



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1200 N. Telegraph Road, Bldg. 12 East, Pontiac, MI 48341

Board of Commissioners

David T. Woodward, Chair
February 7, 2024 at 6:00 PM

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair David T. Woodward called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 06:24 PM in the Commissioners' Auditorium, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, 12 E, Pontiac, MI 48341.

2. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linnie Taylor, Brendan Johnson, Charles Cavell, Yolanda Smith Charles, Ajay Raman, Penny Luebs, Ann Erickson Gault, Angela Powell, Kristen Nelson, Gwen Markham, Marcia Gershenson, David Woodward, Michael Gingell, Christine Long, Philip Weipert, Robert Hoffman, Karen Joliat, William Miller III, Michael Spisz (19)

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH NOTICE: (0)

3. Invocation - Ann Erickson Gault

4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

5. Approval of Minutes

a. Clerk/Register of Deeds - dated January 18, 2024

Resolution #2024-3805 _

Penny Luebs moved **approval of the Minutes dated January 18, 2024, as presented.** Seconded by Karen Joliat.

Motion Passed.

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, the January 18, 2024, Minutes were approved.

6. Approval of Agenda

Yolanda Smith Charles moved **approval of the agenda, as presented.** Seconded by Karen Joliat.

Motion Passed.

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, the agenda was approved, as presented.

7. Presentations

a. Board of Commissioners - Proclamation - Sally Huang

Resolution #2024-3866 _

Commissioner Penny Luebs and Commissioner Ann Erickson Gault addressed the Board to read a proclamation honoring Sally Huang. Sally is the monthly winner of the Oakland County Water Resources calendar themed "We Can All Help Keep Oakland County's Lakes, River, Streams and Watershed Clean". Her art work, entitled: "Save Water, Save Nature, Save Life", is this month's winner out of 600 submissions. The artwork will be displayed in the WRC monthly calendar for March.

Sally Huang addressed the Board.

b. Board of Commissioners - Proclamation - Black History Month

Resolution #2024-3868 _

Commissioner Linnie Taylor, Commissioner Yolanda Smith Charles and Commissioner Angela Powell addressed the Board to present a proclamation honoring Black History Month. The Oakland County Board of Commissioners joins with the entire Black community to reflect on their contributions to and sacrifices for our country, and we commit to continuing the work toward justice, inclusion and equity for all residents.

8. Communications

a. Board of Commissioners - CE Appointment - Oakland County Art Institute Authority

Resolution #2024-3851 _

Lisa Brown, Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds, addressed the Board to read a communication from David Coulter, Oakland County Executive, appointing Bo Cheng to the Board of Directors of the Oakland County Art Institute Authority for completion of the current term through the next term ending on May 22, 2028.

b. Board of Commissioners - CE Appointment - Oakland County Senior Advisory Council - District #8 Representative

Resolution #2024-3869 _

Lisa Brown, Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds, addressed the Board to read a communication from David Coulter, Oakland County Executive, appointing Robert Whitcomb to the Oakland County Senior Advisory Council as the Representative for District #8.

c. Board of Commissioners - CE Appointment - Oakland County Senior Advisory Council - District #12 Representative

Resolution #2024-3875 _

Lisa Brown, Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds addressed the Board to read a communication from David Coulter, Oakland County Executive, appointing Rusty Rosman to the Oakland County Senior Advisory Council as the Representative for District #12.

- d. **Board of Commissioners - Grant Exception - HUD Office of Housing Counseling Comprehensive Housing Counseling Grant**

Resolution #2024-3884 _

Lisa Brown, Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds addressed the Board to read a communication from Chair David Woodward notifying the Board that he has authorized the submission of the following grant application:

Name: HUD Office of Housing Counseling Comprehensive Housing Counseling Grant

Department: Health and Human Services - Neighborhood and Housing Development

Amount: Unknown (FY 22 Grant amount total award was \$51,149)

Grant Application Deadline: February 8, 2024

Robert Hoffman moved to receive and file the communications, and confirm the appointments. Seconded by Gwen Markham.

