



MINUTES
St. Clair County Board of Commissioners
Organizational Meeting

Board of Commissioners' Room
County Administrative Office Building, 2nd Floor
200 Grand River Avenue
Port Huron, MI 48060

January 2, 2025 at 6:00 PM

1. Call to Order by County Clerk - Angie Waters

County Clerk Angie Waters called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was lead by County Clerk Angie Waters.

3. Roll Call

Present: Kerry Ange, Lisa Beedon, Robert Fielitz, David Rushing, Joi Torello, Steve Simasko, Dave Vandenbossche

Absent: None

4. Oath of Office - Board of Commissioners

The Oath of Office was administered to the Board of Commissioners by County Clerk Angie Waters.

5. Appointment of Temporary Chairperson

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Torello, to appoint Steve Simasko as temporary Chairperson. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

6. Nominations and Election of Permanent Chairperson

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Fielitz, to nominate

Steve Simasko as permanent Chairperson. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

7. Nominations and Election of Vice-Chairperson

Moved by Commissioner Torello, supported by Commissioner Fielitz, to nominate David Rushing as Vice-Chairperson. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

8. Additions/Deletions/Changes to the Agenda

Moved by Chairperson Simasko, supported by Vice-Chairperson Rushing, to move item 8A - General Discussion Items - Conflict of Interest, Code of Ethics, Statement of Decorum, Board Duties and Information, Economic Development Honesty Policy and Community and Economic Development, Tourism and Planning Committee Formation, to Item H under new business. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

9. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Beedon, supported by Vice-Chairperson Rushing, to approve the agenda as amended. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

10. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Vandenbossche, supported by Commissioner Beedon, to approve and file the minutes of the 12/12/2024 Commission meeting. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

A. 12/12/2024 Commission Meeting

11. Consent Agenda

Moved by Chairperson Simasko, supported by Vice-Chairperson Rushing, to move Consent Agenda A. Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate - Port Huron Industrial Ventures, LLC to Item I under new business. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

Moved by Commissioner Ange, supported by Commissioner Beedon, to accept the agenda as amended for the second time. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange,

Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz,
Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

12. Citizens Wishing to Address the Board

Mike Hilferink - Marine City
RE: EDA

Carol Miller
RE: EDA & Landfill

Sandra Tannehill - Wales
RE: EDA

Angela Defrain - Fort Gratiot
RE: EDA

Libby Prill - China Township
RE: EDA & Energy

Linda Schwehofer - China Township
RE: EDA

Liz Masters - Wales
RE: EDA - County Contributions

Samantha Rodabaugh - Marysville
RE: Introduce Power Housekeeper

Dan Turke
RE: EDA

Eileen Tesch - Algonac
RE: Elections

Tyler Meganck - Port Huron Township
RE: Solar Panels

David Hoffman - Fort Gratiot
RE: Commendation of New Members

Dawn Fulk - Port Huron Township
RE: Congratulations

Mary Conlan - Burtchville
RE: Prayer

13. Unfinished Business

None

14. New Business

A. Appointment of Sergeant-at-Arms

Chairperson Simasko appointed David Rushing as Sergeant-at-Arms.

B. Appointments to Standing Committees

Chairperson Simasko made the following appointments to the Standing Committees:

Ways and Means - Commissioner Ange

Human Services - Commissioner Beedon

Judiciary/Public Safety - Commissioner Vandenbossche

Environmental/Public Works - Commissioner Torello

Community & Economic Development - Commissioner Fielitz if approved by the Board to add the fifth standing committee

C. Appointments - Board Committee Assignments

Chairperson Simasko made the following Board of Commissioners Chairperson Appointments 2024-2028:

- Aeronautics Advisory Board - Steve Simasko
- Agricultural Preservation Board - David Rushing
- AgeWays Board of Directors - Steve Simasko
- Blue Water Community Action - Dave Vandenbossche
- Central Dispatch Advisory Committee - Dave Vandenbossche
- Change Order Review Committee - David Rushing, Steve Simasko, Robert Fielitz
- City of Marysville - Local Finance Development Authority - Joi Torello
- Commission on Aging - Lisa Beedon
- Community Corrections Advisory Board - Kerry Ange
- Community Mental Health (CMH) - Lisa Beedon
- Community Services Coordinating Body (CSCB) - Lisa Beedon Alt: David Rushing
- Council on Aging - Lisa Beedon
- Courthouse Security - Kerry Ange

- Department of Health & Human Services (FIA) - Kerry Ange
- Drain Advisory Board - David Rushing
- Emergency Management Advisory Board - Dave Vandenbossche
- Health Care Trust Fund Review - Dave Vandenbossche

Karry

Hepting/CMH Rep

Road Commission Rep

- Health Department Advisory Board - Robert Fielitz
- Library Board - Kerry Ange Alt: Joi Torello
- Metropolitan Planning Commission - Robert Fielitz Alt: David Rushing
- MAC Review Committee Taxation - Dave Vandenbossche
- MSU Extension Advisory Council - Steve Simasko
- Next Michigan Development Corp - Robert Fielitz Alt: Steve Simasko
- Parks & Recreation Commission - Joi Torello Alt: Steve Simasko
- Plat Board (Chair) - Steve Simasko
- Retirement Board (Chair or Appt.) - Karry Hepting
- Retirement Board - Dave Vandenbossche
- Road & Public Works Commission - David Rushing
- SC River Bi-National Public Advisory Council (BPAC) - Joi Torello
- SEMCOG General Assembly (including Executive Committee) - Delegate:
Lisa Beedon

Alt: Lindsay Wallace

Delegate: Joi

Torello

Alt: Georgia Phelan

- Solid Waste (Act 641) - Robert Fielitz
- St. Clair County Transportation Study - SCCOTS - Joi Torello Alt: Lisa Beedon
- Veterans Affairs Board - David Rushing

D. Board of Commissioner By-Laws 2025 - 2028

Moved by Commissioner Fielitz, supported by Vice-Chairperson Rushing, to approve the By-Laws changes by Administration. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Vandebossche Nay: None

E. Past and Present Economic Development Alliance of St. Clair County Operations - R. Fielitz

Commissioner Fielitz opened the discussion with some of his concerns in regards to the Economic Development Alliance (EDA) of St. Clair County. There was a lengthy discussion with the Board. Dan Casey, CEO of the EDA, was available for questions.

Moved by Commissioner Fielitz, supported by Vice-Chairperson Rushing, to not fund the EDA for the first quarter until the Board determines how to proceed.

Carried - Roll Call Vote 5-2 Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz Nay: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Vandebossche

F. Assessing the Present and Future Viability of the Landfill Bioreactor - R. Fielitz

Commissioner Fielitz opened the discussion with some of his concerns regarding the present and future viability of the Landfill Bioreactor. Discussion followed by the Board.

G. Landfill Engineering Firm Bids - R. Fielitz

Commissioner Fielitz opened the discussion with some of his concerns in regards to the Landfill Engineering Firm Bids. He suggested putting out a bid for the engineer work that CTI does. Discussion followed by the Board.

H. General Discussion Items - S. Simasko

Chairperson Simasko opened the discussion in regards to items that he would like added to the By-Laws, other general discussion items, in addition, to adding a fifth standing committee of Community and Economic Development.

Moved by Vice-Chairperson Rushing, supported by Commissioner Fielitz, to approve the Community and Economic Development as the fifth standing committee. Carried - Roll Call Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-

Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

Moved by Vice-Chairperson Rushing, supported by Commissioner Beedon, to add the Conflict of Interest and the Code of Ethics to the By-Laws to be voted on at the full board meeting. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

Conflict of Interest

Code of Ethics

Statement of Decorum

Board Duties and Information

Economic Development Honesty Policy

Community and Economic Development, Tourism and Planning
Committee Formation

I. Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate - Port Huron Industrial Ventures, LLC

The Board discussed the Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate - Port Huron Industrial Ventures, LLC. Administrator Hepting informed the Board that this was for informational purposes only. There is no action for the Board to take.

15. Administrator's Report

A workshop date was requested from the Board to discuss the Economic Development Alliance (EDA) of St. Clair County. The workshop was set for January 9, 2025 at 4 p.m. in the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners Room.

Administrator Hepting suggested doing a goal setting workshop. No date was set but planned for the end of February.

Tetra Tech will be at the full board meeting to review their Landfill findings.

Moved by Vice-Chairperson Rushing, supported by Commissioner Beedon to accept the Administrator's report. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

16. Miscellaneous Business

None

17. Receive and File Packets and all Information Present

Moved by Vice-Chairperson Rushing, supported by Commissioner Torello, to receive and file packets that were sent to Commissioners, packets at their places and any other information presented. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0 Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay: None

18. Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Torello, supported by Commissioner Ange, to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Chairperson Simasko, Vice-Chairperson Rushing, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Vandenbossche Nay:None