

**Board Conference Room
October 26, 2023
Board of Commissioners Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Oceana County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Walker, on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 11:31 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. Hardy, and Mr. Walker. Absent: Mr. Beggs.

Also Present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Mr. Dale Danes, Shelby Township resident; Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana's Herald-Journal correspondent; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Erickson and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2023 Regular Board Meeting and the 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. Ms. Byard requested that Motion #2023-115 be removed as it was a duplication and also to add Motion #2023-117 regarding the Snow Plow Contract and Motion #2023-118 regarding the Title IV-D reimbursement program.

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

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mr. Dale Danes, Shelby Township resident was present to express his interest in the appointment to the Department of Health and Human Services Board which also serves on the Medical Care Facility Board. He stated that he felt his prior employment at the Medical Care Facility would be beneficial to this appointment.

Agenda Items

MOTION #2023-104 – APPROVAL OF REVISED ANNEXATION OF LAND TO VILLAGE OF SHELBY

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Erickson to revise Resolution #23-09 including Exhibits A and B annexing lands to the Village of Shelby resulting in lands to be included within the corporate limits of the Village of Shelby as requested by the Village of Shelby.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-105 – APPROVAL OF REVISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR BUDGE AND PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATES

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Morse to revise Motion #2023-105 changing the date of the Public Hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 budget and property tax millage rates to be levied to support the revenue projections and expenditure commitments for Fiscal Year 2024, from Thursday

October 26, 2023 at 11:30 a.m. to Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 11:30 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room, Hart, MI.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-109 – APPROVAL OF PARKS AND RECREATION CONTRIBUTION FOR CRYSTAL VALLEY MASTER PLAN

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Hardy to approve \$2,175 for 50% of the Crystal Valley County Park Master Plan and allow the County Administrator to make the necessary adjustments.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-110 – REAPPOINTMENT TO CONSTRUCTION CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Hardy to reappoint Mr. Bill Adams and Mr. Mike Blackmer to the Construction Code Board of Appeals to expire on July 31, 2025.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-111 – OPPOSITION TO PRE-EMPTION OF LOCAL CONTROL IN SOLAR AND WIND SITING AND ZONING

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Morse to adopt resolution #23-11 opposing pre-emption of local control in solar and wind siting and zoning.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-112 – PUBLIC BUILDING AN IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Hardy to authorize the County Administrator to transfer \$200,000 from the General Funds' unassigned fund balance to the Public Improvement Fund (#445) to support future facility improvements that may be authorized by the Board of Commissioners.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-114 – APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF MAGISTRATE – 78TH DISTRICT COURT

Moved by Mr. Morse and supported by Mr. Hardy to appoint Ms. Jennifer White as the Chief Clerk/Deputy Magistrate effective immediately for the 78th District Court.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-117 – ACCEPTANCE OF SNOW PLOWING AND REMOVAL BID

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Morse to accept bid proposals for snow plowing and removal services for the 2023-2024 winter season from:

BIDDER NAME	LOCATION / GROUP #	SNOW-PLOWING	SNOW REMOVAL	SALTING
Hallack Contracting	1	150 / per		84 / per
Hallack Contracting	2	88 / per		54 / per
Beckmans	3	36 / per	--	--
Beckmans	4	44 / per	--	--

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-118 – TITLE IV-D COOPERATIVE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Morse to authorize the Chairman of the Board to execute the Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement between the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Oceana County Friend of the Court for the period of October 2023 through September 30, 2028. Said contract is for \$2,971,839 and represents 66% of the estimated eligible expenses to be reimbursed to Oceana County.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2023-116 – PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Erickson, to adopt Motion #2023-116, approving the payment of accounts payable and release of funds for October 26, 2023.

AMBULANCE	\$12,460.07
GIS	-0-
FOC	-0-
PENTWATER-HART TRAIL	985.00
SHELBY TWP COMM PARK	1,445.00
BROWNFIELD	3,522.78
AUTOMATION R.O.D.	-0-
INDIGENT DEFENSE	3,792.69
LCOT	-0-
K9 UNIT	838.42
CJT	-0-
CDBG	-0-
ARPA	13,547.79
VETERANS AFFAIRS	4,069.48

TECH & INNOVATION	11,898.80
CAPITAL PROG/EQUIP REP	-0-
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT	-0-
FORECLOSURE	-0-
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	16,168.02
GENERAL FUND	308,060.46
GRAND TOTAL	\$376,788.51

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

Motion carried.

Bid Proposals were opened and read for snowplowing and/or snow removal services on a “per hour” or “per plowing” basis for the 2023/2024 winter season for any or all of the following locations.

Location/Group #1

- County Building Parking Lot
- Sheriff’s Department Parking Lot
- Driveway Entrance to Sheriff’s Office
- County Services Building, 844 S. Griswold Street, Hart

Location/Group #2

- District Health Department #10, 3986 N. Oceana Drive
- Oceana County Emergency Ambulance Service, 3966 N. Oceana Drive, Hart
- Storage Building (North and West sides), 3970 N. Oceana Drive, Hart

Location/Group #3

- Oceana County Animal Shelter, 2185 W. Baseline Road, Shelby

Location/Group #4

- Oceana County Emergency Ambulance Service, 562 S. State Street, Shelby

Commissioner’s Reports

Mr. Morse acknowledged former Commissioner Larry Byl for his efforts in the organization of Developer Day. He also mentioned that next Thursday, November 2, 2023, the Oceana County Planning Commission will meet and approve the Master Plan. He apologized that there will be only one week for the County Commissioners to review prior to their approval. He also announced that tonight, Craig Mast, Oceana County Sheriff and Kim Cole, Mason County Sheriff will be on his pod cast to talk about ~~their trip to the US—Mexico border~~ *the consequences of living without purpose and direction*.

Mr. Erickson reported that the City of Hart TIFA has agreed to take the Congregational Church which has become available. He noted that he and Mr. Walker will be attending the Health meeting in Cadillac tomorrow. He also stated that in November, the Shoreline Ride, which will open up the Dunes for horseback riding. There will be many people attending from several states.

Chairperson Walker stated that he received a copy of the proposed IT position job description from the administrator. He stated that he would like to have the IT instructor at Ferris State University review for any additions and or corrections prior to advertisement of the position. It was also suggested that this be posted at area colleges and universities in an effort to attract applicants.

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 11:58 a.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, October 26, 2023, at 10:19 a.m., in the Board Conference Room.

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

Also Present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Mr. Bill Cummins, Oceana County Friend of the Court; Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks and Recreation Commission; Mr. Ryan Schiller, Oceana County Undersheriff; Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana's Herald-Journal correspondent; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Walker and supported by Mr. Erickson to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2023 Finance and Administration Committee meeting as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Hardy asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Ms. Byard requested the addition of Motion #2023-118 IV-D Contract.

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

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mr. Bill Cummins, Oceana County Friend of the Court, was present to request that the Board approve the Title IV-D contract. He indicated that the Title IV-D Contract would typically have been approved prior to this time, however, it is necessary to approve this before the end of October. He stated that there were some language issues that had to be cleared up between the federal government and the state. This is a five-year cooperative agreement. The total reimbursement over the five-year period would be \$4.269 million with \$2.971 million coming from the State.

Agenda Items

Ms. Byard requested consideration to adopt a revision to the Annexation Resolution #23-09. She informed the board that she contacted the attorney for the Village of Shelby and he responded that there is no need for additional publication and public hearing.

Ms. Byard requested consideration of a motion to revise the public hearing motion for the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 budget and property tax millage rate to be levied from October 26th to November 9th. The reason for this is due to the deadline for publication.

Ms. Byard requested consideration to move appropriated funds from the General Fund to the Public Building and Improvement Fund.

Ms. Byard requested consideration to reappoint Rudy Ochs, DO as the Medical Examiner for another four-year term to expire on October 1, 2027.

Ms. Byard requested consideration to appoint Jennifer White as the Chief Clerk/Deputy Magistrate for the district court.

Ms. Byard did not read the 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				
210 - Ambulance			\$ 11,330.00	to Grant Township Fire Department
239 - Shelby Twp Community Park			\$ 1,445.00	to Kennari Consulting for professional services. Fully reimbursed via private donations.
243 - Brownfield Redevelopment			\$ 3,522.78	to Fishbeck for services rendered
286 ARPA			\$ 3,047.79	to Oceana Conservation District for Land Survey, Signage and Botanical Survey.
			\$ 10,000.00	to Blackmer Construction for work done at Gale's Pond.
298 - Technology and Innovation			\$ 1,248.45	to Pivot Point Partners for 12 month subscription.
			\$ 1,258.21	to Huntington National for various Machinery & Equipment and Software.
			\$ 6,440.00	to Trace3 for Dell BOM.
			\$ 1,755.37	to SHI for Machinery and Equipment.
549 - Building Department Fund			\$ 5,960.30	to Randy Miller for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
			\$ 3,909.95	to Randy Neuman for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
			\$ 2,017.42	to Sonnie Smith for permits, residential plan reviews, and commercial plan reviews.
General Fund				
101 - BOC			\$ 6,453.58	to H Security & Investigation for courthouse security for October 2023 and September 2023 OT.

