

**Board Conference Room
November 14, 2024
Board of Commissioners Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Oceana County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Walker, on Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 11:42 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 Clerk Anderson. Present: Mr. Erickson, Mr. McCormick, Mr. Beggs, Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Walker.

Also Present: Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Cristine Juska, Oceana's Herald-Journal correspondent; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the minutes from the October 24, 2024 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. No additions were mentioned.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. McCormick to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Chairperson Walker suggested a CLOSED SESSION for strategy and negotiations for collective bargaining pursuant to MCL 15.268(1) (c).

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Hardy to enter into closed session at 11:44 a.m. to discuss strategy and negotiations for collective bargaining as permitted by MCL 15.268(1)(c).

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

Motion carried.

Original meeting reconvened at 12:15 am.

Agenda Items

MOTION #2024 –142- FOP TENTATIVE AGREEMENT **NO ACTION TAKEN**

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by _____, Motion 2024-142 to

Roll call vote: Mr. Hardy – 1; Mr. Erickson – ___; Mr. McCormick – ___; Mr. Beggs – ___; and Mr. Walker – ___.

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024 – 130- AMEND HEALTH INSURANCE MOTION

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Beggs, move to allow for “prescription coverage to be determined in the best interest of the county and the employees, managed by ARORx or Medtipster” due to the competitive bidding process.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024 – 132- MATERIALS MANAGEMENT APPOINTMENT

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Beggs, to appoint Mr. Donald Squire, Arbre Farms, to the Materials Management Committee as a representative of a business that generates managed materials with the term to expire on December 31, 2029.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024 – 133- MATERIALS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE APPROVAL

Moved by Mr. McCormick and supported by Mr. Erickson, to approve the complete Materials Management Committee to include members from Oceana, Mason, Lake, Newaygo and Muskegon Counties.

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

Voice vote. Motion carried.

MOTION #2024 – 134- HEALTH DEPARTMENT LEASE EXTENSION

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Hardy, to extend the lease agreement with the District 10 Health Department for five years through December 31, 2029.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024 – 135- COURTHOUSE BASEMENT CARPET

Moved by Mr. McCormick and supported by Mr. Erickson, to approve the carpet installation bid with West Michigan Carpet in the amount not to exceed \$83,000.00 with funds to be paid from the building improvement fund.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024 – 136- PARKS AND RECREATION ARPA REALLOCATION

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Beggs, to allow the Parks and Recreation to reallocate their remaining ARPA funds for Black Lake in the amount of \$33,918 for the purpose of building out the new parking area and the full addition of the 1400' boardwalk.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024 – 138- TRANSFER OF ARPA FUNDS TO GENERAL FUND

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. Hardy, to transfer the remaining ARPA Funds to the County General Fund, prior to December 31, 2024, as they were reported as revenue loss with fund balance to be used for pending projects that were approved during the ARPA process with the Administrator's office to continue tracking these items.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024 – 139- BUILDING AND GROUNDS SNOWPLOW BID

Moved by Mr. McCormick and supported by Mr. Beggs, to accept the bid proposals for snow plowing and removal services for 2024-2025 winter season as presented.

Location #1

Company Hallack Contracting Plowing Amt: \$150 Removal: N/A Salt \$84

Location #2

Company Hallack Contracting Plowing Amt: \$88 Removal: N/A Salt \$54

Location #3

Company Beckman Bros., Inc. Plowing Amt: \$35/plow Removal: N/A Salt N/A

Location #4

Company Beckman Bros., Inc. Plowing Amt: \$46/plow Removal: N/A Salt N/A

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024 – 141- PLANNING MANAGEMENT APPOINTMENT

Moved by Mr. McCormick and supported by Mr. Hardy, to appoint Erin MacGregor to the unexpired term of John Foss to the County Planning Commission to expire on December 31, 2025.

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

Motion fails.

MOTION #2024 – 143- MEDICAL EXAMINER APPOINTMENT

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Hardy to appoint Rudy Ochs, DO as the County's Medical Examiner for a four-year term through October 1, 2027.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024 – 144- TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PUBLIC SAFETY FUND

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. McCormick, to move the \$9,700 received from the Electric Forrest for the Sheriff’s Department from the General Fund to the 205 Public Safety Fund for the purpose of equipment.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION #2024-140 – PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Moved by Mr. Hardy and supported by Mr. Beggs, to approve the payment of accounts payable and release of funds for November 14, 2024.

AMBULANCE	\$278,310.73
GIS	-0-
FOC	-0-
PENTWATER-HART TRAIL	398.64
SHELBY TWP COMM PARK	-0-
BROWNFIELD	-0-
AUTOMATION R.O.D.	-0-
INDIGENT DEFENSE	31,329.75
LCOT	-0-
K9 UNIT	-0-
CJT	-0-
CDBG	-0-
ARPA	10,680.00
VETERANS AFFAIRS	11,938.65
TECH & INNOVATION	8,038.57
CAPITAL PROG/EQUIP REP	-0-
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT	84,774.20
FORECLOSURE	-0-
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	39,460.63
GENERAL FUND	481,161.73
GRAND TOTAL	\$946,092.90

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

Motion carried.

