




**SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SUMMARY OF OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
JUNE 20, 2023 SESSION**

The June Session of the Board of Commissioners of Saginaw County, Michigan convened at 5:02 p.m. on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 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, Lisa R. Coney, Denny M. Harris, Dennis H. Krafft, Gerald D. Little, Sheldon Matthews, Mark S. Piotrowski, Tracey L. Slodowski, Richard A. Spitzer, Jack B. Tany and Michael A. Webster – 11

**Absent:** – 0

**Others:** Robert Belleman, Dave Gilbert, L. William Smith, Vanessa Guerra, Katie Kelly, Brian Wendling, Tim Novak, Jennifer Broadfoot, Undersheriff Gomez, Mary McLaughlin, John McColgan, Judge Frank, Brenda Moore, Carl Ruth, Liz Quarm, Annette Rummel, Norm Bamberger, Amy Belleman, Jon Block, Josh Brown, Carol Somers, Tomika Deleon, Jason VanBoclaer, Kam Christopher, Tricia Barnes, Pam Pelkki, Ed Brown, BriAnn Summersett, Steve Black, Brian Keeler, Charles Campbell, Sam Tany, Tim Morales, Madison Bourdow-Hewitt, Helen Lutz, Madeleine Oneal, Dr. Russell Bush, Constance Reppuhn, Bonnie Kanicki, Albert Janetsky III, Linda James, Jennifer Leek-Booker, Brandy Brown, Michelle Goist, Mark Angliss, Victoria Bennett, Liz Gooch, Jerry Maxson, Brian Keenan-Lechel, Ed Wasmiller, Timothy Danielak, Shannon Pine, Bill Stanuszek, Jessica Sargent, Nancy Thick, Shawna Davidson, Serina Ortega, Heidi Schafer, Justin Pomerville, Jake Golden, Cheryl Hadsall, Cindy Louchart, Cynthia Winiecke, Josh Winiecke, Chuck Stack, Susie McColgan, Ginny Boyd, Angie Miller, Breanna DePottey, Patricia Johnson, Kathy Marr, Michelle Sawyer, Tom Knaub, Todd Borders, Kyle Bostwick, Mike Hanley, Kelly Suppes, Jaime Ceja, Steve Fenner, Tavey Campbell, Kristin Novak, Thomas Roy, Diane Booth, Patty Longoria, Margie Rodriguez, Jim Campau, Bob Spence, Terry Martin, Lori Fulsher, Jenifer Speckhard, Lori Grai, Dawn Spooner, Kimberly Trinklein, Sue Persinger, Catherine Hicks, Marissa Sawdon, Suzy Koeplinger, and others

 Commissioner Little gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Minutes of the May 16, 2023 Board Session were approved.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**AUDIENCES**

- Mayor Brenda Moore spoke in support of Controller Robert Belleman
- Carl Ruth, former County Commissioner and Chairman, spoke in support of Controller Robert Belleman
- Liz Quarm, Humane Society of Saginaw County President, spoke regarding animal overpopulation and requested funding for the spay and neuter of community cats and owned pets for those who cannot afford to do so themselves

- Annette Rummel thanked commissioners for support of the Henry Marsh Mural Project and the Memorial Cup at the Dow Event Center and spoke in support of Robert Belleman
- Norm Bamberger spoke in support of Controller Robert Belleman
- Amy Belleman spoke in support of Controller Robert Belleman
- Katie Kelly, Register of Deeds, spoke in favor of terminating Controller Robert Belleman
- Vanessa Guerra, County Clerk, spoke in favor of terminating Controller Robert Belleman
- John McColgan, County Prosecutor, spoke regarding labor issues and procedures put in place by Controller Robert Belleman that contributed to low morale and hiring of new employees
- Jon Block spoke in support of Controller Robert Belleman
- Josh Brown, I.T. Director, spoke in favor of removing Robert Belleman as County Controller
- Carol Somers spoke in support of Josh Brown, I.T. Director
- Tomika DeLeon spoke in support of funding for the Humane Society of Saginaw County
- Jason VanBocxlaer spoke regarding the unjustified discipline of Joshua Brown, I.T. Director
- Kam Christopher spoke on Animal Care & Control and the dismissal of Robert Belleman
- Tricia Barnes spoke on Animal Care & Control and the dismissal of Robert Belleman
- Pam Pelkki spoke on behalf of herself and I.T. staff regarding concerns of I.T. Department staff and interaction with Controller Robert Belleman
- Ed Brown spoke in support of his son, Josh Brown, I.T. Director, and removing Robert Belleman as County Controller
- BriAnn Summersett spoke on issues with the Medical Examiner's Office and Robert Belleman
- Steve Black spoke in support of Controller Robert Belleman
- Brian Keeler spoke in support of Controller Robert Belleman
- Charles Campbell spoke against Controller Robert Belleman and the Medical Examiner's Office
- Tim Morales spoke in support of Controller Robert Belleman
- Madison Bourdow-Hewitt addressed issues with Controller Robert Belleman and Animal Control

