

APPROVED
PROCEEDINGS OF THE OTTAWA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY SESSION – ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The Ottawa County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Clerk/Register.

Pastor Ray Paget pronounced the invocation.

The Clerk/Register led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Present at roll call: Gretchen Cosby, Lucy Ebel, Douglas Zylstra, Joe Moss, Kyle Terpstra, Rebekah Curran, Sylvia Rhodea, Roger Belknap, Roger Bergman, Allison Miedema. (10)

Absent: Jacob Bonnema (1)

Public Comments

Public comments were made by the following:

1. Walter (Mac) Davis-Grand Haven
2. Stephen Rockman-Grand Haven Township
3. Joel Studebaker-Jamestown Township
4. Larry Johnson-Holland
5. Jeff Moss-Georgetown Township
6. Michael Bosch-Georgetown Township
7. Steve Redmond-Park Township
8. David Morren-Allendale Township
9. Barbara VanHorsen-Grand Haven
10. Harvey Nikkel-Georgetown Township
11. Joe Spaulding-Holland Township
12. Matthew VanZetten-Holland City
13. Kristen Meghan Kelly-Jamestown Township
14. Emily Underhill-Allendale Township
15. Donna Mooney-Georgetown Township
16. Malinda Pego-Muskegon County
17. Joshua Vanderklok-Georgetown Township

The Clerk/Register of Deeds, Justin Roebuck, administered the Oath of Office to the Commissioners.

B/C 23-001 Roger Bergman moved to approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign the Resolution setting a one (1) year term for the position of Ottawa County Board Chairperson. The motion passes as shown by the following votes:

Yeas: Roger Belknap, Rebekah Curran, Gretchen Cosby, Sylvia Rhodea, Douglas Zylstra, Kyle Terpstra, Allison Miedema, Lucy Ebel, Roger Bergman, Joe Moss. (10)

The Clerk/Register opened the floor for nominations for Temporary Chairperson.

B/C 23-002 Allison Miedema nominated Gretchen Cosby as Temporary Chairperson. The motion passed.

Gretchen Cosby, as Temporary Chairperson, opened the floor for nominations for the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners.

B/C 23-003 Gretchen Cosby moved to nominate Joe Moss as Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners.

B/C 23-004 Douglas Zylstra moved to nominate Roger Bergman as Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners.

Roll Call Vote:

Lucy Ebel-Joe Moss	Roger Bergman-Abstained
Allison Miedema-Joe Moss	Kyle Terpstra-Joe Moss
Gretchen Cosby-Joe Moss	Sylvia Rhodea-Joe Moss
Rebekah Curran-Joe Moss	Douglas Zylstra-Roger Bergman
Roger Belknap-Joe Moss	Joe Moss-Joe Moss

Joe Moss was declared Chairperson of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners.

Chairperson Moss opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners.

B/C 23-005 Roger Bergman moved to nominate Doug Zylstra as Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners.

B/C 23-006 Roger Belknap moved to nominate Sylvia Rhodea as Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners.

Roll Call Vote:

Gretchen Cosby-Sylvia Rhodea	Roger Bergman-Douglas Zylstra
Douglas Zylstra-Douglas Zylstra	Kyle Terpstra-Douglas Zylstra
Allison Miedema-Sylvia Rhodea	Rebekah Curran-Sylvia Rhodea
Lucy Ebel-Sylvia Rhodea	Roger Belknap-Sylvia Rhodea
Sylvia Rhodea-Sylvia Rhodea	Joe Moss-Sylvia Rhodea

Sylvia Rhodea was declared Vice-Chairperson of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners.

The Clerk/Register of Deeds, Justin Roebuck, administered the Oath of Office to Chairperson Moss and Vice-Chairperson Rhodea.

- B/C 23-007 Sylvania Rhodea moved to establish the Rules of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners as amended. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Kyle Terpstra, Rebekah Curran, Roger Belknap, Sylvania Rhodea, Allison Miedema, Lucy Ebel, Gretchen Cosby, Joe Moss. (8)
- Nays: Douglas Zylstra and Roger Bergman. (2)
- B/C 23-008 Douglas Zylstra moved to amend the Board Rules by removing paragraph 4 of Article III Rule 3.1. Motion failed by the following votes: Nays: Roger Belknap, Rebekah Curran, Allison Miedema, Kyle Terpstra, Gretchen Cosby, Sylvania Rhodea, Lucy Ebel, Joe Moss. (8)
- Yeas: Douglas Zylstra and Roger Bergman. (2)
- B/C 23-009 Douglas Zylstra moved to amend the Board Rules to remove the last sentence of paragraph 4 of Rule 6.7. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Bergman, Douglas Zylstra, Roger Belknap, Gretchen Cosby, Rebekah Curran, Lucy Ebel, Sylvania Rhodea, Allison Miedema, Kyle Terpstra, Joe Moss. (10)
- B/C 23-010 Sylvania Rhodea moved amend the Amendment to remove just the last sentence of paragraph 4 of Rule 6.7. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Douglas Zylstra, Roger Bergman, Lucy Ebel, Roger Belknap, Gretchen Cosby, Allison Miedema, Sylvania Rhodea, Rebekah Curran, Kyle Terpstra, Joe Moss. (10)
- B/C 23-011 Douglas Zylstra moved to include Ottawa County "Where you Belong" to the front page of the Board Rules. The motion failed as shown by the following votes: Nays: Lucy Ebel, Gretchen Cosby, Allison Miedema, Rebekah Curran, Sylvania Rhodea, Roger Belknap, Joe Moss. (7)
- Yeas: Douglas Zylstra, Kyle Terpstra, Roger Bergman. (3)
- B/C 23-012 Sylvania Rhodea moved to approve the Amended Standing Committee meeting times. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Gretchen Cosby, Roger Bergman, Douglas Zylstra, Kyle Terpstra, Allison Miedema, Rebekah Curran, Lucy Ebel, Roger Belknap, Sylvania Rhodea, Joe Moss. (10)

2023 Board Meeting Schedule

Board of Commissioner Meetings	2nd Tuesday of each month at 9AM, 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM
Finance & Administration	1st Tuesday of each month at 10AM (directly after Planning & Policy)
Planning & Policy	1st Tuesday of each month at 9AM
Health & Human Services	3rd Tuesday of each month at 9AM
Talent & Recruitment	3rd Tuesday of each month at 10AM (directly after Health & Human Services)
Board Rules	3rd Tuesday of March 2023

- B/C 23-013 Douglas Zylstra moved to amend the Standing Committee meeting schedule to add a Rules Committee meeting to the 3rd Tuesday of March 2023. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Belknap, Rebekah Curran, Gretchen Cosby,

Sylvia Rhodea, Douglas Zylstra, Kyle Terpstra, Allison Miedema, Lucy Ebel, Roger Bergman, Joe Moss. (10)

B/C 23-014 Gretchen Cosby moved to amend the agenda after Action Item B as Item C to discuss the need for Corporation Counsel. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Belknap, Rebekah Curran, Allison Miedema, Gretchen Cosby, Sylvia Rhodea, Lucy Ebel, Joe Moss. (7)
Nays: Kyle Terpstra, Douglas Zylstra, Roger Bergman. (3)

B/C 23-015 Gretchen Cosby moved to approve the several times over Amended Resolution to accept the intended resignation of Doug Van Essen given on 12/22/22 and approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign the Resolution to appoint Kallman Legal Group PLLC as interim Corporate Counsel. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Belknap, Gretchen Cosby, Rebekah Curran, Lucy Ebel, Sylvia Rhodea, Allison Miedema, Joe Moss. (7)

Nays: Roger Bergman and Douglas Zylstra. (2)

Jack Jordan, from Kallman Legal Group, addressed the Board.

B/C 23-016 Roger Bergman moved to amend the Resolution to update the language of the 2nd and 3rd "WHEREAS" to include "Employee Doug Van Essen" and remove "Silver & Van Essen" from WHEREAS number 2 and to add the sentence "will transition the role of Corporation Counsel to Kallman Legal Group on February 28, 2023" from WHEREAS number 3, "WHEREAS" statements from this document. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Douglas Zylstra, Roger Bergman, Roger Belknap, Gretchen Cosby, Rebekah Curran, Kyle Terpstra. (6)

Nays: Lucy Ebel, Allison Miedema, Sylvia Rhodea, Joe Moss. (4)

B/C 23-017 Rebekah Curran moved to amend the amendment to the Resolution to update the language of the 2nd and 3rd "WHEREAS" to include "Employee Doug Van Essen" and remove "Silver & Van Essen" from WHEREAS number 2 and to add the sentence "will transition the role of Corporation Counsel to Kallman Legal Group on February 28, 2023" from WHEREAS number 3. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Lucy Ebel, Gretchen Cosby, Allison Miedema, Rebekah Curran, Douglas Zylstra, Kyle Terpstra, Roger Belknap, Roger Bergman. (8)

Nays: Sylvia Rhodea and Joe Moss. (2)

B/C 23-018 Roger Belknap moved to amend the amended amendment to include that Kallman Legal Group will be paid their standard rate of \$225 per hour. The motion failed for lack of second.

B/C 23-019 Allison Miedema moved to amend the amended amended amendment to the Resolution to include "no later than February 28, 2023". The motion failed by a tie vote as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Kyle Terpstra, Rebekah Curran, Roger Belknap, Allison Miedema, Gretchen Cosby. (5)

Nays: Douglas Zylstra, Sylvia Rhodea, Lucy Ebel, Roger Bergman, Joe Moss. (5)

B/C 23-020 Lucy Ebel moved to amend the amended amended amended amendment to the Resolution to include "on or before February 28, 2023. The motion failed for lack of a second.

B/C 23-021 Gretchen Cosby moved to amend the amended amended amended amended amendment to the Resolution to change "legal counsel" to "corporation counsel". The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Belknap, Rebekah Curran, Gretchen Cosby, Sylvia Rhodea, Kyle Terpstra, Allison Miedema, Lucy Ebel, Joe Moss. (8)

Nays: Douglas Zylstra and Roger Bergman. (2)

B/C 23-022 Sylvia Rhodea moved to amend the amended amended amended amended amended amendment to the Resolution to change the wording of WHEREAS number 3 to read WHEREAS, Doug Van Essen has filled the role of "Corporation Counsel" for the County of Ottawa, at the pleasure of the Board of Commissioners; and, will transition the role of Corporation Counsel and work at the pleasure and under the direction of the Kallman Legal Group as the Corporation Counsel to Kallman Legal Group over the next 2 months, on February 28, 2023.
This motion was withdrawn.

The Board took a short break.

Chair Moss called back to order at 11:41 a.m. Mr. Terpstra had to leave at 11:41 a.m.

B/C 23-023 Sylvia Rhodea moved to amend the amended amended amended amended amended amended amendment to the Resolution to change the wording of WHEREAS number 3 to read WHEREAS, Doug Van Essen has filled the role of "Corporation Counsel" for the County of Ottawa, at the pleasure of the Board of Commissioners; and, will transition Corporate Counsel in cooperation with and under the lead of Kallman Legal Group in fully transitioning Corporate Counsel to Kallman Legal Group, on or before February 28, 2023. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Lucy Ebel, Allison Miedema, Gretchen Cosby, Sylvia Rhodea, Rebekah Curran, Roger Belknap, Joe Moss. (7)

Nays: Roger Bergman and Douglas Zylstra. (2)

B/C 23-024 Sylvia Rhodea moved to approve the amended amended amended amended amended amendment to the Resolution to change the wording of WHEREAS number 3 to read WHEREAS, Doug Van Essen has filled the role of "Corporation Counsel" for the County of Ottawa, at the pleasure of the Board of Commissioners; and, will transition Corporate Counsel in cooperation with and under the lead of Kallman Legal Group in fully transitioning Corporate Counsel to Kallman Legal Group, on or before February 28, 2023. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Belknap, Rebekah Curran, Allison Miedema, Gretchen Cosby, Sylvia Rhodea, Lucy Ebel, Joe Moss. (7)

Nays: Douglas Zylstra and Roger Bergman. (2)

- B/C 23-025 Gretchen Cosby moved to approve the amendment to the original motion to accept the intended resignation of Doug Van Essen given on 12/22/22 and approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign the Resolution to appoint Kallman Legal Group PLLC as interim Corporate Counsel.
Roger Bergman "Called to Question".
- The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Belknap, Grechen Cosby, Rebekah Curran, Lucy Ebel, Sylvia Rhodea, Allison Miedema, Joe Moss. (7)
- Nays: Roger Bergman and Douglas Zylstra. (2)
- B/C 23-026 Sylvia Rhodea moved to amend the agenda after Action Item C as Item D to address hiring a new County Administrator. The motion passed as shown by the following votes:
Yeas: Lucy Ebel, Roger Belknap, Gretchen Cosby, Allison Miedema, Sylvia Rhodea, Joe Moss. (6)
- Nays: Douglas Zylstra, Roger Bergman, Rebekah Curran. (3)
- B/C 23-027 Sylvia Rhodea moved to terminate the employment of the current County Administrator and to approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign a Resolution to appoint John Gibbs as County Administrator effective immediately. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Gretchen Cosby, Lucy Ebel, Joe Moss, Sylvia Rhodea, Roger Belknap, Allison Miedema. (6)
- Nays: Douglas Zylstra, Rebekah Curran, Roger Bergman. (3)
- B/C 23-028 Rebekah Curran moved to postpone this decision for 30 days. The motion failed as shown by the following votes: Nays: Lucy Ebel, Gretchen Cosby, Allison Miedema, Sylvia Rhodea, Roger Belknap, Joe Moss. (6)
- Yeas: Rebekah Curran, Douglas Zylstra, Roger Bergman. (3)
- B/C 23-029 Douglas Zylstra moved to amend the first NOW THEREFORE of the Resolution to add "to retain the services of current County Administrator John Shay until February 28, 2023". The motion failed as shown by the following votes: Nays: Roger Belknap, Sylvia Rhodea, Allison Miedema, Lucy Ebel, Gretchen Cosby, Joe Moss. (6)
- Yeas: Rebekah Curran, Douglas Zylstra, Roger Bergman. (3)
- B/C 23-030 Allison Miedema moved to end discussion and go to vote. The motion passed.
- Roger Bergman left the meeting at 12:18 p.m.
- B/C 23-031 Sylvia Rhodea moved to amend the agenda after Item D as Item E to change the County Vision Statement. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Belknap, Rebekah Curran, Gretchen Cosby, Sylvia Rhodea, Allison Miedema, Lucy Ebel, Joe Moss. (7)

Nays: Douglas Zylstra. (1)

B/C 23-032 Sylvia Rhodea moved to approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign a Resolution to update the County Mission Statement from "Where you Belong" to "Where Freedom Rings". The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Gretchen Cosby, Allison Miedema, Rebekah Curran, Lucy Ebel, Roger Belknap, Sylvia Rhodea, Joe Moss. (7)

Nays: Douglas Zylstra. (1)

B/C 23-033 Lucy Ebel moved to amend the agenda after Item E as Item F to close the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Department. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Lucy Ebel, Allison Miedema, Gretchen Cosby, Sylvia Rhodea, Rebekah Curran, Roger Belknap, Joe Moss. (7)

Nays: Douglas Zylstra. (1)

B/C 23-034 Lucy Ebel moved to approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign a Resolution to close the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Department. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Belknap, Rebekah Curran, Allison Miedema, Gretchen Cosby, Sylvia Rhodea, Lucy Ebel, Joe Moss. (7)

Nays: Douglas Zylstra. (1)

B/C 23-035 Douglas Zylstra moved to amend the motion to return the money that was donated to the County to help create the DEI Department to the investors. Motion fails for lack of a second.

B/C 23-036 Allison Miedema moved to amend the agenda after Item F as Item G to change the Ottawa County Administrative Health Officer. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Belknap, Gretchen Cosby, Rebekah Curran, Lucy Ebel, Sylvia Rhodea, Allison Miedema, Joe Moss. (7)

Nays: Douglas Zylstra. (1)

B/C 23-037 Allison Miedema moved to appoint Adeline Hambley as Interim Administrative Health Officer until a new Administrative Health Officer is hired and to approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign a Resolution to appoint Nathaniel Kelly as Administrative Health Officer of Ottawa County contingent upon (1) the approval of the Board of Commissioners and (2) confirmation by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Lucy Ebel, Roger Belknap, Gretchen Cosby, Allison Miedema, Sylvia Rhodea, Rebekah Curran, Joe Moss. (7)

Nays: Douglas Zylstra. (1)

B/C 23-038 Gretchen Cosby moved to amend the agenda after Item G as Item H to hire an Administrative Director to the Board of Commissioners. The motion passed as shown by

the following votes: Yeas: Lucy Ebel, Gretchen Cosby, Allison Miedema, Rebekah Curran, Sylvia Rhodea, Roger Belknap, Joe Moss. (7)

Nays: Douglas Zylstra. (1)

B/C 23-039 Gretchen Cosby moved to approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign a Resolution to hire Cindy Driesenga as Administrative Director to the Board of Commissioners. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Rebekah Curran, Douglas Zylstra, Roger Belknap, Sylvia Rhodea, Allison Miedema, Lucy Ebel, Gretchen Cosby, Joe Moss. (8)

B/C 23-040 Roger Belknap moved to approve the amended Board of Commissioners Committee appointments for 2023. The motion passed as shown by the following votes: Yeas: Roger Belknap, Rebekah Curran, Gretchen Cosby, Sylvia Rhodea, Douglas Zylstra, Allison Miedema, Lucy Ebel, Joe Moss. (8)

2023 Standing Committee Assignments

Finance & Administration

Gretchen Cosby *
Lucy Ebel
Doug Zylstra
Jacob Bonnema
Joe Moss
Rebekah Curran
Sylvia Rhodea
Roger Belknap
Roger Bergman
Allison Miedema

Planning & Policy

Gretchen Cosby
Lucy Ebel
Doug Zylstra
Jacob Bonnema
Joe Moss
Rebekah Curran
Sylvia Rhodea
Roger Belknap *
Roger Bergman
Allison Miedema

