

**OSCEOLA COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2019**

The Committee meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Chairman Nehmer.

Present: Commissioners Jack Nehmer, Jill Halladay, Larry Emig, Tim Michell, James Custer, Mark Gregory and Roger Elkins.

Also present: Jeremy Beebe-E.M.S. Director, Sheriff Justin Halladay, Susan Vander Pol-County Coordinator, Karen Bluhm-County Clerk and several members of the public.

Motion by Commissioner Emig, seconded by Commissioner Michell, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Brief Public Comment: Scott Schryer, McBain, Michigan, spoke about his dismissal as the C.O.A. Director and asked to be reinstated.

Employee/Board Comment: None.

Moved by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Halladay, to approve the minutes of January 15, 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

Recommended by Commissioner Halladay, seconded by Commissioner Elkins, to approve the claims in the amount of \$70,670.29 for the County. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Health, Safety & Grounds Committee Update

Commissioner Gregory updated Board members with discussion from their committee meeting. A brief discussion was held.

MIDC Contract Update

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, advised Board members that a previously approved recommendation to approve the MIDC contract at the Committee's last meeting was not included in the recommendations for that day, so it will be added to the recommendations from today and approved at the full Board meeting later today.

MIDC Administrative Contractor

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, advised interviews have been continuing to fill the position of Administrator for the MIDC program. Yesterday, the interviewing committee has made an offer to an attorney from Clare. She also shared some of the background for the chosen candidate.

Building Official/Inspector Agreement

Tony Gagliardo, Building Official, spoke to Board members about the Inspector Agreement between him and the County. He noted his concerns regarding a vehicle not being included to use for inspections. Discussion was held regarding a possible change to the proposed contract. Mr. Gagliardo advised he will continue to work without a contract, until this matter can be resolved. Mr. Gagliardo also spoke about a possible counter change within the office to accommodate their needs better.

Budget Amendments and Cash Transfers

Commissioner Halladay reviewed the budget amendments presented. No cash transfers were received.

Recommended by Commissioner Halladay, seconded by Commissioner Gregory, to approve the budget amendments as presented. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

E.M.D. Reauthorizing Emergency Plan & Reappointment of Director

Mark Watkins, E.M.D. Director, and 6th District F/Lt. Orville Theaker, MSP-Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division, were present asking for the Board to reappointment Mark Watkins as the County's

E.M.D. Director. Mark explained with a new Chairman of the Board, their plan requires this process to be done. Discussion was held. Mark also advised Board members their Emergency Plan has to be re-authorized also at this time.

Recommended by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Custer, to approve and reauthorize the Emergency Plan. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Recommended by Commissioner Elkins, seconded by Commissioner Custer, to appoint Mark Watkins as the Emergency Management Director. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

E.M.S. BioMedical Preventive Maintenance Agreement

Jeremy Beebe, E.M.S. Director, spoke to Board members, about the preventative maintenance agreement with BioMedical for equipment used by the department. The contract is for 3 years and will lock the rate of \$3,900.00 for each of the 3 years of the contract. A brief discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Emig, seconded by Commissioner Gregory, to approve the BioMedical Preventive Maintenance Agreement as presented and authorize the Chairman to sign. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Sheriff Jail Administrator/Undersheriff Positions

Sheriff Justin Halladay spoke to Board members regarding the pay scale and asked Board members to allow him to offer more money than the scale process allows to two employees considering stepping up to fill the positions of Undersheriff and Jail Administrator. He explained that if he used the current scale as it relates to these two individuals, they would be supervising employees who would be making more than they were making. He explained the experience the employees bring to the position and advantages to the County. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Emig, seconded by Commissioner Custer, to fill the Jail Administrator position at step 7 of the pay scale and the Undersheriff position at step 7 of the pay scale. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Parks Home Depot Billing and Payment

Carl Baumgras, Parks Director, spoke to the Board about the department's difficulty in submitting invoices timely from their Home Depot Credit Card to meet accounts payable deadlines. This causes them to be late and requires late fees being added to their expenses. Carl asked if they could be handled like prepaid invoices. Karen Bluhm, County Clerk, spoke about the Board's policy and rules as they apply to all County invoices submitted for payment. Discussion was held.

County Planning Commission Appointment

Dan Massy, Community Developer, asked for the re-appointment of Rich Jacobs to the Planning Commission.

Recommended by Commissioner Halladay, seconded by Commissioner Gregory, to approve Rich Jacobs to the Osceola County Planning Commission. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

West Michigan Regional Sobriety Court Fund Request

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, spoke about the request from the Sobriety Court for funding. She explained they did not make a request during the budget time line, so no money was appropriated. Discussion was held on the program and where payment might come from within our current budget.

Recommended by Commissioner Elkins, seconded by Commissioner Gregory, to pay the West Michigan Regional Sobriety Court in the amount of \$4,763.00 with a budget amendment from contingencies to the Court budget. Recommendation was supported with Commissioner Custer voting no.

Jail Administrator

Sheriff Justin Halladay advised that the retiring Jail Administrator needs to be out on medical leave unexpectedly, so since that person was planning on retiring soon, Sheriff Halladay asked to move the replacement for that position into the position sooner. A brief discussion followed.

Recommended by Commissioner Michell, seconded by Commissioner Elkins, to allow the Sheriff to appoint the new Jail Administrator now. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

MVAA County Incentive Grant Award

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, advised the Board that we have received the \$10,000 incentive grant for our Veteran's program.

Recommended by Commissioner Emig, seconded by Commissioner Gregory, to accept the MVAA County Incentive Grant Award in the amount of \$10,000. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

C.O.A Cargill Grant

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, reported Cargill offered a grant to our C.O.A. for helping seniors in our County. Susan submitted a letter and has learned we have been granted \$5,000 for our Ensure program for seniors. She asked for the Board to accept the application submitted and the grant received.

Recommended by Commissioner Michell, seconded by Commissioner Custer, to approve the application and accept the \$5,000 grant from Cargill for a program at the Commission on Aging. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

C.O.A. & E.M.S. Reviews/William Jetter, Consultant, Strategic Community Partners

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, phoned William Jetter, Consultant, Strategic Community Partners, regarding the review of both the E.M.S. and C.O.A. departments. Commissioners and Mr. Jetter spoke via speaker phone in the public meeting regarding the investigation and a timeframe for completion.

Employee/Board Comments: Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, commented on earlier statements made by a former employee during public comment.

Several Commissioners commented on the allegations and statements made regarding the C.O.A. matter.

Extended Public Comment: Scott Schryer, McBain, Michigan, asked to be re-instated as the C.O.A. Director.

Moved by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Halladay, to adjourn at 11:18 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Karen J. Bluhm, County Clerk

Jack Nehmer, Chairman