172 - Administration	\$ 2,183.80	to TASC for August thru November 2023 & Final COBRA payment.
265 - Courthouse & Grounds	\$ 1,242.50	to Republic Service for trash removal
301 - Sheriff	\$ 1,192.63	to AT&T mobility
	\$ 23,101.68	to Enterprise for fleet vehicle management.
	\$ 1,704.00	to EPS Security for security system
	\$ 7,100.00	to State of MI for records management system.
331 - Marine	\$ 4,527.31	to Emergency Services for equipment maintenance.
351 - Jail	\$ 1,463.09	to Gordon Food Service.
	\$ 1,689.97	to Correctional Recovery for medical billing services.
	\$ 4,597.80	to EPS for video installation and labor.
~ Total	\$ 107,191.63	

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

AMERICAN CLASSIC TOUR

A quarterly meeting was held with American Class to further discuss the County Transfer Station. The quarterly budget for the transfer station was reviewed. There won’t be a clear picture of what that but will look like until after the first quarter in 2024 as the increases to fees weren’t put in place until February of 2023. Commissioner Morse has forwarded contact information regarding a used scale and I will be getting in touch with him to review the specifications of the scale. They did provide a tour of their recycling facility and how the process works with plastics and glass and how that is all packaged to ship out.

BUDGET MEETING

Items will be finalized and forwarded to the board prior to approval scheduled for the November 9th Board of Commissioners meeting where a Public Hearing will be held.

Department Heads held their quarterly meeting this month. Information pertaining to the insurance renewal was shared. Definitive numbers were not provided as we do not have the exact data and will not until November. Once that information is gathered, we will be holding open enrollment. An update regarding the FY2024 budget was providing stating that the Administrator’s recommendations can now be viewed in BS&A for all funds. The process for submitting invoices into Accounts Payable for more than one fund was discussed. A reminder was provided about the annual Halloween Party. The party will be held on October 31, 2023,

Halloween, where we will be having a pot luck. We will be giving prizes for the top three costumes and a prize for the best door decorations.

Additional Administrator's Report Items

Ms. Byard stated that a bid was received for the water softener for the Sheriff Department for the amount of \$42,452. This is approximately half the price of the original bid.

Ms. Byard stated there are approximately 11 entities that are not participating in the Hazard Mitigation Plan as of yet. They are: Colfax, Crystal, Ferry, Grant, Hart Twp., Hesperia Village, Greenwood, Newfield, Otto, Walkerville Village and Weare Twp. Mr. Walker interjected that some of the fire chiefs participated in this plan and should know the importance of participating in this plan. If they do not participate they will not be eligible for any federal aid in the future.

Ms. Byard stated she has been in contact with Mr. Vaughn White, Valley City, and has given him information so that he can contact American Classic. American Classic will most likely schedule to inspect the area regarding a scale that could be used at the Transfer Station.

Department Head Reports

Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks and Recreation Commission, stated that Catskill submitted the lowest bid for the Marshville Dam removal and Stoney Creek Restoration. A walk through was done and everyone is on the same plane as far as where the soil can be moved. The next step will be to dig on the property, three weeks ago there were some Native American artifacts found. He reported that April 15, 2024 is the expected start date.

Undersheriff Schiller gave an update on hiring. He stated they were able to hire and recertify a former state trooper who will start on Friday. There is another interview slated for Friday afternoon. He also reported that he has been working on some video management projects.

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 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, October 26, 2023, at 10:01 a.m. in the Board Conference Room.

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

Also Present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator, Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks and Recreation Commission; Mr. John Cavanagh, Oceana's Herald-Journal correspondent; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2023 Properties, Environment, and Economic Development Committee as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Erickson asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Ms. Byard requested the addition of the Snow Plow Bids motion #2023-117.

Moved by Mr. Hardy 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. McKeen, Oceana County Parks and Recreation Commission (OCP&R), explained that various grants were applied for, however were denied. He stated that OCP&R is working on a Crystal Valley County Park master plan. He stated that an invoice from PM Blough and Assoc., was presented in the amount of \$4,350.00 for payment of the landscaping for the project. Crystal Township has agreed to cover \$2,175 (50%) and he believes that it would be beneficial for Oceana County to contribute and requested consideration to authorize funds in the amount of \$2,175 for the remaining portion of the invoice to facilitate the progress of the project. He indicated that this will be on the OCP&R agenda at the next meeting. Mr. Walker stated the board was aware of this project and feels the County Board should allow this expenditure.

Ms. Byard requested consideration for the reappointment of Mr. Bill Adams and Mr. Mike Blackmer to the Construction Code Board of Appeals through July 31, 2025.

Ms. Byard requested consideration to adopt Resolution #2023-11 opposing the pre-emption of local control in solar and wind siting and zoning. Mr. Morse noted that he conversed with Rep. Curtis VanderWall this morning and reported that the Statewide Septic Code and the pre-emption of local control in solar and wind siting and zoning have not been brought to the table yet, however, Sen. Bumstead and Rep. VanderWall have been working diligently on the opposition of both of these.

Ms. Byard indicated that there were two snow plowing bids received which are from the same Companies as the previous year. A bid from Hallack Contracting for locations one and two as well as Beckman Bros. for locations three and four was received. Ms. Anderson read the amounts listed on the bids.

Public Comment

Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks and Recreation indicated the Gales Pond Project is completed. Cedar Point continues to be worked on.

Chairperson Erickson asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk