BOARD LEADERSHIP MEETING
January 15, 2020
Minutes

Members Present: Celentino, Crenshaw, Grebner, Koenig, Maiville, Morgan (left at 7:55 p.m.), Naeyaert, Polsdorfer, Sebolt, Schafer, Slaughter, Stivers, Tennis (arrived at 6:04 p.m.), and Trubac.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Tim Dolehanty, Jared Cypher, Teri Morton, Matt Nordfjord, Bonnie Toskey, Becky Bennett, Michael Tanis, and Elizabeth Noel.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Crenshaw at 6:00 p.m. in the Personnel Conference Room “D & E” of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Approval of the August 13, 2019 Open and Closed Session Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, TO APPROVE THE OPEN AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 13, 2019 BOARD LEADERSHIP MEETING.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Tennis.

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Limited Public Comment

None.

1. Discussion on Upcoming Millages – Informational Meetings and Resources

Commissioner Tennis arrived at 6:04 p.m.

Chairperson Crenshaw stated that he would like to discuss the upcoming millages to determine their strategy on providing information to the public. He further stated that while the Board of Commissioners was limited on what could be done, as was evidenced with the Justice and Animal Control Shelter millages, the Board of Commissioners had had a positive impact on their passage.
Chairperson Crenshaw stated that he had been contacted by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce to have a meeting in the next week to talk about the March election, but would like to create strategies for future millages.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that because the Board of Commissioners was limited in their abilities, one of the things that could be useful was the vocalization of how the millage funds would be spent. He further stated that the organizations that would benefit from these proposals should provide the Board of Commissioners with documentation of how the millage funds would be spent, in a compiled format that could be provided to voters.

Commissioner Stivers stated that the Parks Commission met on Monday to work on informational materials for what projects had been approved and completed, tailored to each of the communities. She further stated that the Parks Commission would compile a list for the full Board of Commissioners meeting at the end of the month for distribution to the public.

Commissioner Stivers stated that, in terms of the Health Millage, she had a meeting with Ingham Health Plan (IHP) and Community Mental Health (CMH) to discuss materials and joint handouts to explain how the funds have been spent and would continue to be spent.

Chairperson Crenshaw stated that he was pleased to hear that the Parks Commission and CMH and IHP met to discuss the materials. He further stated that, before the materials are distributed to the public, they should be approved by the County Attorney to be certain of their appropriateness.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that she attended the Mason Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) meeting as the liaison from the Board of Commissioners. She further stated that it would be useful for Commissioners to attend as many local meetings as possible to talk about the upcoming millages, as rural communities were currently facing great issues, and these county millages were one more pile onto the rural communities.

Commissioner Celentino stated that he would like to see the informational materials and joint handouts be available as soon as possible, especially by February. He further stated that he and Commissioner Slaughter have upcoming association meetings, and would like to handout those materials before the March 10 election.

Chairperson Crenshaw stated that a group named Cityhood invited Commissioners to attend an event on March 5 and talk about the upcoming millages.

Discussion.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that she would like to see the Controller provide a “year in review” document for the County to the Board of Commissioners that could be discussed with their constituents.

Chairperson Crenshaw stated that he would put in a request to the Controller.
Commissioner Morgan stated that he and Commissioner Sebolt have volunteered to be the public relations people for the millages and create talking points for Commissioners to use.

Discussion.

Chairperson Crenshaw stated that he would meet with Steve Japinga, Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce Vice President of Public Affairs, next week to provide an update on the Potter Park Zoo, Trails, and Health millages to receive their support. He further stated that a former commissioner was a current member on their policy committee and could advocate for the millages.

Commissioner Slaughter stated that he wondered if the Board of Commissioners had created a video for Facebook or YouTube.

Chairperson Crenshaw stated that the Sheriff’s Office had created a PowerPoint for the Jail millage which included a video that was posted on Facebook.

Discussion.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that if Commissioner Slaughter wanted to create his own video for Facebook or YouTube to post on his personal pages, he would not be constricted by what could be used with County resources.

Commissioner Stivers stated that CMH and IHP have budgeted for Facebook ad campaigns that were centered on the idea of champions. She further stated that, before the ads were posted online, she would seek the approval of the County Attorney.

Discussion.

2. **Closed Session**

MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, AT APPROXIMATELY 6:13 P.M., TO MOVE THE MEETING INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR A CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY IN REGARDS TO LITIGATION WITH ST. VINCENT CHARITIES V. INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PER MCL 15.268(e).

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

MOVED BY COMM. KOENIG, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AT APPROXIMATELY 7:05 P.M.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Board Leadership entered into a recess at 7:05 p.m.
The Board Leadership returned from recess at 7:15 p.m.

MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. NAEYAERT, AT APPROXIMATELY 7:15 P.M., TO MOVE THE MEETING INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS WRITTEN ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE LEGAL OPINION PER MCL 15.268(h).

THE MOTION CARRIED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.  
Yea: Celentino, Crenshaw, Grebner, Koenig, Maiville, Morgan, Naeyaert, Polsdofer, Sebolt, Slaughter, Stivers, Tennis, Trubac  
Nay: Schafer  
Absent: None

Commissioner Morgan left at 7:55 p.m.

MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT SUPPORTED BY COMM. KOENIG, TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AT APPROXIMATELY 8:28 P.M.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Morgan

MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, TO FOLLOW THE COUNTY ATTORNEY’S RECOMMENDATION.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.  
Yea: Celentino, Crenshaw, Grebner, Maiville, Naeyaert, Polsdofer, Sebolt, Slaughter, Stivers, Tennis, Trubac  
Nay: Koenig, Schafer  
Absent: Morgan

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

[Signature]

BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD