

**OSCEOLA COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 6, 2018**

The Committee meeting was called to order at 9:36 a.m. by Chairman Emig.

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

Also present: Shane Helmer-E.M.S. Assistant Director, Scott Schryer-C.O.A. Director, Susan Vander Pol-County Coordinator, Karen Bluhm-County Clerk, and other members of the public.

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

Brief Public Comment: None.

Employee/Board Comment: None.

Motion by Commissioner Halladay, seconded by Commissioner Nehmer, to approve the minutes from January 16, 2018. Motion carried.

Recommended by Commissioner Tiedt, seconded by Commissioner Gregory, to approve the current claims of the County in the amount of \$41,732.11. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Opioid Litigation Retainer Agreement & Resolution

Timothy Smith, Attorney with Smith & Johnson Attorneys, spoke to Board members regarding opioid epidemic litigation. He explained that he is part of a team of attorneys representing many jurisdictions in this matter. Discussion was held on several aspects of the case, including possible costs and how damages may be determined. A lengthy discussion was held.

DHHS Annual 2017 Report

Danielle Marek, DHHS Director Mecosta/Osceola County, shared information from the 2017 DHHS annual report. She spoke about services and the population receiving services within the County. She highlighted the Children's Protective Services and the licensing process. She spoke about volunteer services needed in the rural community as well as their partnership with schools. Discussion was held.

Board members returned to the discussion on the opioid matter. Chairman Emig advised Michigan Association of Counties (MAC), has now joined their support in this legal matter. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Nehmer, seconded by Commissioner Elkins, to approve the Retainer Agreement to prosecute and adjust for the County of Osceola a claim for damages related to opioids. Recommendation carried with Commissioners Tiedt, Elkins, Emig, Halladay and Nehmer voting yes and Commissioners Wayne and Gregory voting no.

Recommended by Commissioner Tiedt, seconded by Commissioner Nehmer, to approve the Resolution to Approve Outside Counsel for Opioid Litigation as presented. Recommendation carried with Commissioners Tiedt, Elkins, Emig, Halladay and Nehmer voting yes and Commissioners Wayne and Gregory voting no.

Medical Examiner Liability Insurance Update and Use of MEI's

Chairman Emig updated Board members on where we currently are at on the liability insurance issues. Karen Bluhm, County Clerk, updated as to the Worker's Compensation issue and Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, updated them on the general liability insurance coverage. Susan noted the Doctor is not covered by the County's MMRMA because he is an independent contractor. An opinion from County Counsel on this matter was shared with Commissioners. Discussion was held.

Indigent Defense Grant Application

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, noted the Indigent Defense Grant Application was returned for some changes and needs to be re-submitted. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Wayne, seconded by Commissioner Nehmer, to approve the resubmission of the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission Grant. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Dighton Property Update

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, spoke to the Board about possible options for the sale of the Dighton Property and asked how to proceed. Discussion was held.

Budget Amendments

Commissioner Tiedt reviewed the budget amendment received.

Recommended by Commissioner Tiedt, seconded by Commissioner Elkins, to approve the budget amendment as presented. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Marion Heat Tape Proposal & Reroute of Downspout/C.O.A.

Scott Schryer, C.O.A. Director, explained the proposal for the heat tape and rerouting of the downspout at the Marion Senior Facility with no cost to the County. He explained this is supposed to remedy the ice for the handicapped walkway. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Nehmer, seconded by Commissioner Gregory, to approve the quote from Steve Jones construction for heat tape and installation in the amount of \$1,980.00 with the contractor and Landmark Design Group to cover the expense. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Bark in the Park

Scott Schryer, C.O.A. Director, spoke to Board members about using the Bark in the Park as a marketing strategy for the agency. He explained how the funding would occur without reducing services. He noted this event would not be a fund raiser like their annual golf outing. He also spoke about re-establishing a radio broadcast. He asked for direction from Board members before continuing to pursue these options. Discussion was held.

Bids on Sale of Vehicles/C.O.A.

Scott Schryer, C.O.A. Director, asked for the Board approval on the bids received for the disposal of three old departmental vehicles.

Recommended by Commissioner Elkins, seconded by Commissioner Tiedt, to approve the purchase of the 1999 Ford Windstar for \$200, 2003 Dodge Caravan for \$327, and 2004 Ford Econoline Van for \$407 to Brian Olender in "as is" condition and authorize the County Clerk to sign off on the titles. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

West MI Forensic Pathology Services Authority Resolution

A resolution was presented for Board members to consider joining the Morgue Authority at no cost to the County for membership. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Elkins, seconded by Commissioner Halladay, to approve the Resolution for the West Michigan Forensic Pathology Services Authority as presented. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

County IntraWeb Update

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, advised Board members that the County's website does include IntraWeb capabilities. A brief discussion was held.

Employee/Board Comments: None.

Extended Public Comment: None.

Moved by Commissioner Tiedt, seconded by Commissioner Wayne, to adjourn at 11:32 a.m. Motion carried.

Karen J. Bluhm, County Clerk

Larry Emig, Chairman