

**Muskegon County**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
*Hall of Justice, 990 Terrace, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor*  
*Muskegon, MI 49442*

*Terry J. Sabo, Chairman*  
*Marvin Engle*  
*Susie Hughes*  
*Jeff Lohman*  
*Kenneth Mahoney*

*Benjamin E. Cross, Vice Chair*  
*Charles Nash*  
*Robert Scolnik*  
*Rillastine R. Wilkins*

*Board Minutes may be found on the web at <http://co.muskegon.mi.us/clerk>*

**Regular Meeting**

Tuesday, February 9, 2016  
4:00 p.m.

Chairman Sabo, Presiding

The Full Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Sabo.

The invocation was given by Pastor Matt Eenigenburg, Celebration Community Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Wilkins and recited in unison.

**Roll Call**

Present: Benjamin E. Cross, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Jeff Lohman, Charles Nash, Kenneth Mahoney, Terry J. Sabo, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine R. Wilkins

Also Present: Mark Eisenbarth, County Administrator;  
Nancy A. Waters, County Clerk;  
Jeanne Pezet, Administrative Secretary  
Douglas Hughes, Corporate Counsel

2016-51 **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Vice Chair Cross, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins, to approve the agenda.

Voice vote

**Motion Carried**

2016-52 **APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2016**

Moved by Commissioner Engle, seconded by Commissioner Mahoney, to approve the Regular meeting minutes of January 26, 2016.

Voice vote

**Motion Carried**

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

Sean Mullally, of the Muskegon Community College Board, came in support of the Muskegon Area Promise.

**PRESENTATION – MUSKEGON AREA PROMISE**

Dr. John Severson, Superintendent, Muskegon Area Intermediate School District and Megan Byard, College Access Specialist with Muskegon Area Intermediate School District presented a PowerPoint presentation about Muskegon Area Promise. (See attached) Mr. Severson provided some suggestions on how the County can become part of the Promise. This is an economic development plan to build local talent.

Commissioners were in agreement that this is a great program. Discussion ensued.

**COMMUNICATION**

The following Communication items were presented to the Board for informational purposes:

- A. Huron County Resolution: No. 16-9C – Urging State Lawmakers and Top Officials to Stop Exempting Themselves from Laws that they Enact
- B. Huron County Resolution: no. 16-10C – Opposition to HB5016 – Regarding Use of Public Right of Ways
- C. Huron County Resolution: No. 16-14 – Support of SB703 to Remove Restriction on How County Officials Communicate with Constituents about Local Ballot Questions

**COMMITTEE/BOARD REPORTS**

2016-53 **APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE OF \$17,972,660.78 COVERING THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 8, 2016 THROUGH JANUARY 21, 2016, AS PRESENTED BY THE COUNTY CLERK**

WM16/02-14

The Ways and Means Committee recommends, moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Commissioner Lohman, to approve payment of the accounts payable of \$17,972,660.78 covering the period of January 8, 2016 through January 21, 2016, as presented by the County Clerk.

Roll Call:

Yes: Benjamin E. Cross, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Jeff Lohman, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine R. Wilkins, Terry J. Sabo

No: None

**Motion Carried**

2016-54 **AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY OF MUSKEGON ACCEPT THE \$15,000 AWARD FROM THE MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO SIGN THE ACCEPTANCE LETTER**

WM16/02-15

The Ways and Means Committee recommends, moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Commissioner Lohman, to authorize the County of Muskegon accept the \$15,000 award from the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency and the Chairman of the County Board of Commissioners to sign the acceptance letter.

Roll Call:

Yes: Benjamin E. Cross, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Jeff Lohman, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine R. Wilkins, Terry J. Sabo

No: None

**Motion Carried**

2016-55 **AUTHORIZE STAFF TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE SALE OF SURPLUS COUNTY VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT**

WM16/02-16

The Ways and Means Committee recommends, moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Commissioner Lohman, to authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposal for the sale of surplus county vehicles and equipment.

Roll Call:

Yes: Benjamin E. Cross, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Jeff Lohman, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine R. Wilkins, Terry J. Sabo

No: None

**Motion Carried**

2016-56 **APPROVE APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN STATE LAND BANK FOR \$250,000 AS WELL AS THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MUSKEGON COUNTY FOR \$50,000 TO SUPPORT RURAL BLIGHT ELIMINATION STRATEGIES IN NORTHERN MUSKEGON COUNTY**

WM16/02-17

The Ways and Means Committee recommends, moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Commissioner Lohman, to approve application to the Michigan State Land Bank for \$250,000 as well as the Community Foundation for Muskegon County for \$50,000 to support rural blight elimination strategies in northern Muskegon County.

Roll Call:

Yes: Benjamin E. Cross, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Jeff Lohman, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine R. Wilkins, Terry J. Sabo

No: None

**Motion Carried**

2016-57 **APPROVE THE REVISIONS TO THE MUSKEGON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' PERSONNEL RULES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PERSONNEL RULES COMMITTEE**

WM16/02-18

The Ways and Means Committee recommends, moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Commissioner Lohman, to approve the revisions to the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners' Personnel Rules as recommended by the Personnel Rules Committee.

