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**SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUMMARY OF OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
JUNE 22, 2021 SESSION**

The June Session of the Board of Commissioners of Saginaw County, Michigan convened at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 22, 2021 via Zoom pursuant to P.A. 267 of 1976/P.A. 228 of 2020 and a Local Emergency Declaration dated April 8, 2021 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, with the Honorable Carl E. Ruth in the Chair.

Present: Christopher S. Boyd (*Antrim County, MI*), Carol E. Ewing (*Birch Run Twp., MI*), Kyle R. Harris (*Ashley, MI*), Dennis H. Krafft (*Frankenmuth, MI*), Gerald D. Little (*Saginaw, MI*), Sheldon Matthews (*Spaulding Twp., MI*), Carl E. Ruth (*Saginaw, MI*), Jack B. Tany (*Carrollton Twp., MI*), James G. Theisen (*Sand Lake, MI*), Michael A. Webster (*Saginaw, MI*), Cynthia Winiecke (*Freeland, MI*) – 11

Absent: – 0

Others: Robert Belleman, Dave Gilbert, Vanessa Guerra, Kyle Bostwick, Koren Thurston, Denise Babbitt, Josh Brown, Bill Stanuszek, Undersheriff Mike Gomez, Holly Horsley, Jennifer Broadfoot, Norm Bamberger, JoAnn Crary, Steve Jonas, Lt. Mark Przybylski, Torrie McAfee, Mary McLaughlin, Roger Swets, Laura Kaleefey, Patricia Ritter, Brian Keenan-Lechel, Christina Harrington, WSGW - Rick Antonio, Justin Pomerville, Jessica Sargent, Cecelia Harold, Cecelia Hopkins, Audrey Beatty, Suzy Koeplinger, Sue Arceo, Cindy Louchart

✚ Commissioner Ewing gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes of the May 18, 2021 Board Session; May 12, 2021 Committee of the Whole; and May 26, 2021 Committee of the Whole were approved.

FOIA APPEALS

- The Board approved sending written notice to Marcus Atkins reducing the fees charged in relation to his May 5, 2021 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to: One (1) hour of labor at \$52.00, plus copying charges of \$18.02, for a total of \$70.02.
- The Board approved sending written notice to Marcus Atkins waiving the fees charged in relation to his May 12, 2021 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

PUBLIC HEARING

- A Public Hearing was held on the issuance of bonds to finance a project for Campus Partners 1 related to the acquisition and improvement of the North Saginaw Charter Academy (NSCA) at 2332 Trautner Dr., Saginaw, MI 48604. Roger Swets, Saginaw County Bond Counsel, provided information on the request to approve a Resolution on the issuance of bonds and hold a Public Hearing pursuant to Sec. 145 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended). He advised the Board of Commissioners that this is not a bond issue of Saginaw County and the county has no financial liability. Discussion was held and comments were recorded for Commissioner Christopher Boyd; Laura Kaleefey, National Heritage Academies; Holly Horsley, Bond Counsel; Robert Belleman, County Controller; Commissioner Dennis Krafft; and written comments were recorded and are on file in the Board Office for Jason Holder, President of North Saginaw Charter Academy Board of Directors; Candace Sorenson, NSCA Legal Counsel; and Rhonda Himes, Ballard Spahr LLP.

AUDIENCES

- Torrie McAfee, Buena Vista Township Superintendent/Manager, addressed the Board of Commissioners with concerns about the County Land Bank and how it operates within the county's different municipalities, specifically with respect to multiple properties on the 800 block of 24th Street. There are currently 315 parcels in Buena Vista Township owned by the Land Bank and a resolution is needed as to what the obligations are for the Land Bank to maintain those properties.
- Cecelia Harrold spoke about her property at 838 S. 24th St. and surrounding parcels in Buena Vista Township and submitted information in writing addressing her concerns. (On file in the Board Office) The parcels surrounding her home are owned by the Land Bank and Buena Vista Township and contain tall grass, rodents, deer, rats, opossums, raccoons, and ground hogs, which create a nuisance and have a direct effect on her property.
- Audrey Beatty addressed the Board and asked for accountability by the Land Bank regarding so many vacant parcels of land and asked that informational meetings be held to address residents' concerns. She also asked for review of senior services on the east side and requested a computer be provided at the Marie Davis Senior Center to assist older citizens with their mental acumen.

LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS / PROCLAMATIONS

None

INITIATORY MOTIONS

- ❖ Approved a motion to rescind, effective July 1, 2021, the April 8, 2021 Resolution declaring a Local State of Emergency for the purpose of permitting the County Board of Commissioners and other public bodies of Saginaw County to meet by electronic and telephonic means; and to repeal the out-of-state travel ban approved by the Board of Commissioners at the April 9, 2020 Board Session

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Approved an increase to the Sheriff Department fleet by five (5) vehicles and to allow ordering seven (7) replacement patrol vehicles prior to the October 1st start of the fiscal year by amending the Law Enforcement budget for FY 2021 by \$286,783 utilizing fund balance
- Approved waiver of 2020 kennel inspections and associated fees due to the COVID-19 pandemic at Animal Care & Control
- Approved support for Commercial Rehabilitation Districts in the Village of Merrill for Gemini Capital Management at 235 Saginaw St. (M-46) and Mo-Coco's at 104 E. Saginaw St. (M-46) Merrill, MI
- Approved contribution of up to \$30,000 from the Parks & Recreation FY 2021 Budget for the development of the former SMI / future Riverfront Park project (Saginaw River Headwaters Rec Area)
- Approved a "Flowage Easement" with the state of Michigan related to the Parks & Recreation BayZil Trail
- Approved amendments to County Policy #244 – Responsible Contractor Policy
- Approved increasing the Public Improvement Fund FY 2021 Budget by \$53,000 with an offsetting fund balance to engage WTA Architects for facility clinical design and bidding for the integration of primary care with Public Health
- Approved amendment of the FY 2021 Capital Improvement Budget by \$43,600 to complete projects in the 70th District Court Probation and Traffic Departments (Painting - \$17,600) and Prosecutor's Office (Carpet - \$26,000)

- Approved amendment of the Commission on Aging FY 2021 Budget as follows: Moving \$12,000 from the Travel line item to the Food line item to cover meal reimbursement; acceptance of a \$22,000 grant from the Meals on Wheels Association of America to purchase shelf stable emergency food, personal needs care packages, and storage cabinets for the Marie Davis Senior Center; and acceptance of a \$377,000 grant from AmeriCorps Senior to expand the Foster Grandparent Program to Midland and Bay Counties
- Approved continued funding for the use of temporary employees in the Circuit Court Records Office using \$16,000 from fund balance, and approved the use of \$23,652 (\$11,310 from the CPL Fund and \$12,342 from the Public Improvement Fund) from Capital Outlay funds to expedite technology upgrades in the County Clerk's Office
- Approved a change to County Personnel practice to allow "Education" for "Experience" in the hiring process, and limiting the practice to clerical/technical and lower classified/entry-level professional positions
- Approved waiver of the hiring freeze to fill the vacant positions of: Two (2) Deputies in the Law Enforcement Division and one (1) Jail Security in the Sheriff Department; Legal Clerk I in the County Clerk's Office; Custodian in the Maintenance Department; Health Specialist I, two (2) PT Hearing Technicians, Office Assistant II, and WIC Supervisor in the Health Department
- Approved waiver of the hiring freeze to hire former Detective John Butcher for ninety (90) days at the Sheriff Department as a liaison for the DEA and as a reference for drug cases
- Approved for the Commission on Aging to (1) Waive the hiring freeze and establish a temporary PCN for Food Service Supervisor; (2) Increase two (2) Kitchen Assistant positions from part-time to full-time status, waive the hiring freeze for one (1) of the full-time positions, and delete one (1) part-time Kitchen Assistant PCN; and (3) Create a new PCN for Foster Grandparent Program Assistant and waive the hiring freeze for that position
- Approved Committee Compensation Reports 6-22-21.1, 6-22-21.2 and 6-22-21.3

RESOLUTIONS

- ❖ Res. A was tabled to the August 17, 2021 Board Session and will appear under Unfinished Business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

APPOINTMENTS

- ✓ Re-appointed Dan Wortman, Pastor Larry Camel and John Kaczynski to the **Michigan Works! Workforce Development Board** with terms to expire June 30, 2023.
- ✓ Appointed George Kipfmiller, Greg Turner, and Tom Mayan, Sr. to the **Richland Township Construction Board of Appeals** pursuant to PA 230 of 1972, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

ELECTIONS

None

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chairman Ruth announced the Special Board Session on Monday, June 28, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. to approve the Saginaw County Animal Care & Control Resource Center Project Plan and Budget. A Committee of the Whole on the FY 2022 Budget will be held directly after that meeting. Both meetings will be held in the Board Room at the County Governmental Center and via Zoom.

COMMISSIONER AUDIENCES

- Commissioner Winiecke announced a new Marketplace in Freeland selling fresh fruits and vegetables, 10852 W. Freeland Rd., open Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings.
- Commissioner Ewing announced a Carnival at Suski Chevrolet by the Mall in Birch Run this weekend on Friday evening from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m. and all day Saturday and Sunday.

Note from the Controller: MIOSHA has repealed all of its requirements, including wearing masks and socially distancing, which means the County Governmental Center could open as soon as tomorrow or wait until Monday, June 28th. Most of the elected officials would like to open immediately to the public. After discussion, the Board advised the Controller to issue a Press Release announcing all County facilities will be immediately open to the public.

Respectfully Submitted,

SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CARL E. RUTH, CHAIR

VANESSA GUERRA, CLERK

Prepared by: Suzy Koeplinger, Deputy County Clerk