Board Rules

Gretchen Cosby
Lucy Ebel
Doug Zylstra
Jacob Bonnema
Joe Moss *
Kyle Terpstra
Rebekah Curran
Sylvia Rhodea
Roger Belknap
Allison Miedema

Health & Human Services

Gretchen Cosby
Lucy Ebel
Doug Zylstra
Jacob Bonnema
Joe Moss
Rebekah Curran
Sylvia Rhodea *
Roger Belknap
Allison Miedema

Talent & Recruitment

Gretchen Cosby
Lucy Ebel
Doug Zylstra
Jacob Bonnema
Joe Moss
Kyle Terpstra
Rebekah Curran
Sylvia Rhodea
Roger Belknap
Allison Miedema *

* Denotes Chair

2023 Boards and Commissions

Agricultural Preservation Board	Allison Miedema		
Area Community Services Employment & Training Council (ACSET) *	Joe Moss *	Rebekah Curran	
Central Dispatch Authority Policy Board	Roger Belknap		
Community Corrections Advisory Board	Roger Bergman		
Community Mental Health Board	Gretchen Cosby	Lucy Ebel	Sylvia Rhodea
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee (CEDS)	Joe Moss		
Drain Board* **	Joe Moss *	Gretchen Cosby **	
Economic Development Corp / Brownfield Redevelopment	Roger Belknap		
Food Services Appeals Board	Gretchen Cosby		
Grand Valley Metro Council (GVMC)	Lucy Ebel		
Groundwater Board	Roger Belknap	Sylvia Rhodea	
Holland SmartZone Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA)	Doug Zylstra		
Insurance Authority* **	Joe Moss *	Gretchen Cosby **	Roger Bergman
Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon, (K.O.M.) Foreign Trade Zone Authority	Rebekah Curran		
Land Bank Authority	Joe Moss		
Lloyd's Bayou Lake Board	Roger Bergman		
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)	Gretchen Cosby		
Macatawa Area Coordinating Council (MACC)	Jacob Bonnema		
MSU Extension Advisory Council	Kyle Terpstra	Allison Miedema	
Parks and Recreation Commission	Allison Miedema	Kyle Terpstra	Doug Zylstra
Plat Board*	Joe Moss *		
Solid Waste Planning Committee	Jacob Bonnema		
Spring Lake Lake Board	Roger Bergman		
Veteran's Affairs Committee	Doug Zylstra		
West Michigan Airport Authority (Tulip City Airport)	Lucy Ebel		
West Michigan Enforcement Team (WEMET)	Joe Moss		
West Michigan Regional Planning Commission	Roger Belknap		
West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission	Roger Belknap	Gretchen Cosby	

* Denotes Chair Requirement

** Denotes other requirement

B/C 23-041 Roger Belknap moved to approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign a Resolution enabling the Ottawa County Treasurer to deposit all public funds in approved financial institutions, and execute any necessary contracts for the same, for the benefit of Ottawa County. The motion passed.

B/C 23-042 Roger Belknap moved to approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign a Resolution authorizing the Ottawa County Treasurer to deposit and invest drain funds in identified financial institutions and execute necessary related contracts for the benefit of the Ottawa County Water Resources Commissioner. The motion passed.

B/C 23-043 Roger Belknap moved to approved and authorize the Board Chairperson and Clerk/Register to sign a Resolution authorizing the Ottawa County Treasurer to deposit and invest Road Commission funds in identified financial institutions and execute related necessary contracts for the benefit of the Ottawa County Road Commission. The motion passed.

B/C 23-044 Roger Belknap moved to approve and authorize the Board Chairperson and the Clerk/Register to sign a Resolution authorizing the Ottawa County Treasurer to waive administration fees and interest for real property taxes paid prior to May 1 by qualified persons, as set forth in the Resolution. The motion passed.

Public Comment

1. David Morren-Allendale Township
2. Joan Bailey-Grand Haven Township
3. Kristen Meghan Kelly-Jamestown Township
4. Michael Farash-Kent County
5. Cheryl DeVries-Holland Township
6. Nathaniel Kelly-Jamestown Township
7. Jeff Moss-Georgetown Township

Zoom Public Comment

1. Ronnie Allen-Allendale Township
2. Keith Wichman
3. Kristen Hintz
4. Sandy Betten
5. Paul Windemuller

Chairperson Moss read a short statement.

B/C 23-045 Roger Belknap moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:39 p.m. The motion passed.

JUSTIN F. ROEBUCK, Clerk/Register
Of the Board of Commissioners

JOE MOSS, Chairperson
Of the Board of Commissioners