



DRAFT


**SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUMMARY OF OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
AUGUST 15, 2023 SESSION**

The August Session of the Board of Commissioners of Saginaw County, Michigan convened at 5:08 p.m. on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at the Saginaw County Courthouse, 111 S. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, MI 48602 with the Honorable Christopher S. Boyd in the Chair.

Present: Christopher S. Boyd, Lisa R. Coney, Dennis H. Krafft, Gerald D. Little, Mark S. Piotrowski, Tracey L. Slodowski, Richard A. Spitzer, Jack B. Tany and Michael A. Webster – 9

Absent: Denny M. Harris, Sheldon Matthews – 2

Others: Koren Thurston, L. William Smith, Judge André Borrello, Vanessa Guerra, Kyle Bostwick, Brian Wendling, Liz Gooch, Denise Joseph, Jennifer Broadfoot, Mary McLaughlin, Josh Brown, Jessica Sargent, Bonnie Kanicki, Sam Tany, Kelly Suppes, Dr. Russell Bush, Tom Boaz, Bri Summersett, Kevin Behnke, John Cunningham, Terry Pruitt, Randy Pfau, Michelle McGregor, Michael Karas, Rick Riebschleger, Dennis Borchard, Zakyia Young, Jordan Bibb, Tyrease Watson, Tyri Watson, Jordan Smith, Ahnyala Eichelberger, Davion Ortiz, Key'Miyah Brooks, Brenda Palmer, Catherine Hicks, Marissa Sawdon, Suzy Koeplinger, Justin Engel – Mlive, and others

 Commissioner Coney gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Chairman Boyd offered thoughts and prayers on behalf of the Board to Jaime Ceja, Executive Assistant to the Controller/CAO, who has family in Maui, HI after the devastating wildfires that recently occurred.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes of the June 20, 2023 Board Session and June 26, 2023 Committee of the Whole were approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

- ❖ A Public Hearing was held on the proposed Saginaw County 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget and property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support General Government Operations. No comments.

AUDIENCES

- Denise Joseph, Equalization Director, and Liz Gooch, Deputy Equalization Director, were recognized for receiving the “Equalization Department of the Year” award from the Michigan Association of Equalization Departments.
- Inez Williams, Youth Employment and Recreation Network (YEARN), introduced the organization and shared that 55 students were hired to work in the City of Saginaw to learn how to become good employees. She introduced three (3) current students - Key'Miyah Brooks, Davion Ortiz, and Ahnyala Eichelberger – who shared information about the programs within the organization and what they learned. Ms. Williams invited the Board to attend the last day of the program on Friday, August 18, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at Unity in the Park, corner of 7th and Janes in Saginaw.
- Kevin Behnke, Licensed Funeral Director, spoke about the impact of performing autopsies in St. Clair County on Saginaw families and how a delay in performing the autopsy and return of the body to Saginaw caused anxiety and further grief to the family regarding funeral planning.

- John Cunningham, Owner/Operator of Cunningham Funeral Home in Auburn, also commented on the impact on Saginaw families by performing autopsies in St. Clair County and how the Medical Examiner is not performing adequately in St. Clair County.
- BriAnn Summersett, former Medical Examiner Investigator, spoke on her alleged wrongful termination of her company and the possibility of a new Request for Proposal (RFP) for mortuary transportation services. She also handed out a packet of information on the criminal background of current employees of the body removal and transport company the county is currently contracting with.
- Tom Boaz, Preferred Removal Services, Inc., current contractor for Medical Examiner's Office transport services with Saginaw County, has contracts with seven (7) counties and is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer with a diverse staff. He performs background and driving checks, hires people who are the best fit for his company, and has hired people with past criminal records.
- Helen Lutz, Senior Center Coordinator at the YMCA, informed commissioners of issues at the Commission on Aging regarding hot meal service at the center only being twice a week as opposed to five as it was previously. She also distributed photos of food that appeared to not be prepared properly and asked commissioners to visit the center.
- Beverly Smith spoke on behalf of the Marie Davis Center, a Commission on Aging Senior Center, stating the center is not clean, there is a hoarding situation, and the center coordinator is unprofessional.
- Terry Pruitt, President of Saginaw NAACP, spoke on the Board of Commissioners implementing a process to fill a vital leadership position in county government with its appointment of a new County Controller. He handed out a list of desired characteristics that the Saginaw NAACP believes the candidates should have in order to be considered for the position.

INITIATORY MOTIONS

None

LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Approved application of the Commission on Aging to the Region VII Area Agency on Aging for FY 2024 funding of its programs
- Approved the FY 2024 Budget of the 9-1-1 Communication Authority that utilizes the balance of up to \$500,000 of State Wireless Funds
- Approved amendment of a County Parks & Recreation policy related to drones
- Approved vendor transactions for June 2023
- Approved submission of the FY 2024 County Budget to be placed on the table for adoption at the September 19, 2023 Board Session (*Unfinished Business at the September 19, 2023 Board Session*)
- Approved the transfer of funding from the Circuit Court Clerk's budget to purchase three (3) multifunctional copies and up to \$5,000 to cover potential shortfalls in line items in Circuit Court Probation
- Approved allocation of \$400,000 to the Information Technology WiFi Installation project, but limit expenditure of \$225,000 from the Mainframe Modernization Fund at County Facilities
- Approved transfer of \$30,000 from the Circuit Court Clerk's Office to the 10th Circuit Court to continue the contract with former Circuit Court Administrator, Dave Cable, through November 30, 2023
- Approved contracting with a consultant, Inspiring Minds, Inc. and to increase the 10th Circuit Court Contracted Services account by \$100,000 using funds from a Court Recorder vacancy to assess, evaluate, recommend, and help implement operating procedures

- Approved \$10,000 from the General Fund to the Probate Court Contractual Account for a temporary employee to begin the FY 2023 Budget and provide temporary staffing throughout the year
- Approved establishing three (3) PCNs in the 10th Circuit Court – Family Division: Legal Clerk II in Family Division; Probation Officer in the Child Care Fund; and Detention Youth Care Specialist in the Child Care Fund
- Approved certification of the Employee and Officer Delegates to attend the 2023 Municipal Employees’ Retirement System (MERS) Annual Meeting
- Approved reclassification of the vacant Friend of the Court position of Referee to a Family Evaluator position and modify the PCN, for a savings of \$20,567 to the county
- Approved extending the contract with retiree Public Health Nurse Mary Patnode through FY 2024; and the addition of a temporary PCN to the Immunization Program until November 30, 2023 at the Health Department
- Approved use of the front lawn of the Courthouse (with free parking) on Thursday, August 31, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. for Saginaw Recovery Court to host activities in observance of International Overdose Day
- Approved amendment of County Policy #122, “General Liability/Worker’s Compensation Insurance Claim Policy”
- Approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UAW Local 455, Unit 48 representing Managers and Saginaw County regarding Koren Thurston, Finance Director, receiving compensation for additional duties until a new County Controller/CAO is hired
- Approved a recommendation to establish a selection committee, engage the services of a recruitment firm, and designate up to \$30,000 in funding for the process of identifying qualified candidates for the Controller/CAO or County Administrator position
- Approved Committee Compensation Reports 8-15-23.1, 8-15-23.2, 8-15-23.3 and 8-15-23.4

RESOLUTIONS

- Approved Resolution **2023 – 14** RESOLUTION FOR EASTWOOD DRAIN BONDS, SERIES 2023
- Approved Resolution **2023 – 15** RESOLUTION FOR LITTLE EAGLE CREEK DRAIN NOTES, SERIES 2023
- Approved Resolution **2023 – 16** RESOLUTION FOR SAVAGE DRAIN BONDS, SERIES 2023
- Approved Resolution **2023 – 17** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENTRY OF PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT IN PARTIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION OPIATE LITIGATION AND ENTRY OF STATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTRASTATE AGREEMENT CONCERNING ALLOCATION OF SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS
- Approved Resolution **2023 – 18** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING SIGNATURES ON SAGINAW COUNTY CONTRACTS BY FINANCE DIRECTOR

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

APPOINTMENTS

None

ELECTIONS

- ✓ Elected Kathleen Schachman to the **Community Mental Health Authority Board** to fill a vacancy for a term to expire March 31, 2024

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ Chairman Boyd announced the State of Michigan is issuing \$1.55 Billion for Broadband expansion and infrastructure. Saginaw County will need to apply for funds, possibly partnering with private entities. Discussion was held regarding development of a Broadband Authority and he will bring a proposal next month for consideration.
- ❖ Chairman Boyd confirmed with Commissioners that a Committee of the Whole will be scheduled for Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. for an update on the 2024 Memorial Cup and Dow Event Center renovations from Craig Goslin, Chair of the OHL Board of Governors and President/Managing Partner of the Saginaw Spirit, and to discuss moving forward with moving county administrative offices to the Concentric building.

COMMISSIONER AUDIENCES

- Commissioner Krafft announced the Frankenmuth Auto Fest, September 8 - 10, 2023, a 3-day event full of food, fun, music and cars. Friday night is the Big Block Party on Main Street and events will be held Saturday and Sunday at Heritage Park.
- Commissioner Coney announced this is the final week for Party on McCarty on Thursday at the Saginaw Township Soccer Association and the last night for Friday Night Live at Morley Plaza.
(Note: Party on McCarty has been cancelled due to rain and rescheduled for Thurs., Aug. 24, 2023)
- Commissioner Spitzer announced "Tournament of the Township" on Saturday, September 9, 2023, which is a 6-sport event to be held at various facilities around Saginaw Township. The events include euchre, pickleball, volleyball, corn hole, disc golf, and golf, culminating in a wrap-up party to include live music, food, and other entertainment. Registration is \$15 and more information can be found at SaginawTownship.org/departments/parks_and_recreation.
- Commissioner Slodowski announced the bear has most recently been sighted in Breckenridge. Also, the BWell 1m/5k/10k Race sponsored by the Saginaw Health Department is Saturday, September 30, 2023 beginning and ending at the YMCA. The 1m walk/run event is free but registration is required. More information can be found at digdeeparces.com/bwellsaginaw5k.
- Commissioner Little announced the Community Action Committee's Annual Golf Outing is September 2, 2023 at Twin Oaks. Contact him if you are interested in participating either as a player, team, or sponsor.

Respectfully Submitted,

SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CHRISTOPHER S. BOYD, CHAIRMAN

VANESSA GUERRA, COUNTY CLERK

Prepared by: Suzy Koeplinger, Deputy Clerk