Motion Passed.

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, the communications were received and filed, and the appointments confirmed.

9. Public Comment

The following people addressed the Board during Public Comment #1: Sylvia Orduno.

Reports of Standing Committees

Consent Agenda

10. Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee - Yolanda Smith Charles

- a. **Board of Commissioners - Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriation with the Township of West Bloomfield for Tri-Party Road Improvement Program – Project No. 57441**

Resolution #2024-3740 _

Report #2024-3740

Yolanda Smith Charles moved to **approve Project No. 57441 submitted by the Township of West Bloomfield and authorize the transfer of Tri-Party Road Improvement Program funds in the amount of \$560,000 from Non-Departmental Transfers appropriation (9090101); further, that the FY 2024 budget shall be amended as described in the attached Schedule A –**

Budget Amendment; further, that the Oakland County Clerk is requested to forward copies of this resolution to the Road Commission for Oakland County, Oakland County Fiscal Services, and the Community. Seconded by Michael Gingell.

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (19-0-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Penny Luebs, Karen Joliat, Kristen Nelson, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

No: None

Abstain: None

Attachments:

1. 57441_Schedule A-Budget Amendment
2. 57441_Tri-Party_W.BloomfieldTwp

- b. Board of Commissioners - Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriation with the Township of Commerce for Tri-Party Road Improvement Program – Project No. 57651**

**Resolution #2024-3741 _
Report #2024-3741**

Yolanda Smith Charles moved to **approve Project No. 57651 submitted by the Township of Commerce and authorize the transfer of Tri-Party Road Improvement Program funds in the amount of \$24,380 from Non-Departmental Transfers appropriation (9090101); further, that the FY 2024 budget shall be amended as described in the attached Schedule A – Budget Amendment; further, that the Oakland County Clerk is requested to forward copies of this resolution to the Road Commission for Oakland County, Oakland County Fiscal Services, and the Community. Seconded by Michael Gingell.**

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (19-0-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Penny Luebs, Karen Joliat, Kristen Nelson, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

No: None

Abstain: None

Attachments:

1. 57651_Schedule A-Budget Amendment

2. 57651_Tri-Party_CommerceTwp

c. **Water Resources Commissioner - Appointment of Deputies to the Water Resources Commissioner**

Resolution #2024-3756 _

Report #2024-3756

Yolanda Smith Charles moved to **approve the appointment of WRC Manager Brian Coburn, P.E.; WRC Manager Gary Nigro, P.E.; and WRC Manager and Chief Legal Officer Kelsey Cooke as additional deputies of the Water Resources Commissioner; further that the additional deputies shall have the authority to carry out all functions and duties of the office of the Water Resources Commissioner in the event that the Water Resources Commissioner is otherwise unable to carry out the duties of the office; further that said appointments shall be effective upon the signature by the Chair of the Board of Commissioners and shall have no effect on the Merit Rules status of the employees identified herein.** Seconded by Michael Gingell.

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (19-0-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Penny Luebs, Karen Joliat, Kristen Nelson, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

No: None

Abstain: None

Attachment:

1. 2024-01-31 EDI Committee Cover Memo WRC Deputy Appointments

d. **Economic Development - Business Development - Grant Amendment #2 to the Brownfield Redevelopment Grant with Michigan Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) for the Webster Community Center Project - Pontiac**

Resolution #2024-3794 _

Report #2024-3794

Yolanda Smith Charles moved to **accept the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) Brownfield Redevelopment Program – Renew Michigan Grant Amendment which would be effective as of the date of contract execution and continuing until December 31, 2025, in the amount of \$575,000; further, the Chair of the Board of Commissioners is authorized to execute the grant amendment award and to approve any grant extensions or changes, within fifteen percent (15%) of the original award, which are consistent with the original award as approved; further, that acceptance of this grant amendment does not obligate the County to any future commitment and continuation of this**

program is contingent upon continued future levels of grant funding; further, that the FY2024 budget shall be amended as detailed in the attached Schedule A – Budget Amendment. Seconded by Michael Gingell.

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (19-0-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Penny Luebs, Karen Joliat, Kristen Nelson, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

No: None

Abstain: None

Attachments:

1. ED_2021 Michigan EGLE Brownfield Redevelopment Amend_Sch. A
2. Grant Review Sign-Off
3. EGLE WEBSTER Pontiac Grant AMENDMENT COMBINED

11. Finance Committee - Gwen Markham

- a. Board of Commissioners - Program Sponsorship with City of Huntington Woods for Antiracist Parenting Educational Workshops**

Resolution #2023-3677 _

Report #2023-3677

Yolanda Smith Charles moved to **approve the one-time use of \$3,000 appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2024 Board of Commissioners General Fund Special Projects line-item budget for the purpose of supporting programming with City of Huntington Woods for Antiracist Parenting Educational Workshops; further, approve and authorize the Board Chair to execute any required agreements on behalf of Oakland County.** Seconded by Michael Gingell.

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (19-0-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Penny Luebs, Karen Joliat, Kristen Nelson, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

No: None

Abstain: None

Attachments:

1. HW DEI Report

2. Anti-Racism Advisory Committee for the City of Huntington Woods
- b. **Health & Human Services - Acceptance from the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists for the Data Science Team Training Program**

Resolution #2024-3736 _

Report #2024-3736

Yolanda Smith Charles moved to **accept the 2024 Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) grant award in the amount up to \$12,000 for the period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 and to amend the FY 2024 budget as detailed in the attached Schedule A.**

Seconded by Michael Gingell.

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (19-0-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Penny Luebs, Karen Joliat, Kristen Nelson, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

No: None

Abstain: None

Attachments:

1. HHS_2024 Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists_Sch. A
 2. Grant Acceptance Sign Off
 3. DSTT agreement language
 4. DSTT Portal Acceptance Questions
 5. DSTT-Acceptance-Letter
- c. **Health & Human Services - Amendment #2 to the FY 2024 Emerging Threats Local Health Department Agreement from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services**

Resolution #2023-3661 _

Report #2023-3661

Yolanda Smith Charles moved to **accept Amendment #2 to the Fiscal Year 2024 Emerging Threats Local Health Department Agreement totaling \$2,080,502 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024, and authorize the Chair of the Board of Commissioner to execute the agreement; further, amend the FY 2024 budget as detailed in attached Schedule A.** Seconded by Michael Gingell.

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (19-0-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Penny Luebs, Karen Joliat, Kristen Nelson, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith

Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault,
Linnie Taylor
No: None
Abstain: None

Attachments:

1. HHS_2024 Emerging Threats_Amend#2_Sch. A
2. Grant Review Sign-Off
3. Amendment #2 ATT III
4. Amendment #2 ATT IV
5. Amendment #2 ATT I
6. Amendment #2 Contract draft

Regular Agenda

12. Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee - Brendan Johnson

- a. **Board of Commissioners - Supporting Senate Bills 0549-0551 and House Bills 5088-5090 to Create a Low-Income Water Residential Affordability Program and the Water Shutoff Protection Act**

Resolution #2024-3737 _ 24-6

MR #24006

Resolution Supporting Senate Bills 0549-0551 and House Bills 5088-5090 to Create a Low-Income Water Residential Affordability Program and the Water Shutoff Protection Act

Sponsored By: Charles Cavell

WHEREAS in October 2023, a package of Water Affordability bills was introduced in the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives which, if enacted, would establish a first-in-the-nation statewide program to provide eligible low-income households with water bill payments considered affordable based on national standards, along with a sustainable funding source to support the program and provide protections from water service shutoffs; and

WHEREAS Senate Bill 0549 and House Bill 5088 would create a low-income water residential affordability program under which qualifying individuals would not pay more than an average of 3% of their household income for water services and, if eligible, receive arrearage forgiveness for past-due water bills and household plumbing repairs to prevent water loss; and

WHEREAS Senate Bill 0550 and House Bill 5089 would create the low-income water affordability fund within the Michigan Department of Treasury using a \$2 per month, per retail water metered account funding factor which would be used as a dedicated funding source to support the low-income residential water affordability program; and

