

Barry County Board of Commissioners - Committee of the Whole  
March 16, 2021; 9:00 a.m.; **Remote Via Zoom**  
**MINUTES**

Members Present by roll call: Commissioners Bruce Campbell – Baltimore Twp., Ben Geiger – Barry County Courthouse, Catherine Getty – Yankee Springs Twp., Howard Gibson – Tyden Center, Dave Jackson - Cloverdale, and Jon Smelker – Irving Township. Absent: Vivian Conner. Clerk Pam Palmer was also present.

Others present via zoom: Michael Brown, Luella Dennison, Rebecca Pierce, Dave Shinavier, Joel Ibbotson, Frank Fiala, Cathy Gramze, Dana Yarger, James Alden, William Chad Butler, Bob Becker, Linda Maupin, Jennifer Meyer, Coleen Tuokkola, Don Haney, Mark Nettleton, Bobbie Bendzinski, Stephen Hayduk, Jack Miner, Mark Bonsignore, Sharon Zebrowski, Rich Thiemkey, Dan Patton, Stacey Graham, Aaron Gross, Brian Urquhart, Dave Stoker, Patricia Rayl, Jason Sixberry, and Dar Leaf.

Chair Geiger called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Those present stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Interviews for Zoning Board of Appeals (1 position):

James Alden\*, William Butler, and Dana Yarger interviewed from 9:03 a.m. to 9:06 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Joel Ibbotson – Rutland Twp., mentioned his gratefulness to Ben Geiger and Jon Smelker for attending dinner on Saturday night.
- Frank Fiala mentioned that recycling is making a comeback and the Solid Waste Oversight Committee has been contacted by several townships who are looking into recycling options.

Continue: Interviews for Zoning Board of Appeals (1 position):

James Alden\*, William Butler, and Dana Yarger interviewed from 9:09 a.m. to 9:21 a.m.

Interviews for the Community Mental Health Authority Board (4 positions, + 1 partial term position):

Bob Becker\*, Deb Hyatt\*, Linda Maupin\*, Jennifer Meyer\*, and Coleen Tuokkola interviewed from 9:22 a.m. to 9:44 a.m. Deb Hyatt was unable to attend and Chair Geiger read aloud a letter she submitted requesting re-appointment. Morgan Chavez withdrew her application citing a scheduling conflict with the meeting time for the board.

Recess at 9:46 a.m. Resume meeting with all commissioners present (absent Conner) at 9:51 a.m.

Discussion and Recommendations for Appointments.

Moved by Jackson, seconded by Getty to recommend to the Board of Commissioners the re-appointment of James Alden to serve on the Zoning Board for a three-year term that begins on April 1, 2021 and ends on March 31, 2024. Discussion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Campbell, Geiger, Getty, Gibson, and Jackson. Nays: Smelker. Absent: Conner. Motion carried.

Moved by Gibson, seconded by Jackson to recommend to the Board of Commissioners the reappointment of Bob Becker, Deb Hyatt, Linda Maupin, and Jennifer Meyer to serve on the Barry County Community Mental Health Authority Board for three-year terms that begin on April 1, 2021 and expire on March 31, 2024, and appointment Coleen Tuokkola to serve on the Barry County Community Mental Health Authority Board for a three year term that began on April 1, 2020 and expires on March 31, 2023. Discussion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Campbell, Geiger, Getty, Gibson, Jackson, and Smelker. Nays: None. Absent: Conner. Motion carried.

#### DAVID SHINAVIER – Surplus Auto Sales

Moved by Gibson, seconded by Getty to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval to sell surplus automobiles, as listed below, via sealed bid to the highest bidder. Discussion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Campbell, Geiger, Getty, Gibson, Jackson, and Smelker. Nays: None. Absent: Conner. Motion carried.

#### JASON SIXBERRY – Marine Vessel Purchase/Trade-In

Moved by Gibson, seconded by Getty to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval to purchase a new 2021, 215 Scout XSF Vessel, with a 2021 Mercury 200XL DTS motor, and a 2021 Phoenix trailer, from SkipperBud's in Grand Haven, Michigan, for \$73,000, and approval to trade in the 2007 Four Winns "Funship 204" Vessel, HIN: GFNMK003G607, per attached quote. Discussion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Campbell, Geiger, Getty, Gibson, Jackson, and Smelker. Nays: None. Absent: Conner. Motion carried.

#### MARK NETTLETON – Authorization to Issue Capital Improvement and Refunding Bonds for Thornapple Manor

Moved by Gibson, seconded by Geiger to recommend to the Board of Commissioners adoption of Resolution #21-08, a Resolution to Authorize Issuance of 2021 Capital Improvement and Refunding Bonds (Thornapple Manor Medical Care Facility), (Limited Tax General Obligation) and Related Matters. Discussion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Campbell, Geiger, Getty, Gibson, Jackson, and Smelker. Nays: None. Absent: Conner. Motion carried.

#### MICHAEL BROWN – 1. Contract Extension with MGT of America, Inc. to Prepare the Cost Allocation Plan

Moved by Jackson, seconded by Gibson to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the attached Consulting Services Contract Extension with MGT of America, Inc. to provide Indirect Cost Accounting Services for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement. Discussion. All ayes. Nays: None. Motion carried.

#### 2. Annual Appointment to Tax Allocation Board

Moved by Getty, seconded by Smelker to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval to re-appoint Craig Stolsonburg to serve in the position of Citizen at Large, on the Barry County Tax Allocation Board for a one (1) year term that begins on 4-1-2021 and expires on 3-31-2022. Discussion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Campbell, Geiger, Getty, Gibson, Jackson, and Smelker. Nays: None. Absent: Conner. Motion carried.

Recess at 10:27 a.m. Resume meeting with all commissioners present (absent Conner) at 10:31 a.m.

a. I move to go into closed session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, 15.268, Section 8c, for strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement.

Moved by Smelker, seconded by Campbell to go into closed session at 10:31 a.m. in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, 15.268, Section 8c, for strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement.

(1) Moved by Getty, seconded by Campbell for approval of the closed session meeting minutes. Roll call vote. Ayes: Campbell, Getty, Geiger, and Jackson. Nays: None. Failure to vote: Gibson and Smelker. Absent: Conner. Motion carried.

### 3. Tentative Agreement for BCCEA

Moved by Smelker, seconded by Gibson to recommend to the Board of Commissioners adoption of Resolution #21-09, Resolution Approving the Tentative Agreement Reached and Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Barry County Courthouse Employees Association for January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025 and authorize the Chair to sign the successor agreement. Discussion Roll call vote. Ayes: Campbell, Geiger, Getty, Gibson, Jackson, and Smelker. Nays: None. Absent: Conner. Motion carried.

Recess at 11:03 a.m. Resume meeting with all commissioners present (absent Conner) at 11:05 a.m.

BEN GEIGER - 1. Resolution Supporting Our Small Businesses

Moved by Jackson, seconded by Gibson to recommend to the Board of Commissioners adoption of Resolution #21-07 – Resolution Supporting Our Small Businesses. Discussion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Campbell, Geiger, Getty, Gibson, Jackson, and Smelker. Nays: None. Absent: Conner. Motion carried.

### 2. Scheduling In-Person BOC and COW Meetings

Moved by Jackson, seconded by Gibson to recommend to the Board of Commissioners scheduling in person Board of Commissioner and Committee of the Whole meetings beginning in April, 2021. Roll call vote. Ayes: Campbell, Geiger, Getty, Gibson, Jackson, and Smelker. Nays: None. Absent: Conner. Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Joel Ibbotson of Rutland Twp. expressed disappointment with the answer received as to his question regarding bonds for Thornapple Manor, but commended Don Haney for his role in the Thornapple Manor project and protecting the lives of residents.
- Patricia Rayl asked for help from the county in continuing the ability to zoom meetings after March 31, 2021, as well as meeting in person.
- Dar Leaf further explained that the request for the new boat also included a trailer allowing them to take it to other lakes for rescues.

ADJOURNMENT: at 11:34 a.m.

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Ben Geiger, Chair  
Barry County Board of Commissioners

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Pamela A. Palmer, Barry County Clerk

Approved: 4/13/2021 PPalmer  
Date & Initials

*\*Denotes incumbent board member.*

