

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE**  
*Board of Commissioners*  
**OF SAGINAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**  
  
**SPECIAL SESSION**  
**MAY 10, 2022**

A Special Session of the Board of Commissioners of Saginaw County, Michigan, held Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. with the Honorable Carl E. Ruth in the Chair. This meeting was held at the Saginaw County Governmental Center, 111 S. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, Michigan to consider the May 10, 2022 Special Session Agenda. County Clerk Vanessa Guerra took roll, quorum present as follows:

**PRESENT:** *Cynthia M. Winiecke, Jack B. Tany, Christopher S. Boyd, Sheldon Matthews, Kyle R. Harris  
Carol E. Ewing, Dennis H. Krafft, Gerald D. Little, Michael A. Webster and Carl E. Ruth - 10*

**ABSENT:** - 0

**TOTAL:** - 10

**Others Present:** Robert Belleman, Dave Gilbert, Bill Smith, Dr. Russell Bush, Donald A. Gilbert, Denny Harris, Norm Bamberger, Peyton Ball, Bobby Ball, Tracey Slodowski, Thomas Roy, Vicki White, Eric Snidersich, Matthew Kehn, Justin Engel - MLive, Suzy Koeplinger, Marissa Sawdon

Commissioner Little gave the invocation. Chairman Ruth led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**PETITION**



April 28, 2022

Vanessa Guerra  
Saginaw County Clerk  
111 S. Michigan Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48602

**May 10, 2022**  
**Special Session**

Dear Clerk Guerra:

Pursuant to Article II, Section 2.9 of the 2022 Rules of the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners (MCL 46.10), the undersigned members of the Board respectfully petition that a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners be held **Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.** to conduct interviews and make a determination to fill the District #5 vacancy and any other matters brought before the Board. The undersigned affirm the intent of the Board of Commissioners to hold a Special Meeting on this matter.



This meeting is being held consistent with PA 267 of 1976 (MCL 15.263) to consider the agenda, and for any other matters brought before the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald D. Little, Commissioner  
Sheldon Matthews, Vice-Chair  
Carl E. Ruth, Chairman

Dennis H. Krafft, Commissioner  
Michael A. Webster, Commissioner

## **CLERK'S CALL OF SESSION**

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### **Public Notice of Special Board Session**

The Saginaw County Board of Commissioners will convene for a Special Session on  
**Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.**  
in the Board Chambers, Second Floor - Room 200  
Saginaw County Governmental Center, Saginaw, MI per PA 267 of 1976  
to conduct interviews and make a determination to fill the District #5 vacancy and any other matters  
brought before the Board.

This Special Meeting is being held consistent with Article II, Section 2.9 (MCLA 46.10) of the 2022 Rules of the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners as authorized by petition of at least one third (1/3<sup>rd</sup>) of the members of the Board.

Requests for Public Comment (Audiences) must be made to the Board of Commissioners Office at (989) 790-5267 or by email to boc@saginawcounty.com prior to 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

If you are disabled and need accommodation to provide you with an opportunity to participate, please call the Board of Commissioners at (989) 790-5267.

Respectfully submitted,

***Vanessa Guerra***

Vanessa Guerra, County Clerk

April 28, 2022  
Posted 4-28-22 by SEK

[Note: The Special Board Session began at 4:00 p.m., due to a Public Notice that was posted with an incorrect time]

## **AUDIENCES**

None

## **LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS**

None



## PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**By the Chair: That the following communications received by the Board of Commissioners are referred as designated, if there are no objections. The Chair hears none; it is so ordered.**

- **PETITION** for Special Board Session on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. *(Attached)*
  - **PUBLIC NOTICE** of Special Board Session on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. *(Attached)*
  - **Resignation** of James G. Theisen *(Attached)*
  - **County Clerk Certification** of Applicants *(Attached)*
- ❖ Pursuant to MCL 46.412(1) “When a vacancy occurs in the office of commissioner by death, resignation, removal from the district or removal from office, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment within 30 days by the county board of commissioners of a resident and registered voter of that district.” Further, “...the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.”
- ❖ If the vacancy is not filled within 30 days, a special election is required. The special election shall be called by the County Board of Commissioners. (MCL 46.413) The statute doesn’t speak to the procedure to appoint, nor do the Board Rules. However, Board Rule 6.1 states “The business of the Board shall be conducted in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order, insofar as such rules are not in conflict with these Rules and the Statutes of the State of Michigan.” Robert’s Rules provide that if there is no determining rule, a motion to fix the method of voting is required. Chairman Ruth will read the procedure that has been used in the past by the board and he will ask for a motion to approve that process.
1. Motion to declare the office of Saginaw County Commissioner, District #5, vacant as of April 18, 2022 and acceptance of the resignation of James G. Theisen as County Commissioner for District #5  
***Moved by Tany, seconded by Ewing, to accept the resignation of James G. Theisen as County Commissioner for District #5. Motion carried unanimously.***
  2. Applicant Interviews
    - Peyton Ball
    - Tracey Slodowski
    - Victoria White

***Applicants were interviewed by all commissioners.***

3. Discussion and recommendation of applicant(s) to fill the District #5 vacancy. Chairman Ruth announced that based on past procedures and a recommendation from Civil Counsel, he will ask for a Motion to proceed with the appointment according to the following rules:



- A candidate must obtain a majority of votes of the commissioners present. (6 if 10 commissioners are present) (5 if 9 commissioners are present)
- If there are more than 2 candidates nominated and no candidate receives a majority of the votes, then the candidate with the least number of votes is eliminated.
- Voting continues until one candidate receives a majority.

***Moved by Boyd, seconded by Krafft, to proceed with the appointment according to the stated rules. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Krafft moved to place into nomination the name of Tracey Slodowski to fill the commissioner vacancy. The Chair called for further nominations; there were none.***

***Krafft moved, seconded by Ewing, to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Tracey Slodowski as Commissioner for District 5. The motion carried by the following rollcall vote:  
Yes: Harris, Ewing, Krafft, Little, Webster, Winiecke, Tany, Boyd, Matthews, and Ruth - 10  
No: - 0***

## **INITIATORY MOTIONS**

None

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

None

## **RESOLUTIONS**

None

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

## **PROCLAMATIONS**

None

## **APPOINTMENTS**

None

## **ELECTIONS**

None



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR**

- Chairman Ruth asked commissioners to formulate recommendations on their own in regard to an ARPA funding plan. He stated that this would save time and make future discussions more strategically focused.
- Robert Belleman stated he met with Guidehouse and they were interested in seeing if the City and County could work together and share planning. He would like to converge in June.
- Commissioner Webster asked if the board could hear from Guidehouse because they have a level of expertise and as a third party entity would be able to resolve gridlock.
- Commissioner Boyd believes we should do what we can on our own, especially as to the Internal Requests for ARPA funding, using our own expertise.

## **COMMISSIONERS' AUDIENCES**

- Commissioner Tany announced he toured the new Thomas Township Nature Center and Preserve and invited commissioners to schedule a tour.

***By Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Little: That the Board adjourn. Motion Carried.***  
Thereupon, the Special Board Session adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**CARL E. RUTH, CHAIRMAN**

**VANESSA GUERRA, COUNTY CLERK**

Prepared by: Suzy Koeplinger, Board Coordinator/Deputy Clerk