

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Joe Brehler, Brian Droscha, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, and Barbara Rogers.

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Jim Mott, Scott Hansen; Ben Dawson, Melissa Ballard, Tim Vandermark, Melanie Achenbach, Amy Etzel, Diana Bosworth, and Connie Sobie.

The November 9, 2023 meeting of the Ways and Means Committee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Mulder.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Commissioner Augustine moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to approve the October 13, 2023 minutes. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

No limited public comment.

Equalization Director Tim Vandermark presented and reviewed the 2023 Apportionment Report. Mr. Vandermark indicated that the report presented will be changed due to an update from Delta Township. The amended report will be available for the Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the 2023 Apportionment Report to the Board of Commissioners, as amended. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

Human Resources Director Ben Dawson presented the positions update. Commissioner Brehler moved to refill the position vacancies as presented. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A recommendation from Public Works and Planning was made to amend the position allocation list to include a part-time Recycling Center Operator. These duties are currently being performed by a contractor who is retiring. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend amending the position allocation list to include a part-time Recycling Center Operator to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Brehler seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

The non-union holiday schedule for 2024 was presented. Commissioner Augustine moved to approve the holiday schedule as presented. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The health insurance report for the calendar year 2023 was presented. The report indicates an unfavorable variance of (\$434,813) compared to revenues received. Discussion held.

The Child Care Fund update was presented. Based on the updated projection of revenues and expenditures, the estimated fund balance at September 30, 2023 is \$961,240. It was reported \$500,000 of

that amount is a carryover from September 30, 2022 to retain funds due to the expansion of the Youth Facility. Discussion held.

Controller/Administrator Connie Sobie provided an update on the public improvement projects. Ms. Sobie updated the committee on the progress of the Youth Facility expansion as well as the solar panel ice prevention work and other projects within the complex.

Budget amendments were presented. Ms. Sobie provided a detailed explanation of the amendments. Specialty Court Coordinator Melanie Achenbach and Trial Court Administrator Amy Etzel were present to answer questions regarding a request from the Courts for a Pre-Trial Services Specialist.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend amending the position allocation list to include a Pre-Trial Services Specialist and to amend the general fund budget to fund the position up to 30% to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Discussion held. Commissioner Brehler opposed. Motion carried.

County Clerk Diana Bosworth was present to discuss a request for software for the Register of Deeds to provide enhanced search capabilities and alert features for Eaton County property owners.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend the budget amendments to the Board of Commissioners, as amended. Commissioner Rogers seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Sobie presented the list of expiring citizen appointments for the Historical Commission, the Building Authority, and the Land Bank Authority. Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend the citizen appointments to the Board of Commissioners as presented. Commissioner Rogers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to recommend the approval of the payment of claims against the County in the amount of \$889,727.02 and immediate and electronic claims in the amount of \$20,442,698.41 to the Board of Commissioners as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Droscha. Motion carried unanimously.

No limited public comment.

Chairperson Mulder adjourned the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Ways & Means Committee will be held on Friday, December 15, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioner Room of the Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte, MI 48813.



Blake Mulder, Chairperson