

MECOSTA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

CP 3-1

UNAPPROVED

Chair Jerrilynn Strong called the afternoon session of the Mecosta County Board of Commissioners to order at 3:00 P.M. All those present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Commissioners present on roll call: Jerrilynn Strong, Randy Vetter, Linda Howard, Ray Steinke, Tom O'Neil, Chris Jane and William Routley.

Others present: Paul Bullock, County Administrator, Mindy Taylor, Finance Officer and Marcee Purcell, Mecosta County Clerk.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ADDITIONS:

R. Steinke moved to approve the Agenda, adding to Unfinished Business 5.2 – Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate Vacancy and the need to go into Closed Executive Session towards the end of the meeting to discuss Contract Negotiations. C. Jane seconded; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

R. Vetter moved to approve the September 7, 2023 Board Minutes as presented. L. Howard seconded; motion carried.

PUBLIC MATTERS & COMMENTS:

Denise Guiney – 17310 Elder Drive – appeared before the Board to speak against the Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10, noting 91 people in the subdivision have signed a petition opposing.

Suzanne Hosking – Colfax Township resident – appeared before the Board to speak against Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10; requesting the Board deny the request and find a different solution to benefit all.

Joseph Strohkirch - 13730 High Sierra Pass – appeared before the Board and requests they deny the rezoning request; presented a signed Protest.

Lou Kusay – Pineridge Subdivision resident – appeared before the Board to speak against the Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10; questioned Bill Routley's position on the Planning Commission and Board, how he can vote on both.

Tanya Johnson – appeared before the Board to speak against the Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10.

Sylvia Palmer – Indian Village resident - appeared before the Board to speak against the Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10.

John Strohkirch – Colfax Township resident – appeared before the Board and spoke in support of Steve Hanford’s Zoning Amendment Request #2023-10.

Mandy Strohkirch – 13931 Delta Drive – appeared before the Board and spoke in support of Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10.

Theresa Ventocilla – Big Rapids resident - appeared before the Board and spoke in support of Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10.

Brent Ofiara – 17101 Sierra Drive – appeared before the Board and spoke against the Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10.

Julie Strohkirch – 13720 High Sierra – appeared before the Board and spoke against the Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10.

Greg Buydaert – Pineridge Subdivision resident – appeared before the Board and spoke against the Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10; noted a correction to Planning Commission’s recommendation – sub is R2, not R1 – properties are not part of the plat but were zoned R1 way back to not have problems like this.

Stephen Hanford - 17099 Sierra Drive and Petitioner – appeared before the Board and spoke in support of Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10.

Joan Ciaramitaro – Big Rapids resident – and spoke against the Zoning Amendment Recommendation #2023-10.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

5.1 ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT

W. Routley moved to approve the Employment Agreement as County Administrator between Mecosta County Board of Commissioners and Melinda Taylor effective August 1, 2024. C. Jane seconded; roll call vote: 6 yeas; 1 nay [R. Vetter]; motion carried.

5.2 ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ALTERNATE VACANCY

With no names to bring forward, this matter shall be tabled to the next meeting.

SCHEDULED APPEARANCE:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 SUB-LEASE AGREEMENT MICHIGAN WORKS & VETERAN'S AFFAIRS

L. Howard moved to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Sub-Lease Agreement between Michigan Works and Mecosta County Veterans' Representative for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. R. Vetter seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.2 RELIANCE WAIVER CONTRACT FY2024 - COA

C. Jane moved to approve the Reliance Waiver Contract for Meals on Wheels for Fiscal Year 2024 and authorized the Chair to sign. R. Steinke seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.3 2023 TAX RATE REQUEST FORM – L4029

R. Steinke moved to approve the 2023 Tax Rate Request [L-4029] for Mecosta County and authorized the Chair and County Clerk to sign, which sets the 2023 tax rates for the County Fixed Millage, Commission on Aging Operations and Emergency Medical Services Operations. R. Vetter seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.4 APPOINTMENTS TO CANVASS BOARD

C. Jane moved to appoint Kim Wortley, as the Republican member, to the Canvass Board for a term of November 1, 2023 to 10/31/2027. R. Steinke seconded; motion carried.

W. Routley moved to appoint Lynn Anderson, as the Democratic member, to the Canvass Board for a term of November 1, 2023 to 10/31/2024. C. Jane seconded; motion carried.

6.5 AAAWM CONTRACT AMENDMENT - COA

W. Routley moved to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the AAAWM Continuation of Funding Contract Amendment for FY 2024. L. Howard seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.6 ZONING AMENDMENT RECOMMENDATION #2023-09

Annette Coles appeared before the Board and presented Zoning Amendment Recommendation #23-009 for Parcel Number 12 021 005 100, amending the Zoning Ordinance Map from R-4 to C-1, per Petition PPC23-031.

W. Routley moved to approve Zoning Ordinance Recommendation #2023-09. C. Jane seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.7 PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #23-010

Annette Coles appeared before the Board and presented Zoning Amendment Recommendation #23-010 for Parcel Number 06 030 001 000, amending the Zoning Ordinance Map from R-1 to AF, per Petition PPC23-033.

W. Routley moved to refer the Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment #2023-010 back to the Planning Commission for further consideration. R. Steinke seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.8 PROCLAMATION – MECOSTA COUNTY GIVING TUESDAY NOVEMBER 28, 2023

R. Vetter moved to adopt a Proclamation for November 28, 2023 as Mecosta County Giving Tuesday – National Giving Tuesday. L. Howard seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

County Veterans Services Fund Grant – Administrator

R. Steinke moved that the Administrator be authorized to finalize the FY 24 County Veteran Service Fund Grant for the period of October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. C. Jane seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

Cost Allocation Report – Administrator

R. Steinke moved to approve the Administrator's request to certify the FY 22 Cost Allocation Plan to be used in the 2024 Budget. W. Routley seconded; motion carried.

Listed Bills:

R. Steinke moved to pay the pre-approved vouchers in the amount of \$2,005,340.61 and approve and pay non-approved vouchers in the amount of \$110,411.76. C. Jane seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

Financial Reports/July – Finance Officer

R. Steinke moved to approve the July Financial Reports. W. Routley seconded; motion carried.

Other Business:

The October Finance Committee will be rescheduled to October 4, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. [from October 3, 2023] due to a conflict with the MAC Conference.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

L. Howard reported attending Village of Mecosta Meeting, Wheatland Township Meeting, Drain Commission, DHHS Conference/Mt. Pleasant, Jail Ministry Dinner/Trinity Church, Museum Luncheon and today's Commission Meeting.

C. Jane reported attending Museum Luncheon and today's Commission Meeting.

R. Vetter reported attending Museum Lunch, Grant Township Meeting, Green Township Meeting, Colfax Township Meeting, Building & Zoning Committee and today's Commission Meeting.

T. O'Neil reported attending Mecosta Township Meeting, Austin Township Meeting, Drain Commission, Aetna Township Meeting, Finance Committee, Building & Zoning Committee, EMS Committee and today's Commission Meeting.

W. Routley reported attending Planning Commission Meeting, Finance Committee, City/County/Ferris Meeting, Museum Luncheon, Central Dispatch Meeting and today's Commission Meeting.

R. Steinke reported attending Millbrook Township Meeting, Hinton Township Meeting, Central Dispatch Meeting, LEPT Meeting, Deerfield Township Meeting, Aetna Township Meeting, Region 8 Meeting, District 10 Health Meeting, Finance Committee, MOTA Meeting, EMS Committee, Building & Zoning Committee and today's Commission Meeting.

EMS:

R. Steinke moved to approve the August 2023 write-offs of \$102,696.09, non-contractual write-offs of \$4,869.10 and collections write-offs of \$8,780.29. C. Jane seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

R. Steinke moved to approve Mr. Johnson's request to submit the old EMS truck to auction for disposal. T. O'Neil seconded; motion carried.

R. Steinke moved to approve Mr. Johnson's request to extend the Paramedic tuition assistance program to a current EMT. W. Routley seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

R. Steinke moved to approve Mr. Johnson's request to begin the bid process for a new truck for delivery in 2024. T. O'Neil seconded; motion carried.

J. Strong reported attending AAA Meeting, Parks Meeting, Drain Committee, Fork Township Meeting, Road Commission Meeting, Finance Committee, Martiny Township Meeting, Museum Luncheon, EMS Committee and today's Commission Meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Paul Bullock reported on the following:

- Sheriff Dept is requesting permission to fill 2 new vacancies and 1 promotion.
L. Howard so moved. C. Jane seconded; motion carried.

PUBLIC MATTERS & COMMENTS:

Karla Miller – Mecosta County Drain Commission – appeared before the Board and reported completion on the Ives Drain; will be happy to give tours to anyone interested. Attending a

meeting tomorrow with the City to discuss one of the roads needing a little work following completion of the drain.

Sheriff Miller – appeared before the Board – and spoke regarding the recent resignations in his office.

MISCELLANEOUS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS, MINUTES & REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS:

C. Jane moved to accept and place on file Communications #1-2, Minutes & Reports #1-3 and Resolutions #1-2. R. Vetter seconded; motion carried.

R. Steinke moved to go into Closed Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations. C. Jane seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

Return to Regular Meeting: 4:37 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

J. Strong adjourned to the next regular scheduled meeting or call of the Chair at 4:38 P.M.



Marcee M. Purcell, Mecosta County Clerk and
Clerk for the Board of Commissioners

Jerrilynn Strong, Chair
Mecosta County Board of Commissioners