

1. A Regular Meeting of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners was held in the City of Monroe on Tuesday, August 9, 2011, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Frederick at 7:00 p.m. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

PRESENT

Henry Lievens
David Hoffman
Stephen Bell
Daniel Donahue

William Sisk
Mary O'Neill
Jason Sheppard
LaMar Frederick

ABSENT

Jerry Oley
(excused)

A quorum being present, the Board proceeded to transact business.

2. Vice-Chairman Sisk led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Vickie Koczman, Deputy Clerk, Monroe County Board of Commissioners led the Opening Prayer.
4. Motion by Commissioner Sheppard to approve the Agenda for the Tuesday, August 9, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented. Supported by Commissioner Hoffman. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

Henry Lievens
David Hoffman
Stephen Bell
Daniel Donahue

NAY

William Sisk
Mary O'Neill
Jason Sheppard
LaMar Frederick

ABSENT

Jerry Oley
(excused)

Motion carried.

5. Motion by Vice-Chairman Sisk to approve the Minutes for the Tuesday, July 12, 2011, Regular Meeting and waive the reading of the minutes. Supported by Commissioner Bell.

Motion carried.

6. Resolutions, Special Tributes & Presentations

Presentation by Trina Stillwagon, President and General Manager, Monroe Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Jon Svoboda, President, Buster Foundation and Bill Billottie, President and Founder, Detroit Bully Crew regarding animal rescue.

Chairman Frederick suggested one person speak on behalf of each group and allow each group five minutes for their presentation.

Ms. Stillwagon spoke regarding the release of three dogs, opening dialog with the Commissioners to improve animal welfare in Monroe County and the Commissioners representing Monroe County with hospitality. She requested the Buster Foundation be awarded one of the dogs; Razel and suggested two of the dogs were not receiving care. She also spoke regarding Monroe County's safe rate.

Chairman Frederick spoke regarding separation of powers, elected officials having statutory and day-to-day responsibilities, the Board of Commissioners not having any jurisdiction/authority, not interfering with the case, having empathy/sympathy/concern for the animals, unprofessional e-mails he received, Animal Control being under the jurisdiction of the Sheriff and willing to send a letter to the Sheriff regarding the safe rate and inviting him to the next meeting to discuss Animal Control.

Jon Svoboda, Buster Foundation stated the Buster Foundation does not condone the unprofessional e-mails and noted there is a rumor that the Buster Foundation plans to boycott local businesses. He spoke regarding a pit bull that was released to the Buster Foundation and then was taken back to Animal Control, dogs not having any human interaction or proper medical care and indicated the Buster Foundation is interested in taking the pit bulls back. He also spoke regarding two dogs that were injured at Animal

Control; Buster Foundation brought in a veterinarian to care for the dog and asked Chairman Frederick to ask the Sheriff if the Buster Foundation could have access to the dogs and urge him to follow the order the way it was written.

Chairman Frederick stated Sheriff Crutchfield may not accept the invitation and suggested Mr. Svoboda make an appointment to talk to the Sheriff.

Bill Billottie, Detroit Bully Crew stated he supports the SPCA and Buster Foundation and volunteered his time to educate citizens regarding bully breeds.

7. Resolution recognizing Detroit Edison's 2010 National Safety Council's Occupational Excellence Achievement Award read:



RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING DETROIT EDISON'S 2010 NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL'S OCCUPATIONAL EXCELLENCE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

WHEREAS, DTE Energy's Monroe Power Plant recently received the National Safety Council's Occupational Excellence Achievement Award for 2010; and

WHEREAS, the MIOSHA Consultation Education and Training Division recognizes the safety and health achievements of Michigan employers and employees; and

WHEREAS, DTE Energy achieved a lost time injury and illness rate that was less than 50% of the national rate for similar facilities; and

WHEREAS, over 800,000 man-hours of hard work in adverse conditions, including high temperatures and confined spaces contributed to the award.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this 9th day of August, 2011, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners hereby applauds DTE Energy's Monroe Power Plant employees for taking personal responsibility for their own safety and for the safety and well-being of their co-workers.

Resolution Offered by Commissioner Jerry A. Oley
Resolution Supported by Vice-Chairman William D. Sisk

LaMar Frederick, Chairman
District 9

David C. Hoffman
District 2

Jerry A. Oley
District 6

William D. Sisk, Vice-Chairman
District 5

Stephen R. Bell
District 3

Mary A. O'Neill
District 7

J. Henry Lievens
District 1

Daniel J. Donahue
District 4

Jason M. Sheppard
District 8



Motion by Commissioner Oley to adopt the resolution recognizing Detroit Edison's 2010 Safety Council's Occupational Excellence Achievement Award. Supported by Vice-Chairman Sisk. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAY

ABSENT

Henry Lievens
David Hoffman
Stephen Bell
Daniel Donahue

William Sisk
Mary O'Neill
Jason Sheppard
LaMar Frederick

Jerry Oley
(excused)

Motion carried.

8. Historic Museum Sustainability Plan.

John Gibney, Director, Historical Museum stated a Blue Ribbon Committee comprised of former Museum Director, Matt Switlik and Historical Commission members, Dorothy Heinlen and Richard Micka identified options for the Board to consider. He noted approximately 2,300 people visit the museum a month, the museum brings in \$638,000 to the local economy, the museum being a good investment and the museum compliments the battlefield.

Mr. Switlik presented seven options; 1) public ownership and operation, 2) publicly owned/private operated, 3) privately owner/private operated/public assisted, 4) private non-profit, 5) merge with larger institution, 6) mothball the museum and 7) disband the museum.

Mr. Switlik recommended option one.

Mr. Gibney stated the definition of sustainability in the museum world means economic opportunity and noted the museum is one facet of heritage tourism. He urged the Board to review the proposals and visit the museum.

Commissioner Sheppard stated a publically funded museum is still utilizing tax dollars and if the museum is such an economic driver, the public sector would be stepping up.

Commissioner Frederick noted there is a move to revoke PA 88 and the Board will need to decide whether or not they will support funding the museum for an additional year.

Commissioner Frederick stated there will be a series of millage renewals; when does the museum expect to place the millage on the ballot and how much will they be seeking.

Commissioner Lievens noted PA 88 has been in effect since 1913 and suggested the museum look at private charities.

Commissioner Frederick noted if the Board chooses to fund the museum through PA 88, they will have to renew in September.

Commissioner Hoffman questioned if duplicate artifacts could be sold.

Mr. Gibney stated that would not be professional.

Commissioner Lievens stated he is not in favor of shutting the museum doors or asking the citizens for a millage.

Chairman Frederick urged the Board to read the museum’s proposals and be prepared to give the museum direction at the next meeting.

9. The following items were listed under Consent Agenda:

- A. Retiree Health Care Board Report (06/27/11)
 - 1. The Retiree Health Care Board recommends to the full board to pay the Retiree Health Care members MAPERS membership fees in the amount of \$62.50 from the general county office supply account (101-29000-728000).
- B. Personnel Services/Human Resources Committee Report (07/19/11)
 - 1. The Personnel Services/Human Resources Committee recommends to the full board to fill a vacant Communication Specialist position with funding from Central Dispatch’s 2011 budget and authorize the Human Resource Department to advertise and hire from the outside.
- C. Approval of Non-Claims Against the County:
 - 1. Check Register dated 07/15/11 in the amount of \$1,020,296.23.
 - 2. Check Register dated 07/22/11 in the amount of \$991,683.59.
 - 3. Check Register dated 07/29/11 in the amount of \$459,725.48.
 - 4. Check Register dated 08/05/11 in the amount of \$4,673,466.86.

Motion by Commissioner Oley to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Supported by Commissioner Hoffman. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAY	ABSENT
Henry Lievens	Jerry Oley	
David Hoffman	Mary O’Neill	
Stephen Bell	Jason Sheppard	
Daniel Donahue	LaMar Frederick	
William Sisk		

Motion carried.

10. Approval of 07/27/11 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$682,602.19.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Sisk to approve the 07/27/11 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$682,602.19. Supported by Commissioner Sheppard. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAY	ABSENT
Henry Lievens	Jerry Oley	
David Hoffman	Mary O'Neill	
Stephen Bell	Jason Sheppard	
Daniel Donahue	LaMar Frederick	
William Sisk		

Motion carried.