Commissioner’s Reports

Mr. Beggs praised the Veterans Affairs for the 5- k last Saturday as well as a parade.

Mr. Walker said the road commission is anxious to take over the soil sedimentation permits.

Mr. Erickson reported that the Shoreline Ride is now official in the month of November doing rides at Silver Lake Sand Dunes. There are riders coming from all over. It is becoming very popular. This has brought an increase in business for the county.

Mr. Walker stated Mr. McCormick, Dave, and Tracy went to the transfer station. Scale installation is in the works. The building that houses the service coming in has a very distressed circuit panel. Mr. McCormick and Mr. Walker decided that the maintenance supervisor should get three bids to get that fixed. It will be upgraded to 200-amp service.

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 12:42 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, November 11, 2024, at 10:46 a.m., in the Board Conference Room.

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

Also Present: Mr. Garry McKeen, Parks and Recreation; Mr. Ryan Schiller, Undersheriff; Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and supported by Mr. McCormick to approve the minutes of the Special September 24, 2024 Pages 14-16, Special October 15, 2024 Pages 17-9 and October 24, 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. Beggs 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

Administrator Byard requested the Materials Management Appointment of Don Squire with Arbre Farms as a business owner.

Administrator Byard presented Materials Management Committee List for approval.

Administrator Byard brought the District #10 Health Department Lease Agreement Extension. 5-year period

Administrator Byard presented the Basement Carpet Replacement Request. Get sample prior to approval. Discussion was to place tile type carpet so if replacement is needed it would be easier to replace. It was decided to not exceed \$82,188.43, have Buildings and Grounds work with the administrator to choose. Consensus is to go with local company.

Mr. Garry McKeen presented the Parks and Recreation Black Lake ARPA Funds Reallocation.

Mr. Garry McKeen brought forth the Planning Commission Appointment. There were three openings. Mr. Phil Morse moved into one of the positions, Ms. Erin MacGregor fits another of the openings and Mr. Mike Cramer is a person he would like to keep as a possibility if needed.

Administrator Byard brought forth the Amendment of Health Insurance Plan Motion – Prescription Coverage Vendor from Medtipster to ARORx. Mr. Walker suggested that this be approved pending the outcome of the meeting with ARORx, department heads and employees later today.

Administrator Byard presented the Medical Examiner Appointment.

Undersheriff Schiller discussed the transfer of Electric Forest Funds from the General Fund to Public Safety Fund.

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			\$ 262,103.33	to Life EMS for 4th quarter 2024 subsidy
			\$ 1,123.98	to Republic Services for dumpster service
			\$ 3,080.00	To Ferry Twp Fire Dept for 3rd quarter MFR costs
			\$ 11,000.00	to Hart Area Fire Department for 3rd quarter 2024 MFR costs
260 - Indigent Defense			\$ 16,126.50	to Good Law for court appointed attorney fees
			\$ 1,851.50	to Applewood Law Wins for court appointed attorney fees
			\$ 7,250.00	to Indigent Defense Consultants, PC for monthly services
286 - ARPA			\$ 10,680.00	to Shelby Township for reimbursement for professional services for new recreation facility.
293 - Veterans			\$ 1,000.00	to Hidden Creek Firewood for wood for veterans
			\$ 2,925.00	to TH Brands for products for public outreach
298 - Technology & Innovation			\$ 1,823.79	to Xerox Financial Services for Machinery and Equipment Rental per contract agreement.
			\$ 4,862.03	to Solid Design Software Solutions for 2025 hosting for 12 months

445 - Public Improvement	\$ 45,481.20	to GR Metrology deposit for new truck scale project
	\$ 31,793.00	to Korthase and Sons for installing new 15KVA UPS unit per proposal
	\$ 7,500.00	to Mike Blackmer Electric, INC for labor and material remodel at DHD #10
549- Building Department	\$ 3,113.35	to Kevin Greiner for inspections and permits
	\$ 1,634.91	to Sonnie Smith for inspections and permits
	\$ 3,511.23	to Lance Gates for inspections and permits
	\$ 5,240.50	to Randolph D Miller, LLC for inspections and permits
	\$ 3,655.58	to Kevin Greiner for inspections and permits
	\$ 3,737.27	to Lance Gates for inspections and permits
	\$ 6,023.40	to Randolph D Miller, LLC for inspections and permits
	\$ 2,325.64	to Sonnie Smith for inspections and permits
	\$ 5,029.00	to BS&A for annual service/support fees per contract
General Fund		
245 - Remonumentation Budget	\$ 13,982.50	to A & A Land Surveying, INC. for monumentation surveyor agreement
	\$ 5,196.00	to J. Randolph Hepworth, PS for 2024 Grant year from April 1st, 2024, to October 31st, 2024.
265 - Courthouse & Ground	\$ 3,274.84	to City of Hart for utilities
	\$ 1,541.94	to Republic Services for dumpster services

283 - Circuit Court	\$ 1,989.00	to Gary Strauss for appellate court appointed attorney fees
	\$ 4,484.73	to Laurel Young for appellate court appointed attorney fees
301 - Sheriff	\$ 9,077.55	to Wex Bank for fuel
	\$ 1,668.82	to Nye Uniforms for uniforms
351 - Jail	\$ 1,707.59	to Gordon Food Service for inmate board and janitorial supplies
	\$ 1,639.04	to Gordon Food Service for inmate board and janitorial supplies
	\$ 1,749.97	to Gordon Food Service for inmate board and janitorial supplies
	\$ 15,536.15	to Advanced Correctional Healthcare for inmate healthcare
	\$ 3,709.49	to City of Hart for utilities
528 - Transfer Station	\$ 2,000.00	to West MI Shoreline Regional Dev Comm per contract for Materials management
	\$ 19,941.55	to American Classic Dumpster for equipment rental
649 - Mental Health	\$ 10,647.92	to West Michigan CMH for September 2024 local match
~ Total		\$ 530,370.38

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

MACAO Meeting

A County Administrator meeting was held on November 6th to review membership along with financials. The group will be offering a scholarship for those in our membership to allow for continuing education if they choose to apply, however there is a cost to the applicant.

FOLLOW UP

Opioid Meeting

Dr. Lisa Williams with Community Mental Health and I worked through a list to identify stakeholders and sectors to consider for the steering committee from Amy Dolinky with MAC. Now that the budget is complete, I will prepare this list to share with our group and that will be passed on to Amy Dolinky to begin meetings to discuss priorities for Oceana County.

ARPA

ARPA was discussed at a previous meeting pertaining to the transfer of those funds to the general fund as the Board initially marked the funds to replace revenue loss. A motion is being placed on the agenda for approval to move the funds and we will monitor that amount for the purpose of projects that have already been approved.

Transfer Station Meeting

A meeting was held at the Transfer Station to discuss the location of the new scales that are being purchased. There was also discussion regarding an electrical box that needed to be replaced. Bids were obtained for that replacement and because it was under the threshold for approval, a vendor was selected, and they will be completing that work within the next couple of weeks.

Materials Management

A list has been compiled of the committee appointments. There is one appointment from Oceana County that still needs to be made and that is from a business with a managed material. We are working at getting someone to fill that position. WMSRDC has compiled that list and is asking that each county approve it. You will see this on the agenda for approval.

Additional Administrator's Report Items

There were no additional Administrator's report items at this time.

Department Head Reports

Mr. Garry McKeen, Parks and Recreation, stated the road commission would like to repave the entrance to Cedar Point Park.

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 11:32 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, November 14, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Conference Room.

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

Also Present: Mr. Jim Heremma, Deputy Director of North Operations, Life EMS; Mr. Troy Maloney, Emergency Management; Mr. Ryan Schiller, Undersheriff; Ms. Michelle Martin, Drain Commission; Ms. Byard, Oceana County Administrator; and Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk.

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the minutes of the September 12, 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. Erickson 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. Jim Heremma, Deputy Director of North Operations, Life EMS provided the quarterly report. He stated that there were 748 ambulance transports completed. Life EMS provided special event coverage for the Touch a Truck event held at Woodland Shores Campground and the National Night Out held at the Shelby Twp. Park. The new ambulance station near Ferry is completed and operational. He noted that an open house will be held today and invited the commissioners to attend. He also reported that Life EMS became the first EMS provider in the WORLD to take delivery of the latest pre-hospital monitor/defibrillator from Stryker, the Life Pak 35. Lastly there were 10 requests for fire standbys with over 13 hours of coverage for the health and safety of local firefighters.

Department Head Report

Ms. Michelle Martin, Drain Commissioner, acknowledged her appreciation of John Warner for his eight years of his employment with the County. She stated that his engineering experience has been a plus. She also noted that his farewell ceremony will be Friday, November 22 and encouraged the commissioners to attend.

Mr. Troy Maloney, Oceana County Emergency Management, stated the Active Assailant training was held at the court house in mid-October. He added that next year there will also be stop the bleed training. Mr. Maloney reported a two-county school notification system project for tracking incidents going on in the school is in progress. He also reported he has begun tracking priority MFR's with 1's being 306, 2's -351 and 3's- 83.

Undersheriff Ryan Schiller, talked about staffing issues. He noted there will be a retirement in a couple of weeks and one employee has left employment for another agency. He had proposed to Ms. Byard the sponsoring of a new hire using Public Safety Grant funds as well as MI Works education funding to hire a new employee and send them to the police academy. The employee would complete the program by the end of May 2025.

Mr. Walker noted that based on county policy in regard to replacing an employee, Ms. Byard has the authority to authorize the hiring of a replacement employee. He asked the Board if they supported

allowing Ms. Byard to authorize the sponsorship as well. They agreed. He noted the difficulties in obtaining law enforcement employees due to lower graduate numbers from area police academies and the benefits of the fast-track sponsorship programs. He thanked the Undersheriff for bringing the issue before the Board and keeping them informed.

Undersheriff Ryan Schiller also reported the generator system placement and the electrical change over took place last Friday as well as the water softener installation. He also mentioned Charter is pulling wires in the jail to update connectivity. The current population in the jail is 52.

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 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk