

**OSCEOLA COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

The Committee meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Emig.

Present: Commissioners Jack Nehmer, Jill Halladay, Larry Emig, Alan Tiedt, Pam Wayne, Mark Gregory and Roger Elkins.

Also present: Don LaBrenz-Building Official/Inspector, Captain Russ Wayne-Jail Administrator, Jeremy Beebe-E.M.S. Director, Tim Taylor-Electrical Inspector, Robert VanPutten-Landmark Design Group, Cathleen Graham-Cannabis Nurse, Susan Vander Pol-County Coordinator, Karen Bluhm-County Clerk and several members of the public.

Motion by Commissioner Nehmer, seconded by Commissioner Halladay, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Brief Public Comment: Dave Kozminski, Hersey Township, read a statement regarding Scott Schryer.

Tammy Stoner, Rose Lake Township, spoke in regards to C.O.A. and E.M.S.

Scott Schryer, McBain, Michigan, addressed the Board regarding his former employment as Commission on Aging Director.

Employee/Board Comment: Lori Leudeman, County Treasurer, commented on working with former C.O.A. Director Scott Schryer.

Moved by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Nehmer, to approve the minutes of December 4, 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

Recommended by Commissioner Tiedt, seconded by Commissioner Elkins, to approve the claims of the County in the amount of \$74,293.83. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Indigent Defense Contract

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, explained the State of Michigan has sent us a copy of our Indigent Defense Contract. Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) has also seen the contract and recommends several changes before Counties sign them. She asked to have our county counsel review it before the Board adopts any contract. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Elkins, seconded by Commissioner Halladay, to send the MIDC contract to county counsel and work with the State of Michigan to make some revisions in the contract changes. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Command Unit Letter of Understanding

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, explained the Appendix A she shared for the Osceola County/COAM contract. A brief discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Tiedt, seconded by Commissioner Nehmer, to approve the Appendix A verbiage for the COAM contract addressing wages. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Building Official/Inspector

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, provided information regarding possible options for a Building Official as of the first of the new year. Discussion was held. Someone from the public requested to speak regarding this issue.

Recommended by Commissioner Tiedt, seconded by Commissioner Elkins, to allow a member of the public to speak regarding the building inspection services. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Will Vanderhoof from England Builders of Marion, asked Board members to stay away from a “contracted business” to provide Building Inspector duties and explained his reasons for the request. He also felt Tony Gagliardo, formerly from Lake County, would do a good job.

Recommended by Commissioner Nehmer, seconded by Commissioner Gregory, to offer a contract for Building Official/Inspection/Plan Review services with Tony Gagliardo for a minimum of six months utilizing the current contract compensation model. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Budget Amendments & Journal Register Report

Commissioner Tiedt reviewed the budget amendments presented.

Recommended by Commissioner Tiedt, seconded by Commissioner Nehmer, to approve the budget amendments, cash transfers and Journal Register Report for November entries from the County Treasurer as presented. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

E.M.S. Building/Remodel

Jeremy Beebe, E.M.S. Director, along with Bob Van Putten of Landmark Design Group spoke to the Board about the proposed design changes for administrative offices in Reed City and the redesign at our current Reed City base. Discussion was held.

Zuercher Software Interface with Dispatch

Jeremy Beebe, E.M.S. Director, explained that the software interface used by E.M.S. to coincide with 911 Central Dispatch no longer works since local law enforcement and 911 have changed over to the new Zuercher system. He explained the purpose of the compatibility and the type of information this new software would bring to E.M.S. Although it is an unexpected expense, he does have the money within his budget to make the purchase. Discussion was held regarding the current transition within local law enforcement and Dispatch. Board members decided to wait and review the request in January.

Purchase of Video Laryngoscopes

Jeremy Beebe, E.M.S. Director, demonstrated a Video Laryngoscope to the Board. He asked them to move forward with the purchase in conjunction with the approved MMRMA grant paying for part of their purchase. A brief discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Nehmer, to purchase the Video Laryngoscopes from Bound Tree in the amount of \$12,229.44 in conjunction with the MMRMA RAP grant. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Medical Marijuana Grants to Counties

Cathleen Graham, Cannabis Nurse, spoke to the Board about state grants available for education on the use of medical marijuana. She explained her background and spoke about what the 10-week outreach program would offer to participants. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Wayne, seconded by Commissioner Nehmer, to approve the application with the State to receive the grant money for Medical Marijuana education, communication and outreach and work with Cannabis Nurse on the program for an amount not to exceed the grant funding allotment if awarded of \$7,889, inclusive of compensation for administrative services from the grant and authorize the County Coordinator to sign documents. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

PA 116 Application for D. Wirth

Karen Bluhm, County Clerk, explained the request from Mr. Wirth for farm property in Orient Township. She advised it has been reviewed by both the Planning Commission and Soil/Conservation District who offered no objections to the request.

Recommended by Commissioner Nehmer, seconded by Commissioner Tiedt, to approve the PA 116 Application for Douglas E. Wirth as presented. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Probate Court Copier Lease Agreement

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, answered any questions from Board members regarding the written request from Probate Court to lease a new copier from Xerox.

Recommended by Commissioner Wayne, seconded by Commissioner Tiedt, to approve the Probate Court Copier Lease with Preferred Office Machines as presented and authorize any needed signatures. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Date for Employee Service Recognition

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, asked when Board members wished to hold their next employee recognition ceremony. The first meeting in April of 2019 was chosen for the ceremony.

Certificates of Recognition

County Commissioners took time to recognize two (2) retiring County Commissioners, Alan Tiedt and Pam Wayne. They also recognized Sheriff Jim Crawford who will retire at the end of the year.

Overview & Discussion of the Open Meetings Act, Freedom of Information Act & Employment Terminology

Dave Stoker, Cohl, Stoker and Toskey, P.C., counsel for the County did a presentation on the Open Meetings Act as well as the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). He spoke about what is a public body, public notices, Board rules, what constitutes a public meeting and possible violations. The presentation was interactive with questions from Board members as they arose. FOIA fees and what constitutes a public record were also reviewed. Mr. Stoker also shared the most current handbooks for both FOIA and Open Meetings Act. He also addressed the matter of At Will and Just Cause terminology relating to employees.

Other Business: None.

Employee/Board Comments: Commissioner Nehmer commented on Mr. Kozminski's public comment regarding recognition for C.O.A. staff helping with a senior who had been out of touch for several days. He also wants the issues regarding E.M.S. and C.O.A. resolved soon so the Board can move forward with other business.

Commissioner Gregory agreed with Mr. Nehmer regarding resolution of the C.O.A. and E.M.S. issues.

Commissioner Wayne spoke about the personality issues involved in both C.O.A. and E.M.S. She does not feel a professional review of their operations has anything to do with either issue.

Commissioner Tiedt reminded Board members of chain of command in any employment.

Commissioner Halladay expressed her concerns regarding the information Commissioners are actually provided.

Attorney Dave Stoker commented as to the Delegation of Authority.

Russ Wayne, Jail Administrator, commented on the direction by County Counsel and Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, for over his 30 years of employment in the Sheriff's Department.

Extended Public Comment: Scott Schryer, McBain, Michigan, spoke about his dismissal from Commission on Aging for six (6) minutes.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Nehmer, seconded by Commissioner Tiedt, to adjourn at 1:29 p.m.

Karen J. Bluhm, County Clerk

Larry Emig, Chairman