

**Muskegon County  
Human Services Committee Meeting  
October 1, 2013  
4:00 p.m.  
Hall of Justice, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Muskegon, MI**

**Charles Nash, Chair**

**Rillastine Wilkins, Vice-Chair**

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**MINUTES**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Nash at 4:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: James Derezinski, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine Wilkins

Excused: Benjamin Cross, Terry Sabo

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Derezinski, supported by Wilkins, to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2013 meeting as written. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (On an agenda item)**

None.

**PRESENTATION: Dr. Joyce deJong, Medical Examiner**

Dr. Joyce deJong, Medical Examiner for Muskegon County, presented information to the Board regarding the office of the Medical Examiner. She noted she has been the Medical Examiner for Muskegon County since 2000. She also noted her office is comprised of seven forensic pathologists of which she is one. There are fewer than 500 forensic pathologists in the United States. Her office also consists of a team of investigators that reside in Muskegon County who respond when needed to gather information pertinent to investigations for her office, the local police, etc.

Commissioner Hughes noted she received information from a constituent who didn't receive a timely death certification thereby, not allowing him to access bank accounts and insurance funds. Dr. deJong noted the County Clerk's office issues death certificates but she will investigate the surroundings of this incident as she explained this is certainly not the norm.

Sheriff Dean Roesler complimented the Medical Examiner's Office and Dr. deJong specifically and noted he has always been very impressed with the professionalism of the office and the staff credentials, which are world renown.