WHEREAS the bills would, among other things, ensure that water utility providers would recover the full cost of providing services to eligible and

enrolled customers; and

WHEREAS Senate Bill 0551 and House Bill 5090 would create the “Water Shutoff Protection Act” which would require water utility providers to give various forms of notice to residential customers prior to the disconnection of water service due to non-payment and to prevent water service termination for individuals meeting critical care customer requirements where life would be at imminent risk without household water services; and

WHEREAS in 2021, with funding from a grant by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, the office of the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner, which operates and maintains water and sewer systems for 22 municipalities in Oakland County, conducted a nearly two-year study to create a plan to improve water affordability in Oakland County and beyond without compromising water quality or safety which included, among other things, recommendations for a statewide affordability program aligned with the proposed Water Affordability legislation; and

WHEREAS the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner and members of his staff were selected by Senator Stephanie Chang to participate in a stakeholder workgroup that developed the Water Affordability bills and to provide testimony before Michigan Senate and House committees regarding the impact of the bills on the fiscal stability of water utilities and the need for affordable water services to protect public health and safety; and

WHEREAS current programs that provide financial assistance to households for water bills, like the Water Residential Assistance Program offered by the Great Lakes Water Authority, have limited funding and are intended to provide short-term and temporary aid to low-income households; and

WHEREAS the average inflation-adjusted water costs have roughly doubled (increased by 188%) for the state as a whole since 1980 and the cost of water service, on average, has increased at a faster rate than all other essential goods and services, except health care; and

WHEREAS customers who cannot afford to pay their water bills are at risk of their water service being shut off, having property tax liens on their homes that can result in foreclosure, and other potentially devastating consequences leading to housing insecurity and harm to personal health, dignity, and family relationships; and

WHEREAS the inability of customers to afford water services also impacts water utility providers through uncollected or delayed revenue, increased operational costs, and deferred infrastructure maintenance or replacement; and

WHEREAS the Oakland County Board of Commissioners recognizes that access to affordable water services is necessary to protect public health and is essential for the fiscal stability of water service providers, and critical to the resilience and prosperity of Oakland County and all Michigan residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Oakland County Board of Commissioners supports Senate Bills 0549-0551 and House Bills 5088-5090 to create a low-income water residential affordability program and the "Water Shutoff Protection Act" and urges the Michigan Legislature to adopt these bills.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds is requested to forward copies of this adopted resolution to the Oakland County Executive, the Governor of the State of Michigan, the State Senate Majority and Minority leaders, the State House Speaker and Minority leader, the members of the Oakland County delegation to the Michigan Legislature, and the Board of Commissioners' legislative lobbyist

Brendan Johnson moved to **adopt the attached Supporting Senate Bills 0549-0551 and House Bills 5088-5090 to Create a Low-Income Water Residential Affordability Program and the Water Shutoff Protection Act.** Seconded by Charles Cavell.

Discussion followed.

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (13-6-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Penny Luebs, Kristen Nelson, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

No: Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Karen Joliat, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert

Abstain: None

- b. **Human Resources - 2024 Supplemental Collective Bargaining Agreement for Employees Represented by the United Auto Workers, Local 889 (UAW), Representing Board of Commissioner Supervisory Employees**

Resolution #2024-3760 _

Report #2024-3760

Brendan Johnson moved to **approve the proposed Supplemental Agreement between the County of Oakland and the United Auto Workers, Local 889, covering the period of February 7, 2024, through September 30, 2024, for supervisory employees in the Board of Commissioners' Department; further that the Board Chairperson, on behalf of the County of Oakland, is authorized to execute said supplemental agreements as attached.**

Seconded by William Miller III.

Discussion followed.

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (17-2-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Penny Luebs, Karen Joliat, Kristen Nelson, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

No: Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell

Abstain: None

Attachment:

1. BOC Supervisory Supplement

c. Board of Commissioners - Building Authority Appointment - Tony Sievert

Resolution #2023-3606 _

Report #2023-3606

Brendan Johnson moved to **appoint Tony Sievert to the Building Authority for a three-year term beginning February 7, 2024, and ending December 31, 2026.** Seconded by William Miller III.

Discussion followed.

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (13-6-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Penny Luebs, Robert Hoffman, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

No: Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Karen Joliat, Kristen Nelson, Christine Long, Philip Weipert

Abstain: None

Attachments:

1. BuildingAuthorityArticlesFinal
2. Sievert - BAapp

Board of Commissioners - Gingell Amendment #1

Resolution #2024-3885 _

Michael Gingell moved to **to appoint Tony Sievert to the Building Authority for a three-year term beginning February 7, 2024, and ending December 31, 2026; further, the appointee shall resign from all Political Action Committees (PAC) within 30 days contingent upon their appointment.**

Seconded by Christine Long.

Discussion followed.

Motion Failed.

Vote Summary (6-13-0)

Yes: Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Karen Joliat, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert

No: David Woodward, Penny Luebs, Kristen Nelson, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

Abstain: None

- d. **Board of Commissioners - Oakland Community Health Network
Appointment - Dennis Cowan, Dr. Yolanda Giles, Adam Fuhrman, Dr. Bijaya Hans**

Resolution #2024-3723 _

Report #2024-3723

Brendan Johnson moved to **re-appoint the following: Adam Fuhrman, as Primary Consumer; Dennis Cowan, as Secondary Consumer; Dr. Bijaya Hans, as Secondary Consumer; and Dr. Yolanda Giles, as Mental Health Provider, to the Oakland Community Health Network for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2027.** Seconded by Robert Hoffman.

Motion Passed.

Vote Summary (19-0-0)

Yes: David Woodward, Michael Spisz, Michael Gingell, Penny Luebs, Karen Joliat, Kristen Nelson, Christine Long, Robert Hoffman, Philip Weipert, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Marcia Gershenson, William Miller III, Yolanda Smith Charles, Charles Cavell, Brendan Johnson, Ajay Raman, Ann Erickson Gault, Linnie Taylor

No: None

Abstain: None

Attachments:

1. OCHNCurrentMembers
2. Cowan - SecConsApp
3. Fuhrman - PrimConsApp
4. Fuhrman - PrimConsRes
5. Hans - SecConsApp
6. Giles - MHProviderApp

13. New & Miscellaneous Business

- a. **Board of Commissioners - Sponsorship of the MiCorps Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program**

Resolution #2024-3882 _

Report #2024-3882

Committee Referral Sponsorship of the MiCorps Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program

Sponsored By: Marcia Gershenson

Approve the one-time use of \$50,000 appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2024 Board of Commissioners General Fund Special Projects line-item budget for the purpose of sponsoring the 2024 MiCorps Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program; further, approve and authorize the Board Chair to execute any required agreements on behalf of Oakland County.

The Chair referred the report to the Finance Committee. There were no objections.

14. Announcements

Michael Gingell addressed the Caucus about a letter regarding indirect costs and rates for contracted dispatch services that was sent to local jurisdictions by the Sheriff's Office.

Discussion followed.

Michael Spisz addressed the Board to thank the Commissioners for providing extra funding to cope with the issues created by the Oxford High School shooting.

Ajay Raman addressed the Board to announce that the Acorn2Oak initiative mini grant program for Oakland County students ages 8 - 18 was launched last week.

Marcia Gershenson addressed the Board to remind everyone that Lisa Brown, Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds, will be participating in the Dancing with the Stars fundraiser on March 9th, 2024, at the San Marino Club in Troy.

Discussion followed.

Kristen Nelson addressed the Board to announce the Senior Volunteerism Grant program available to Oakland County non-profits that provide senior centered activities.

15. Public Comment

The following people addressed the Board during Public Comment #2: Tony Sievert, Kevin Sugg and Jenny Jarvis.

16. Adjournment to February 29, 2024, or the Call of the Chair

The meeting adjourned at 07:26 P.M.