled through the Land Bank)

Ms. Byard brought forth discussion regarding the Juneteenth holiday. The State of Michigan has added it as a paid holiday. Discussion ensued, it was suggested by Mr. Walker to either take no action or vote.

Ms. Byard also 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			\$ 6,710.00	to Pentwater Fire Department
286 - ARPA			\$ 2,394.32	to Oceana County Firefighters for reimbursement for equipment

549 - Building Department Fund	\$ 3,890.56	to Randy Miller for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
	\$ 3,353.35	to Randy Neuman for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
	\$ 1,458.41	to Sonnie Smith for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
General Fund		
101- BOC	\$ 8,522.22	to MAC for Dues.
	\$ 2,074.54	to Spectrum Printers for new Oceana County Directory's.
265 - Courthouse & Grounds	\$ 3,697.68	to City of Hart for utilities
294 - Probate Court	\$ 1,125.00	to Barkow Law company for second quarter conservator fees.
301 - Sheriff	\$ 2,598.27	to Cardmember Services for employee travel and contractual services.
	\$ 2,870.41	to Walicki's A-1 Autobody for vehicle repairs/maintenance
	\$ 9,027.67	to Wex Bank for fuel.
351 - Jail	\$ 3,135.75	to Gordon Food Service.
	\$ 4,496.02	to City of Hart for utilities
	\$ 1,166.10	to X-cel Chemical for janitorial supplies.
	\$ 15,284.39	to Advanced Correctional Healthcare for on-site medical services per contract.
430 - Animal Control	\$ 2,426.04	to Oceana Veterinary Clinic for veterinary expenses

601 - Health Department	\$ 1,097.03	to Consumers Energy for utilities.
648 - Medical Examiner	\$ 6,765.00	to WMU Homer Stryker for autopsies.
~ Total	\$ 82,092.76	

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

BUDGET TRAINING

The remaining budget trainings were held. Some budgets have already been turned in and we have started our process preparing for presenting information to the Board of Commissioners at the meeting scheduled for September 28th.

PERSONNEL POLICY

The personnel policy is being reviewed by myself and Jessica to provide a final draft to the Personnel Committee for review.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY

As stated at the previous meeting, we received a notification for a grant opportunity in the amount of up to \$2.5 million dollars. The Michigan Community Center Grant is for investing in people and revitalizing places for use on programs and capital projects. The capital projects include remodeling, purchasing equipment, installing energy efficient heating and cooling, renewable energy, weatherizing, roofs and windows and updating recreational fields. There has recently been discussion pertaining to generators and I would like to apply for generators for each of the building as well as roof and window replacement for the County Services Building. Bryan is gathering quotes for the items mentioned along with fixtures within the jail. We are exploring the possibility of a grant writer that works for another governmental organization to write the grant and submission with our assistance.

MAC UPDATE

The MAC Conference will be held October 1st – 3rd if any of the Board members are interested in attending. Please let me know so we may get that registration in.

There have been several items discussed as it relates to the State budget. The state court system fee that has been paid by counties is being eliminated. I am looking to see what that cost was for us. Counties have been paying this fee for over 30 years resulting in \$4 to \$6 million annually that has been paid to the state.

WEST CENTRAL MICHIGAN COUNTY ALLIANCE MEETING

The West Central Michigan County Alliance Meeting was held on Monday, July 31st in Big Rapids. MAC was in attendance announced that MAC MML and MTA have agreed to the creation of a revenue sharing trust fund for statutory revenue sharing for counties, cities, villages and townships and fund it through a carve out of the State’s sales tax revenue. It would include 8% or the first 4% points of the State sales tax to fund the Trust Fund and it would bring back townships that lost out on revenue sharing over the past 2 decades. There has been a hearing in the House local government showing significant support and they expect movement on this in the fall.

HB 4317 & 4318, sponsored by Representative VanderWall and Representative Neeley have passed and have been sent to the Governor for a signature. These are relating to solar PILT. These bills were also discussed in a presentation at the MTA meeting.

House Bills 4624-4643 and Senate Bills 418-437 are expected to go through the House Criminal Justice and Senate Civil Rights, Judiciary and Public Safety Committees to address and increase reimbursement from 50-75% for community base services, evidence-based practices and expansion of risk and mental health screenings.

HB 4479 is being discussed for a statewide septic code as Michigan is the only state without one. A bill will pass but there needs to be some compromise.

A presentation was held by the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan providing information on their services.

Additional Administrator's Report Items

Regarding the requested overtime hours for District Court, Ms. Byard stated that \$832.95 would be the amount for three employees working 10 hours each week. The total until the end of October would be \$9,162.45. Mr. Walker recommended using up the \$4,000 and then re-evaluate.

Ms. Byard relayed that she attended a meeting on Monday with the surrounding counties and West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC). It was the consensus of those counties to request WMSRDC to provide an estimate for services for Materials Management. Ms. Byard indicated that she is waiting for a response from them.

Ms. Byard reported that the revised County Personnel Policy has been received and is being reviewed by her and her staff in order to come up with a finalized copy for the Board to review and adopt.

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 11:04 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, August 10, 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. Byard, Oceana County Administrator, Ms. Adriana Facundo, Oceana County District Court Magistrate; Mr. Jeff Stockhill, Life EMS Director of Northern Operations; Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana's Herald-Journal correspondent; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2023, 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. Morse 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

Ms. Facundo, Oceana County District Court Magistrate was present to request overtime hours for staff members. Ms. Facundo introduced Judge Middlebrook. The reason for the request was staffing changes, income tax season from mid-July through October (income tax garnishments), and the clean slate bill went into effect. Other reasons provided were for required additional hearings and wanting to allow new employees to learn the jobs and not rush them through the process. Ms. Facundo has requested that 7-10 hours of OT per clerk per week be allowed through October. She stated that there is approximately \$4,000 extra in their line item budgeting to offset the overtime payment.

Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator, went over the HMEP FY 2022-23 Grant Application.

Mr. Stockhill, Life EMS Director of Northern Operations was present to provide the quarterly report. He indicated transports were down during the second quarter. The Electric Forest Festival was a challenge, but Montcalm County once again partnered with Life EMS.

Mr. Morse offered his appreciation to Mr. Stockhill for his efforts and improvement in promptness of reporting to the board.

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 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk