

MERCER COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

September 5, 2017

Board convened pursuant to adjournment at 7pm.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for the people of Houston dealing with Hurricane Harvey roll call showed the following members present: Board Member Bieri, Anseeuw, Jones, Frieden, Fullerlove, Sindelar, Hawn, Hare, and Sarabasa.

Chairman Sarabasa presented Chris DeFrieze as the Republican Central Committee nominee for the Board vacancy from District 4. Board Member Anseeuw asked for clarification as to whether it was an Open Meetings Act violation to have an appointment on the agenda without the appointee's name being listed. State's Attorney Lee contacted a colleague who is proficient in civil law as well as being a city attorney, and was assured that as long as the appointment was listed on the agenda, there was no OMA violation. Motion to approve appointment of Chris DeFrieze was made by Board Member Bieri seconded by Board Member Frieden and was approved by vote of the Board. Board Member DeFrieze was sworn in by Chief Deputy Clerk Blaser. FOR FURTHER PROCEEDINGS SEE APPOINTMENT BOOK.

Chairman Sarabasa presented the minutes of the August 1, 2017 General Meeting and on the motion of Board Member Sindelar seconded by Board Member Hare was approved by vote of the Board.

There was no Public Comment.

Board Member Jones presented the minutes of the law Enforcement Committee and on the motion of Board Member Hare seconded by Board Member Bieri was approved by vote of the Board. She then requested approval of the 3.8% increase for the inmate medical contract with Advanced Correctional Healthcare and on the motion of Board Member Fullerlove seconded by Board Member Bieri was approved by vote of the Board. FOR FURTHER PROCEEDINGS SEE MISCELLANEOUS RECORD BOOK J-2, PAGES \_\_\_\_\_.

Board Member Bieri presented the minutes of the Transportation Committee and on the motion of Board Member Anseeuw seconded by Board Member Hare was approved by vote of the Board. He then presented the Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation/16-00110-00-BR for CH16 across Snake Creek and on the motion of Board Member Sindelar seconded by Board Member Hare was approved by vote of the Board. FOR FURTHER PROCEEDINGS SEE HIGHWAY RECORD BOOK.

Board Member Sarabasa presented the minutes of the Animal Control Committee and on the motion of Board Member Bieri seconded by Board Member Sindelar was approved by vote of the Board.

Board Member Sindelar presented the minutes of the Public Health Committee and on the motion of Board Member Jones seconded by Board Member Fullerlove was approved by vote of the Board. Board Member Fullerlove commended the Public Health Department for accepting Tri-Care Insurance which provides coverage for US Veterans.

Board Member Sindelar presented the minutes of the Veterans Commission and on the motion of Board Member Fullerlove seconded by Board Member Hawn was approved by vote of the Board.

Board Member Jones presented the minutes of the 911 Board and on the motion of Board Member Bieri seconded by Board Member Fullerlove was approved by vote of the Board. Board Member Jones then announced her resignation from the 911 Board. Chairman Sarabasa accepted her resignation on behalf of the Board.

Board Member Bieri presented the minutes of the Finance Committee and on the motion of Board Member Sindelar seconded by Board Member Fullerlove was approved by vote of the Board. He then presented claims for payment on September 15, 2017 as follows: General Corporate \$83,266.48, Public Health \$34,690.52, Veterans/Bogardus \$340.58, County Highway \$14,783.00, County Aid Bridge \$3,796.43, Federal Aid Matching \$115,126.50, Township Motor Fuel \$198,031.30, Motor Fuel \$23,094.15, Animal Control \$1,764.31, Pet Population \$4,507.00, Special Projects AC \$332.68, Law Library \$873.79, Capital Improvements \$945.00, Liability Insurance \$7,291.31, Probation Fees \$4,040.05, Circuit Clerk Document Storage \$2,480.98, GIS Clerk \$150.37 for a total of \$495,514.45. A motion to pay the claims as per the Finance Committee meeting was brought by Board Member Hare seconded by Board Member Fullerlove was approved by roll call vote of the Board -10 ayes, 0 nays.

Upon recommendation of the Democratic Central Committee, Chairman Sarabasa presented Sara Blaser for Appointment to the office of County Clerk to fill the vacancy left by Phyllis Bewley's retirement. On the motion of Board Member Sindelar seconded by Board Member Anseeuw was approved by vote of the Board. Clerk Blaser was sworn in by Chairman Sarabasa. He then presented Sandy Long for appointment as the FOIA officer for the County and on the motion of Board Member Bieri seconded by Board Member DeFrieze was approved by vote of the Board. He also presented Board Member Sarabasa for appointment to the 911 Board for a term of 120 days to fill the vacancy left by Board Member Jones' resignation and on the motion of Board Member Bieri seconded by Board Member Hare was approved by vote of the Board. Chairman Sarabasa then presented Daniel Breitenstein for appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 5-year term and on the motion of Board Member Fullerlove seconded by Board Member Frieden and was approved by vote of the Board. He also presented Daniel Ball for appointment to the Public Building Commission and on the motion of Board Member Bieri seconded by Board Member Fullerlove was approved by vote of the Board. FOR FURTHER PROCEEDINGS SEE APPOINTMENT BOOK.

Motion to enter closed session to discuss pending litigation was made by Board Member Bieri seconded by Board Member DeFrieze was approved by vote of the Board and all guests were asked to clear the Board Room. Mary McClellan was asked to stay for the closed session. Board entered closed session at 7:31 p.m.

Motion to come out of closed session at 8:00 p.m. was made by Board Member Sarabasa seconded by Board Member Bieri was approved by vote of the Board. Motion for Bellwether to search for funding and legal protection for the County on pending litigation was made by Board Member Sarabasa seconded by Board Member Bieri was approved by vote of the Board.

In other business, Board Member Jones stated she has acquired more information for the Board regarding the possible sale of the County's farmland/hunting acreage and she will present said information at the October meeting.

Motion to adjourn to Tuesday, October 3rd at 7:00pm by Board Member Sarabasa was seconded by Board Member Bieri and was approved by vote of the Board at 8:02 p.m.