

OAKLAND COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS MINUTES

January 26, 2023

Meeting called to order by Caucus Vice Chairperson Janet Jackson at 5:17 p.m. in the Courthouse Committee Room A, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Pontiac, Michigan.

Roll called.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Cavell, Gershenson, Jackson, Johnson, Luebs, Markham, McGillivray, Miller, Powell, Raman, Smith Charles, Woodward. (12)
EXCUSED ABSENCE WITH NOTICE: Nelson. (1)

Quorum present.

No one addressed the Caucus during Public Comment #1.

Moved by Luebs seconded by McGillivray the minutes of the January 12, 2023 Caucus be approved.

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, the minutes were approved.

The members of the Caucus discussed the Board Agenda.

Commissioner Miller addressed the Caucus regarding the new seating arrangement for the Board of Commissioners meetings.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss the five main topics for tonight's Caucus: Commissioner Nelson's resignation as Caucus Chairperson, Commissioner Nelson's resignation as Chairperson of the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee, the Rules of the Board, Transit Ad-Hoc Committee and the County Road Commission.

Vice Chairperson Janet Jackson addressed the Caucus to read communications from Caucus Chairperson Kristen Nelson resigning from her position as Chairperson of the Majority Caucus and Chairperson of the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee.

Democratic Caucus Minutes Continued. January 26, 2023

Moved by Miller seconded by Powell to accept the resignation of Kristen Nelson as the Chairperson of the Majority Caucus and the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee.

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, the resignation was accepted.

Vice Chairperson Janet Jackson addressed the Caucus to recognize Commissioner Nelson for her work as Chairperson of the Majority Caucus and the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee and thank her for all of her work as Chairperson.

Commissioner Miller addressed the Caucus to nominate Janet Jackson as Majority Caucus Chairperson. Seconded by Powell.

Discussion followed.

Roll Call vote:

AYES: Gershenson, Jackson, Johnson, Luebs, Markham, McGillivray, Miller, Powell, Raman, Smith Charles, Woodward, Cavell (12)
NAYS: None (0)

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, Janet Jackson was confirmed as Majority Caucus Chairperson.

Commissioner Luebs addressed the Caucus to nominate Ajay Raman as Caucus Vice-Chairperson. Seconded by Miller.

Commissioner Cavell addressed the Caucus to nominate himself as Caucus Vice-Chairperson. Seconded by Jackson.

Roll call vote:

CAVELL: Jackson, Johnson, McGillivray, Powell, Woodward, Cavell, Smith Charles, Gershenson (8).
RAMAN: Luebs, Markham, Miller, Raman (4).

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, Charles Cavell was confirmed as Majority Caucus Vice Chairperson.

Commissioner Luebs addressed the Caucus to nominate Gary McGillivray as Chairperson of the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee. Seconded by Gershenson.

Democratic Caucus Minutes Continued. January 26, 2023

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, Gary McGillivray was confirmed as Chairperson of the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee.

Commissioner Powell addressed the Caucus to nominate Brendan Johnson as Vice Chairperson of the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee. Seconded by Gershenson.

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, Brendan Johnson was confirmed as Vice Chairperson of the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to inform the Commissioners that a resolution appointing Eric McPherson to the Oakland County Board of County Road Commissioners will be introduced at tonight's Board Meeting. He stated that Suspension of the Rules for an immediate vote will be requested.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus regarding the 2023-24 Board Rules Study Group.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to inform the Caucus that the following Commissioners will be appointed to the 2023-24 Board Rules Study Group: Commissioner Jackson (Chairperson), McGillivray, Gershenson, Powell, Woodward and Spisz. The following Commissioners expressed interest in serving: Cavell (Chair), Johnson, Markham, Raman and Powell. Commissioner Woodward stated that Commissioners Gingell and Long would represent the Minority Caucus and that he and Commissioner Gershenson would serve as ex-officio members of the committee.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus regarding the Transit Oversight Ad Hoc Committee.

Discussion followed.

Robert Wittenberg, Oakland County Treasurer, addressed the Caucus regarding the prevention of tax foreclosures in Oakland County and listed several programs designed to assist at risk homeowners.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Powell addressed the Caucus to announce she is holding a town hall on February 18, 2023.

No one addressed the Caucus during Public Comment #2:

Democratic Caucus Minutes Continued. January 26, 2023

The Caucus adjourned at 7:06 p.m. until February 16, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

LISA BROWN
Clerk

JANET JACKSON
Caucus Chairperson