

OAKLAND COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS MINUTES

May 26, 2021

Meeting called to order by Caucus Chairperson Kristen Nelson at 5:08 p.m. via Videoconference.

Roll called.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Cavell from Ferndale in Oakland County, Charles from Southfield in Oakland County, Gershenson from Bloomfield Township in Oakland County, Jackson from Southfield in Oakland County, Luebs from Clawson in Oakland County, Markham from Ludington in Mason County, McGillivray from Madison Heights in Oakland County, Miller from Farmington in Oakland County, Nelson from Waterford Township in Oakland County, Powell from Pontiac in Oakland County, Woodward from Royal Oak in Oakland County. (11)

EXCUSED ABSENCE WITH NOTICE: None. (0)

Quorum present.

The following person addressed the Caucus during Public Comment: Sandy Spencer.

Moved by Luebs seconded by Markham the minutes of the May 13, 2021 Caucus be approved.

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

The members of the Caucus discussed the Board Agenda.

Chairperson Kristen Nelson addressed the Caucus and stated that there are five new honorary/memorial resolutions on the Consent Agenda presented by the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee.

Commissioner Luebs addressed the Caucus and stated that the first five resolutions on the Consent Agenda for the Public Health and Safety Committee are for grant approvals and Public Health and Safety Committee item d. entitled: Sheriff's Office – Fiscal Year

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2021 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) – Grant Application. She stated that this grant will be used to fund the addition of two positions to the Sheriff's Office. The positions will be Wellness Coordinator and Mental Wellness Consultant. She also spoke on Public Health and Safety Committee item e. entitled: Prosecuting Attorney – Fiscal Year 2021 Victim Rights Grant Amendment #1 Changes to Staffing Level. She stated that this is due to a change in leadership structure.

Commissioner Luebs addressed the Caucus regarding Public Health and Safety Committee item f. entitled: Health and Human Services/Health Division – Nurse, Education, Practice, Quality and Retention – Registered Nurses in Primary Care Grant Amendment #1 Over 15%. She stated that the Oakland Community Health Network will present a year-end review to the Public Health and Safety Committee.

Commissioner Markham addressed the Caucus regarding Finance Committee item b. entitled: Board of Commissioners – Acceptance of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Funding from the United States Government. She stated that the resolution will be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda due to an amendment that will be offered by Commissioner Kowall.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Luebs addressed the Caucus to inform the Commissioners that a meeting of the Fair Housing Initiative Committee will be held on June 3, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus and stated that he is forming a Committee for the proposed Oakland County Sheriff's Office Training Center. The Committee will review the RFP's for design. He asked for a volunteer to sit on the Committee.

Commissioner Powell addressed the Caucus to volunteer to sit on the Oakland County Sheriff's Office Training Center Committee.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus regarding informational postcards for Commissioner mailings. He is arranging for photographs for any Commissioners who need to update.

Discussion followed.

Chairperson Kristen Nelson addressed the Caucus to inform the Commissioners that Commissioner Joliat will be introducing a new proposed miscellaneous resolution entitled: Board of Commissioners – Funding for Oakland County Townships to Rebuild and Improve the Road Infrastructure in Subdivisions. She also stated that there is one resolution on the suspension list for tonight's meeting entitled: Sheriff's Office – 2021 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program – Grant Application.

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Discussion followed.

Chairperson Kristen Nelson addressed the Caucus to announce that Oakland County has been selected for four Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties for the following initiatives:

Oakland Together Lifeline

Clean, Drain, Dry, Dispose Program to Prevent Invasive Species

Oakland County Native Plant Initiative

Oakland Together School Nurse Hotline

She also thanked the Board of Commissioners staff for all of their assistance and hard work on these award-winning initiatives.

Commissioner Charles addressed the Caucus to give an update on the OAKSTEM 2021 Street Tree Program.

Commissioner Powell addressed the Caucus to confirm that the Board of Commissioners and Standing Committees will resume in-person meetings the week of June 8, 2021.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Cavell addressed the Caucus to inform everyone that there is a Special Meeting of the Fair Housing Initiatives Committee scheduled for June 3, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. Fair Housing Advocacy Groups from Oakland County will be in attendance.

Discussion followed.

The Caucus adjourned at 8:59 p.m. until June 17, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

LISA BROWN
Clerk

KRISTEN NELSON
Caucus Chairperson