

Barry County Board of Commissioners - Committee of the Whole  
December 5, 2017; 9:00 a.m.; Commission Chambers  
MINUTES

Members Present: Commissioners Vivian Conner, Ben Geiger, Howard Gibson, David Jackson, Dan Parker, Jon Smelker, and Heather Wing. Clerk Pam Palmer was also present.

Others present: Michael Brown, Luella Dennison, Jean Gallup, Amy Kinyon, Dep. Steve Pitsch, Jack Miner, Rick Moore, Dave Shinavier, Sharon Zebrowski, Ron King, Larry Bass, Frank Fiala, Patricia Johns, Jim Dull, Don Lehman, John Resseguie, Lucas Spoor, Rod Romeyn, Dave Stoker, and Dar Leaf.

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

Those present stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Frank Fiala thanked the commissioners for their support with the Solid Waste Host Agreement renewal, and recycling. The hiring of Sarah Archer for the Recycling Board has been an asset. The Committee has a vacant position representing either Recycling or Solid Waste.
- Sharon Zebrowski commented on the list of activities at Charlton Park this weekend.
- Lucas Spoor from Legacy Properties commented that he will be presenting the Master Plan for the proposed landing on Gun Lake at Orangeville Township tonight at 7:00 pm.

**DON LEHMAN – MSU 2018 Cooperative Extension Services Agreement**

Moved by Gibson, seconded by Wing to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the 2018 agreement between Barry County and Michigan State University for access to MSU Extension programming. Discussion. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MICHAEL BROWN – 1) Re-appointment of Regina Young to Solid Waste Oversight Committee**

Moved by Jackson, seconded by Smelker to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval to re-appoint Regina Young to serve in a position representing the Barry-Eaton District Health Department on the Solid Waste Oversight Committee for three-year term that began on 11-1-17 and expires on 10-31-20. Discussion. All ayes. Motion carried.

**2) Renewal of Short Term Disability TPA Agreement with VARIPRO**

Moved by Gibson, seconded by Parker to recommend approval of the attached Administrative Rate Addendum to the agreement between Barry County and VARIPRO of Grand Rapids, Michigan, effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 for Short Term Disability Administration and authorize the County Administrator to sign it. Discussion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Chair Geiger - 1) Discussion of Next BOC Meeting Date

Commissioner Geiger proposed that the BOC meeting scheduled for December 26, 2017 be moved to the afternoon of December 19, 2017.

2) Employee Recognition Program

Commissioner Geiger proposed an Employee Recognition Program, but details of the program will need to be finalized.

3) TOST update

Commissioner Geiger and Commissioner Jackson gave a brief update as to the TOST negotiations with the Barry/Eaton Health Department. There was a discussion among the commissioners, with further negotiations pending.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Patricia Johns expressed her appreciation for the programs offered through MSU Extension when she moved to Barry County 25 years ago. She commented on the Employee Appreciation proposal, and also commented that the inspections by the Barry/Eaton Health Department work for both the buyer and seller when buying or selling property.
- Rod Romeyn encouraged the commissioners to work toward keeping the government out of the sale of property.
- Larry Bass reminded the commissioners of the motion they passed on October 24, 2017 regarding TOST regulations.

Moved by Commissioners Jackson, seconded by Wing 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. Roll call vote. Ayes: Conner, Geiger, Gibson, Jackson, Parker, Smelker, and Wing. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Adjourned to go into closed session at 9:50 am.

Resume meeting @ 11:50 am with all commissioners present.

Moved by Smelker, seconded by Conner to approve the minutes of the closed session. Roll call vote. Ayes: Conner, Geiger, Gibson, Jackson, Parker, Smelker & Wing. Nays: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Wing, seconded by Smelker to adjourn at 11:53 am

Barry County Board of Commissioners

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Pamela A. Palmer, County Clerk

Approved: 12/12/17 PPalmer  
Date & Initial