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SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUMMARY OF OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
October 15, 2024 SESSION

DRAFT

The **October Session** of the Board of Commissioners of Saginaw County, Michigan convened at 5:04 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at the Saginaw County Courthouse, 111 S. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, MI 48602 with the Honorable Christopher S. Boyd in the Chair.

PRESENT: Christopher S. Boyd, Jack B. Tany, Lisa R. Coney, Denny M. Harris, Dennis H. Krafft, Sheldon Matthews, Mark S. Piotrowski, Tracey L. Slodowski, Rich A. Spitzer, and Michael A. Webster - **10**

ABSENT: Gerald D. Little - **1**

TOTAL: - **11**

OTHERS: Mary Catherine Hannah, Koren Thurston, Dave Gilbert, Mark Przybylski, Rachel Horton, Mary McLaughlin, Jennifer Broadfoot, Undersheriff Gomez, Patricia Johnson, Kelly Suppes, Darcie Totten, Kam Christopher, Emilie Lyday, Stephanie Reinhardt, Allissa Specht, Denise Joseph, Jamie Ceja, Terie Elbers, Jane Collins, Jamie Forbes, Grace Branch, Shirley Martin, Marcia Canta, Charles Sledge, Juanita Drake, Doris Wafer, Ida Helton, Teresa Stitt, Jason Wise, Melissa Hayes, Joseph Kline DVM, Wayne Hofmann, Dylan Hellus, Hurley Coleman III, Carmen Mora, Abbey Stemple, Vanessa Guerra, Suzy Koeplinger, Renee Sharkey, and others

✚ Chairman Boyd asked for a moment of silence for the people who lost their lives or were affected by Hurricane Helene in late September and Hurricane Milton in early October.

✚ Commissioner Webster gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes of the September 17, 2024 Board Session were approved

AUDIENCES

- ❖ Chairman Boyd presented a Proclamation for National Pro Bono Week to Attorney Emilie Lyday from the Saginaw County Bar Association.
- ❖ Charles Sledge, Fairground Neighborhood Association, expressed his concerns about the unmaintained former GM plant on E. Genesee and believes Saginaw County owns the property. He wants the building to be demolished, the trees to be removed and the grass to be cut. He fears for the safety of children walking to Loomis Academy due to homeless people residing in the abandoned building. He expressed that he doesn't want kids to believe this is their norm.
- ❖ Teresa Stitt, Fairground Neighborhood Association, addressed her displeasure with the 100 acres of useless, blighted, fairground property and General Motors property. She urged commissioners to drive by and think about what they would do if this was their neighborhood.

[Chairman Boyd gave a brief response stating it is his understanding that Saginaw County does not own this property and that they should check with the City of Saginaw and the Saginaw Housing Commission.]

- ❖ Joseph Kline, DVM, mentioned the \$12 million millage for Animal Care and Control, stated he is still puzzled over his dismissal and wonders if it is the result of the “Me Too” movement going overboard to the point that women are replacing him. He wants an accounting of the \$500 gift he made to pay for lunch for staff and volunteers. Dr. Kline mentioned MCL 333.7333 and insisted the Board receive his copy of the law. [Chairman Boyd responded that he is familiar with case law and assured Dr. Kline that it is public record; his copy isn’t needed.]
- ❖ Jason Wise spoke as a candidate for Saginaw County Sheriff and his campaign on public safety, targeting crime, attracting business, and financial accountability in balancing the budget. He reported disapproval of special privileges concerning patrol vehicles and what their official use should and should not be.
- ❖ Jamie Forbes, Director of External Affairs - STARS, spoke in favor of Saginaw - Shiawassee Habitat for Humanity and Community Action Committee. She believes they are perfectly positioned to get things done. She gave an example of a home that was updated allowing the homeowner to age in place. She stated the program changes lives and eases the difficulties encountered due to COVID.
- ❖ Grace Branch spoke of her support for Habitat for Humanity and the need for affordable housing. She talked about her experience with the requirements to qualify for aid and the home improvement classes that are required as part of the process.
- ❖ Allissa Specht accused various people in positions of authority concerning Animal Care and Control of being hostile toward her. She wants accurate detailed minutes to be kept. She loudly voiced her complaints until the Chairman asked her to please keep her comments professional.
- ❖ Stephanie Reinhardt, Branch Manager at Butman Fish Library, spoke of the library becoming a hub and how it touches more lives throughout the community. She spoke highly of Habitat for Humanity and its commitment to create homes and build lives, by investing in the love of community.

[Chairman Boyd addressed the audience and assured them that all concerns are taken seriously and, although the Board is not required to respond, concerns are referred to the appropriate department.]

INITIATORY MOTIONS

None

LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- Certificate of Recognition to Kenneth Temple, Saginaw Township Fire Department, for earning the 2024 Firefighter of the Year award.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Approved increase in pay to the Board of Canvassers to \$100 for up to 3 hours and \$200 for over 3 hours
- Approved the 2024 Apportionment Report for Equalization
- Approved to pay \$10,977 in 4th quarter performance-based funding, and a performance bonus of \$50,000 for a total of \$60,977 pursuant to the Fourth Amendment of the County/Saginaw Future Agreement
- Approved vendor transactions for August 2024 in the amount of \$47,057,849.14 and September 2024 in the amount of \$17,928,069.42
- Approved to adjust the participating agency accounts in the SCCJCC budget from \$5,200 to \$7,200 for equipment replacement.
- Approved changes to the Health Department's FY 2025 Fee Schedule for Laboratory Fees and Immunization \ Vaccine Fees effective October 1, 2024
- Approved to accept and increase the 416 Secondary Road Patrol grant for FY25 in the amount of \$144,524 and to purchase and equip two Durango patrol vehicles and spend the remaining funds on overtime details
- Approved adding additional Medical Examiner Office Fees to the FY25 Fee Schedule retroactive to October 1, 2024
- Approved, as amended, Covenant/Saginaw-Shiawassee Habitat for Humanity's request for ARPA Housing appropriation to complete the gap between the building costs and MI Neighborhoods application (\$700,000)
- Approved, as amended, Community Action Committee's request for ARPA funding to support critical structural and weatherization repairs to homes throughout Saginaw County (\$250,000)

RESOLUTIONS

None

PROCLAMATIONS

National Celebration of Pro Bono Week, October 20 – 26, 2024

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

APPOINTMENTS

None

ELECTIONS

- ✓ Daniel Spitz, M.D., was elected as the Chief Medical Examiner for a term to expire October 1, 2028 and for Russell Bush, M.D. to serve as the Deputy Medical Examiner.

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chairman Boyd announced this day marks the 73rd anniversary of *I Love Lucy!*
- An Executive Committee meeting will be held Monday, October 28, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. to review employee health insurance information
- A Special Board Session is scheduled for Monday, October 28, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. to set county and employee contributions to health insurance and review a resolution to opt out of P.A. 152 (hard cap provision).

COMMISSIONER AUDIENCES

- ❖ Vice-Chair Tany requested that the Board of Commissioners office door be closed while meetings are in session to prevent non-employees from entering the offices while they are unattended.
- ❖ Commissioner Coney announced that she has completed training through MSU Extension to be a mentor to the Saginaw County Youth Commissioners and reported that she met with them before the Board Meeting and shared their enthusiasm.

Respectfully Submitted,

SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CHRISTOPHER S. BOYD, CHAIRMAN

VANESSA GUERRA, COUNTY CLERK

Prepared by: Suzy Koeplinger, Board Coordinator/Deputy Clerk