

The regular meeting of the Oceana County Planning Commission was called to order by Chairperson McKeen on Thursday, April 3, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. in the Oceana County Board of Commissioners Room, 100 S. State St, Hart, Michigan 49420.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair McKeen led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Garry McKeen, Secretary John Stivers, Bryan Broderick, Joel McCormick, Pete Roskam and David Spitler.

Absent: Paul Cutter, Phil Morse and Scott Rumsey.

Guest: James Kelly, MSDU Extension Regional Director, District 5

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

March 3, 2025, Minutes of the Oceana County Planning Commission meeting:

Motion to approve made by Broderick with second by Spitler. Motion was approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No revisions or additions.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public comments.

FINANCE REVIEW

The report for month ending March 31, 2025, was included in the commissioners' packet. Only payroll and travel expenses were posted.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Stephen Carlson of West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) sent a letter to the Oceana County Planning Commission Chair indicating the completions of the proposed draft of the Blue Lake Township Development Plan.
2. Steven Micklin, Zoning Administrator, Newfield Township, sent a letter dated February 28, 2025, to the Oceana County Planning Commission with a copy of the application for a gravel pit / mining operation planned for 7400 E. M-20, Hesperia, MI, requesting comment. The planned review at their Planning Commission occurred

prior to this meeting. Commissioners discussed remediation requirements for this type of operation.

PRESENTATION

James Kelly provided an overview of MSU Extension, indicating Oceana County, along with Muskegon, Mason, Newaygo, and Lake, is in District 5 of 13 across the state. He gave an overview of the services provided. Agriculture services in our area includes the AgBio Research Center in Hart. Community Food and Environment services include the programs presented by Mary Reilly on planning and open meetings act. Child and Youth services includes the 4H programs. Health and Nutrition services are provided across the five counties. Kelly answered commissioners programs.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair McKeen reported he had attended the Oceana County Road Commission meeting and the Oceana County Commissioners meeting.

McKeen reported on setting up the training program scheduled for April 24, 6:30 – 8:30 pm on Michigan's Open Meeting Act, with Mary Reilly of MSU Extension.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Chair McKeen provided additional details, including registration, for the April 24, training program on Michigan's Open Meeting Act. The program will be held at the Oceana County Services Building, 844 S. Griswold St., Hart.

Chair McKeen solicited ideas for speakers for future Planning Commission meetings. Craig Mast, Oceana Sherriff has been invited and will speak about the need for a new jail. Discussion included the potential of a Flock Safety system under consideration that uses cameras primarily along the roadway to read vehicle license plates, vehicle types and records them with the time and date for use by law enforcement. The proposal being considered would include entrances to schools. The provider has offered the system on a trial basis at no cost.

Chair McKeen indicated that Curtis Burdett, executive director of Oceana County Economic Alliance is also a potential future speaker.

Letter from WMSRDC concerning Blue Lake Township Development Plan was acknowledged. No action taken.

Letter from Newfield Township concerning the gravel pit operation was acknowledged. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

Pursuant to the Oceana County Planning Commission Ordinance, and as outline in the Bylaws, membership to the Planning Commission shall represent an important segment of the community. The following is the assigned representations:

1. Agriculture and forestry – John Stivers
2. Educations – Scott Rumsey
3. Recreation and tourism – Garry McKeen
4. Industrial and economic – Pete Roskam
5. Transportation and roads – Bryan Broderick
6. Housing, health and human services – David Spilter
7. County Board of Commissioners – Joel McCormick
8. Environmental and water quality – Paul Cutter
9. Municipal Government – Phil Morse

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

McKeen reported on activities at the County Parks. Work on the fishing access ramp at Marshville Dam County Park is underway, but the balance of telephone poles needed to support it may be difficult to acquire following the ice storm in northern Michigan. Paving of the parking area is scheduled for June 20.

Cedar Point County Park was awarded a \$4,530 grant from the Community Foundation to help fund the ADA project at the park.

Black Lake Campground is set to open May 1, 2025.

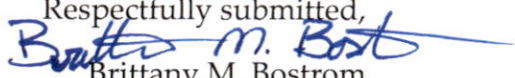
PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair McKeen adjourned the meeting at 2:18 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., in the Oceana County Board of Commissioners Room, 100 S State Street, Hart, Michigan.

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany M. Bostrom

On behalf of John Stivers, Secretary for Oceana County Planning Commission