

Committee of the Whole  
August 24, 2021  
9:00 a.m. – 11:09 a.m.

Meeting called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. All Commissioners were present.

**Public Comment:**

Byron Dell spoke on the Burlison Drain issues and the fact that certain residents were over assessed on their taxes to pay for this and the mistakes of the former Drain Commissioner, Bob Evans.

Clay Maxwell spoke on his assessment for Quillet Drain and the extremely high assessment on his taxes and also that Scott Drain would soon be added to his tax bill. He has made several requests, including by FOIA, for what his tax money was being used for but has had no response yet.

Linda Warner also spoke on the Burlison Drain assessment on her taxes.

Commissioner Rick Grove responded that it was a terrible burden on taxpayers and it was in the hands of the of the State for the County to make repairs.

**City Administrator:** no business

**County Affairs:**

1. Chairperson Moore discussed the reappointment of Susan Svetcos to the CMHCH Board for the term April 1, 2021 through March 1, 2024.
2. The CESF Grant just needs to be updated with the new Board Chairperson signature to finish out the term through December 31, 2021.
3. Dr. Bush, Randy Pfau and Brian Hart addressed the Board on the acceptance of the Medical Examiner's annual report, the appointment of two assistant Medical Examiners to make sure there was always coverage and the price of cremation fees.
4. Constitution Week was discussed, and the fact that it happens every year, so they would approve it as usual.
5. There was minimal discussion on the Friend of the Court CRP Agreement because no one was there to present the changes to the Board and discuss the major changes in dollar amounts.
6. Ken Roberts discussed the Veterans Affairs 2020 Status Report and the many services offered and available to our local veterans.
7. Ken Roberts also discussed some minor wording changes to the Veterans Affairs Bylaws that need approval from the Board.
8. Ken Roberts discussed the CVSO Act, which is basically \$50,000 in Federal grant money that could be available to veterans, and the need for the Board to write a letter in support of getting this Act passed.

**County Facilities and Transportation:** no scheduled items

**Data:** no scheduled items

**511 Council:** no scheduled items

**Insurance:** no scheduled items

**Memorial Restoration:** no scheduled items

**MERS:** no scheduled items

**Public Safety:** no scheduled items

**Parks and Recreation:** no scheduled items

**Personnel:**

Judge Farrell and Magistrate Post asked for an extension on the part time employment of Linda Hawkins through the end of the year at an approximate cost of \$6,300 or less depending on trial schedules. Funding was discussed and the possibility of additional collections by District Court instead of coming from General Fund.

The Administrator spoke on passports moving from the Clerk's Office to Register of Deeds, getting their employees trained to do this and their part time person becoming full time. The Registrar has already met with the Treasurer on establishing revenue lines.

**Finance:**

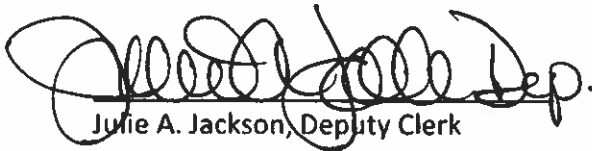
1. Kristie Simrau has asked to attend the 2021 Michigan Probate and Juvenile Registers Association Annual Conference.
2. Hannah McGuire has asked to attend the 2021 Michigan Probate and Juvenile Registers Association Annual Conference.
3. The Interim Administrator needs to be removed from the County credit card and add the new Administrator Mark Justin instead.
4. The Treasurer would like to purchase a new laptop for her office out of the Tax Reversion funds.

**Report from Civil Attorney:**

1. There was a lengthy discussion on the Davidson and Burleson Creek drains by Stacy Hissong and the Drain Commissioner. There are several issues being looked into with EGLE and Federal funding to best resolve the burden placed on the taxpayers for the negligence on the part of the former Drain Commissioner.
2. Discussion on Billings and Secord Point of Transfer.
3. They are moving forward with the solar farm on Willford Road beginning March 1, 2022.
4. There needs to be an amendment to the marijuana zoning map to include some parcels in Hay and Beaverton Townships to be approved by Zoning.

5. There was discussion on the implementation of 5G wireless networks being installed and the aesthetic look of the structures to be used. They are going to be placed on telephone poles and those type of right of ways, which will actually be the problem of the Road Commission, so basically the only concern would be how they are going to look.
6. The Amerihemp lawsuit has been resolved. However, there were some concerns with the practice of their burning of some of the product, but DEQ has taken care of this issue.
7. The Executive Sessions for Pratt Lake Level and Union negotiations have been moved to the regular Commissioner meeting since motions are needed on both to go into closed sessions.

Meeting concluded at 11:09 a.m.



Julie A. Jackson, Deputy Clerk



Karen Moore, Chairperson