## INITIATORY MOTIONS

[Requires 2/3 majority vote of the members present for adoption, pursuant to Board Rules]

- Tany moved, seconded by Harris, to enter into closed session, pursuant to MCL 15.268(a), to consider the dismissal/termination without cause of Robert Belleman pursuant to Section IV of his employment agreement, if Mr. Belleman requests a closed session, otherwise it will be held in an open session. Mr. Belleman may rescind the request at any time, in which case the matter at issue will be considered after the rescission only in an open session. (Mr. Belleman did not request a closed session)

***After discussion, the motion failed by the following roll-call vote:***

***Yes: Piotrowski, Tany, Spitzer, Slodowski, Harris, Webster and Boyd - 7***

***No: Matthews, Krafft, Little and Coney - 4***

Chairman Boyd then asked commissioners to consider Executive Committee Board Report 6.4 on the Addendum, taken out of the regular order of business, as follows:

- ***Slodowski moved, seconded by Little, to approve the hiring of special labor counsel to conduct an investigation for legal/labor issues involving complaints about a County Employee. Motion carried by unanimous vote.***
- ***Spitzer moved, seconded by Coney, to authorize the Chairman, in conjunction with County Civil Counsel, to retain outside labor counsel. Motion carried by unanimous vote.***
- ***Coney moved, seconded by Slodowski, to approve placing the County Employee on paid administrative leave until the investigation is completed and a referral is made to the full board. Motion carried, with nay votes recorded for Coney and Krafft.***

[The Board recessed at 6:38 p.m.]  
[The Board reconvened at 7:01 p.m.]

- Coney moved, seconded by Harris, to move reconsideration of the question on the Initiatory Motion, pursuant to Board Rule 6.3 wherein “a member shall have the right to move reconsideration of any question on which the member voted with the prevailing side.”  
***After discussion, the motion carried with a nay vote recorded for Krafft.***
- Tany moved, seconded by Harris, to consider the dismissal/termination without cause of Robert Belleman pursuant to Section IV of his employment agreement.  
***After discussion, the motion carried by the following roll-call vote:***  
***Yes: Tany, Spitzer, Slodowski, Harris, Coney, Webster, Piotrowski and Boyd - 8***  
***No: Matthews, Krafft and Little - 3***
- Slodowski moved, seconded by Coney, to rescind the action taken on Executive Committee Board Report 6.4 on the Addendum as to Item #3 (to place the County Employee on administrative leave, etc.)  
***After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.***

## **LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

- ❖ Certificate of Recognition to Lauren “Lolo” Reed upon the occasion of the “Dripping in Elegance Adult Prom” that she created for those 2020 High School Graduates who never had a prom due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- ❖ Certificate of Recognition to Susan Wagner upon her retirement from the Saginaw County Health Department after 36+ years of service
- ❖ Certificate of Recognition to Kathryn Houck upon her retirement from the Friend of the Court after 25 years of service
- ❖ Certificate of Recognition to Mayor Brenda Moore presented at the 2023 Juneteenth Celebration

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

- Approved addition of a Contract Attorney to the 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court - Family Division budget from the General Fund to begin July 1, 2023 (\$13,759 for remainder of FY 2023 and \$55,000 for FY 2024)
- Approved use of up to \$300,000 of CVB funds by the Saginaw Convention & Visitors Bureau for the Henry Marsh Plaza Mural Project
- Approved the final distribution of allocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to Public Works for drain projects at Little Eagle Creek (\$220,000) and New Tamarack (\$660,000)
- Approved Parks & Recreation applying for a Special License (Beer/Wine) from the State of Michigan for its “Pints & Paddles” event on September 23, 2023
- Approved updated and renumbered Information Technology County Policies 133/151 – Employee Internet Use, Email & Required Training; 134/152 – Information Technology Policy; 138/153 – Remote Access Policy; and 414/154 – Information Security
- Approved reassignment of management of the Solid Waste Management Plan and Committee to the Environmental Health Division of the Saginaw County Health Department
- Approved vendor transactions for April and May 2023
- Approved an increase in funding to Saginaw Future under the agreement using the pay for performance metrics established in 2021, not to exceed \$50,000
- Approved an increase to the Sheriff’s Office current budget by \$78,974.95 to accept revenue from the sale of used patrol vehicles and drug forfeitures

- Approved use of existing funds and fund balance at Animal Care & Control in the total amount of \$197,055 to off-set operational deficiencies due to the intake of a voluminous amount of stray and owner-surrendered animals
- Approved extension of the current contract with Terry Kluck (due to expire July 4, 2023) to Sept. 30, 2023 at no additional cost but to acknowledge that she will work as needed
- Approved extension of Employment Services Agreement with Amy Deford from December 10, 2022 – January 31, 2023 to pay for services provided
- Approval of temporary PCN for Senior Center Specialist at Commission on Aging due to retirement of a current employee and need to onboard/train prior to departure
- Approved a temporary contract with a former SCHD employee to provide office coverage in Environmental Health during a staff maternity leave, from late July/early August until no later than November 30, 2023
- Approved a Memorandum of Understanding between Saginaw County and Teamsters Local 214 regarding a pilot hiring/retention payment program for Public Health Nurses
- Approved the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Saginaw County and COAM – Sergeants
- Approved closure of the Courthouse & Governmental Center and related county facilities on Monday, July 3, 2023 due to Independence Day on Tuesday, July 4, 2023; with the impact of this closure on 24/7 operations to be left to the affected department head
- Approved a Purchase Agreement (211 Congress), Net Lease Agreement (211 Congress), Option to Purchase (705 Towerline) and Purchase Agreement (705 Towerline) and approved rescinding Board action from June 21, 2022 and Board action from November 22, 2022 regarding the named properties
- Approved use of up to \$5,000 in fund balance by Harry W. Browne Airport for a reception honoring HWB Airport for its “Airport of the Year” award from MDOT
- Approved Committee Compensation Reports 6-20-23.1, 6-20-23.2 and 6-20-23.3

## RESOLUTIONS

- Approved Resolution **2023 – 12** RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION FOR SPARK GRANT – LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT MATCH WITHOUT USE OF DONATED FUNDS
- Approved Resolution **2023 – 13** BOND RESOLUTION - LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2023, TO FINANCE THE COST OF DESIGNING, PURCHASING, ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, AND INSTALLING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ITEMS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE DESIGN, ACQUISITION, AND CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DOW EVENT CENTER

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

## APPOINTMENTS

- ✓ Appointed Sara Marquez and Lisa Coney (Service Area Category) to the **Community Corrections Advisory Board** to fill vacancies for terms to expire September 30, 2023
- ✓ Appointed Raquel Ledesma-Perez (Private Sector) and Dr. Marcia Mastracci Ditmyer (Higher Learning) to the **GLB Workforce Development Board** with terms to expire June 30, 2025
- ✓ Appointed Lisa Kleekamp to the **Library Board** with a term to expire May 31, 2028

## **ELECTIONS**

- ✓ Elected Cherie Long to the **Community Mental Health Authority Board** to fill a vacancy for a term to expire March 31, 2025
- ✓ Elected Edward Wasmiller to the **Saginaw County Road Commission** to fill a vacancy for a term to expire December 31, 2024

## **CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ❖ Chairman Boyd announced the Special Board Session scheduled for Monday, June 26, 2023 is cancelled, but there is a Committee of the Whole on the FY 2024 Budget scheduled that same day at 4:00 p.m.

## **COMMISSIONER AUDIENCES**

- Commissioner Tany congratulated Jessica Sargent on the successful Commission on Aging Senior Picnic held Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at Haithco Park. He, along with Chairman Boyd and Commissioners Piotrowski, Little, and Coney, helped serve meals and praised all the volunteers who helped make this event a success.
- Commissioner Krafft introduced former Commissioner Chuck Stack who was in the audience. He stated that it was an emotional meeting, the longest meeting he can remember as a commissioner, but we live in an outstanding country and has respect for everyone, including Robert Belleman. He announced the annual Patriotic Praise event at the Harvey Kern Pavilion at Heritage Park in Frankenmuth on Sunday, July 2, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.
- Commissioner Piotrowski announced the annual American Flag raising on July 4, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. on the Court St. Bridge – volunteers should arrive at 9:00 a.m. To donate or volunteer with the Saginaw Fireworks, go to [saginawareafireworks.com](http://saginawareafireworks.com) for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,

### **SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**CHRISTOPHER S. BOYD, CHAIRMAN**

**VANESSA GUERRA, COUNTY CLERK**

Prepared by: Suzy Koeplinger, Deputy Clerk