Roll Call:

Yes: Benjamin E. Cross, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Jeff Lohman, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine R. Wilkins, Terry J. Sabo

No: None

**Motion Carried**

2016-58 **POSTPONE CONSIDERATION OF THE VETERANS' HIRING PREFERENCE POLICY UNTIL WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE OF APRIL 7, 2016**

WM16/02-19

The Ways and Means Committee recommends, moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Commissioner Lohman, to postpone consideration of the Veterans' Hiring Preference Policy until Ways & Means Committee of April 7, 2016.

Roll Call:

Yes: Benjamin E. Cross, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Jeff Lohman, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine R. Wilkins, Terry J. Sabo

No: None

**Motion Carried**

2016-59 **AUTHORIZE THE ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION TO DEFER THE DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION UNTIL MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2016 AND WAIVE THE MONTHLY INTEREST CHARGE OF 1% AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF 4% FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> TO APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup> 2016 ON THE 2015 DELINQUENT TAXES (FIRST YEAR OF DELINQUENCY) FOR A SENIOR CITIZEN, PARAPLEGIC, HEMIPLEGIC, QUADRIPLEGIC, ELIGIBLE SERVICEMAN, ELIGIBLE VETERAN, ELIGIBLE WIDOW, TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED PERSON, OR BLIND PERSON IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 211.59 AND 211.51 OF THE GENERAL PROPERTY TAX ACT 206 OF 1893, AS AMENDED**

WM16/02-20

The Ways and Means Committee recommends, moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Commissioner Lohman, to authorize the adoption of the resolution to defer the delinquent tax collection until May 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 and waive the monthly interest charge of 1% and the administrative fee of 4% for the period March 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 on the 2015 delinquent taxes (first year of delinquency) for a senior citizen, paraplegic, hemiplegic, quadriplegic, eligible serviceman, eligible veteran, eligible widow, totally and permanently disabled person, or blind person in accordance with sections 211.59 and 211.51 of the General Property Tax Act 206 of 1893, as amended.

Roll Call:

Yes: Benjamin E. Cross, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Jeff Lohman, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine R. Wilkins, Terry J. Sabo

No: None

**Motion Carried**

2016-60 **AUTHORIZE THE ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE COUNTY OF MUSKEGON TREASURER TO BORROW UP TO TWELVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$12,000,000) AGAINST THE ANTICIPATED 2015 DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES**

WM16/02-21

The Ways and Means Committee recommends, moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Commissioner Lohman, to authorize the adoption of the resolution allowing the County of Muskegon Treasurer to borrow up to twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) against the anticipated 2015 delinquent real property taxes.

Roll Call:

Yes: Benjamin E. Cross, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Jeff Lohman, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine R. Wilkins, Terry J. Sabo

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS**

2015-61 **REAPPOINT SUSAN CRAIN, DISABILITY ADVOCATE SLOT; AND APPOINT KELLIE KITCHEN, DISTRICT #1 SLOT; TO THE FRIENDS OF COUNTY PARKS WITH TERM EXPIRATIONS 12/31/17**

The Chairman recommends, moved by Commissioner Engle, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins, to reappoint Susan Crain, Disability Advocate Slot; and appoint Kellie Kitchen, District #1 Slot; to the Friends of County Parks with term expirations 12/31/17.

Voice vote

**Motion Carried**

Commissioner Wilkins presented her report from the January 27<sup>th</sup> SMART Meeting held in Kalamazoo. MAC gave an update on the law suit that was filed in the Eastern District Court asking for a repeal of the law that prohibits elected officials from sharing information with constituents before an election. Other items were discussed including the continuing developing of the Kalamazoo River Trails and the Great Lake to Lake Trails.

Commissioner Engle noted the Fair Board has set their schedule for 2016.

Commissioner Lohman noted he plans to follow up with Commissioners in the Classroom stating that he and Chairman Sabo will be reading to a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Eisenbarth reminded everyone about the upcoming Board Work Sessions:

- Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> (following Community Development/Strategic Planning and Transportation Committees) WEMET/Colorado's Experience w/Legalizing Marijuana
- Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> (following Full Board) ACSET Update

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to come before the Board.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to come before the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Janet Brott, Egelston Township, thanked County Clerk Waters for her assistance in answering questions regarding issues that she has had. Ms. Brott also thank Commissioner Lohman for meeting with her and his assistance in following up on these issues.

Chairman Sabo invited everyone to stay for the Board Work Session to follow the meeting at 4:55 p.m. Re: Brookhaven Marketing/Finance/Contract

2016-62 **MOVED BY VICE CHAIR CROSS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILKINS, TO ADJOURN**

Voice vote

**Motion Carried**

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

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Nancy A. Waters, County Clerk

NAW/jmp

Preliminary Minutes  
To be approved at the Full Board Meeting on February 23, 2016