11. Consideration of adopting a resolution pledging full faith and credit for the Lakeside Drain and Branches Drainage District located in the City of Luna Pier and Erie Township – 2011 Drainage District Bonds not to exceed \$2,125,000.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Sisk to adopt a resolution pledging full faith and credit for the Lakeside Drain and Branches Drainage District located in the City of Luna Pier and Erie Township – 2011 Drainage District Bonds not to exceed \$2,125,000. Supported by Commissioner Bell. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAY	ABSENT
Henry Lievens	Jerry Oley	
David Hoffman	Mary O'Neill	
Stephen Bell	Jason Sheppard	
Daniel Donahue	LaMar Frederick	
William Sisk		

Motion carried.

12. Letter from Robert Peven, Planning Director read regarding Monroe County Capital Improvements Program Update – 2012 – 2016.

Motion by Commissioner Sheppard to refer the Monroe County Capital Improvements Program Update – 2012 – 2016 to the Physical Resources Committee for review and recommendation. Supported by Commissioner Lievens. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAY	ABSENT
Henry Lievens	Jerry Oley	
David Hoffman	Mary O'Neill	
Stephen Bell	Jason Sheppard	
Daniel Donahue	LaMar Frederick	
William Sisk		

Motion carried.

13. Letter from Robert Peven, Planning Director read regarding the Monroe County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2011.

WHEREAS, the County of Monroe, Michigan, has long been actively involved in the economic development process through its economic development network; and

WHEREAS, federal aid through the Economic Development Administration (EDA) requires applicant communities to submit a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, acceptable to the EDA; and

WHEREAS, said Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy must be the result of a continuing economic development planning process and describe the area's economic development program and economic conditions in the area according to a proscribed set of guidelines; and

WHEREAS, Monroe County has experienced varying levels of unemployment; and

WHEREAS, the 2011 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy report includes 56 projects, with potential eligibility for funding through the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this 9th day of August, 2011, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts this annual report for the purpose of qualifying Monroe County and local units of government within the County to participate in funding programs available through the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Motion by Commissioner Sheppard to adopt a resolution in support of the 2011 Monroe County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and forward the report to the Monroe County Economic Development Corporation and local units of government. Supported by Commissioner Donahue. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAY	ABSENT
Henry Lievens	Jerry Oley	
David Hoffman	Mary O'Neill	
Stephen Bell	Jason Sheppard	
Daniel Donahue	LaMar Frederick	
William Sisk		

Motion carried.

14. Consideration of approving proposed Monroe County 9-1-1 District Board Technical Advisory Committee By-Laws.

Philip Goldsmith, Lennard, Graham & Goldsmith stated a LEIN subcommittee developed the by-laws and the 9-1-1 District Board members approved the by-laws at their July 26, 2011 meeting and noted the Board of Commissioners has the authority to approve the by-laws; they need the by-laws to conduct business.

Motion by Commissioner Donahue to approve the proposed Monroe County 9-1-1 District Board Technical Advisory Committee by-laws. Supported by Commissioner Hoffman. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES	NAY	ABSENT
Henry Lievens	Jerry Oley	
David Hoffman	Mary O'Neill	
Stephen Bell	Jason Sheppard	
Daniel Donahue	LaMar Frederick	
William Sisk		

Motion carried.

15. Consideration of amending Section 8 of County Policy 448 – Courthouse Facility Security Screening.

Reasonable accommodation shall be made to any person physically unable to pass through the walk-through magnetometer. Such reasonable accommodation may include, but is not necessarily limited to, searching such persons with a hand held magnetometer at the east side of the walk-through magnetometer/X-ray conveyor and allowing such persons to enter the facility via the access ramp after the personal items are sent through the X-ray conveyor, visually inspected and returned. Persons physically unable to pass through the walk-through magnetometer shall not be required to place their personal items on the X-ray conveyor or to retrieve same at the west end of the X-ray conveyor, as that task will be completed by security personnel to reasonably accommodate such persons.

*It is intended that this paragraph will become Subsection 8.3 and all following subsections will remain and be re-numbered.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens to amend section 8 of County Policy 448 – Courthouse Facility Security Screening as presented. Supported by Commissioner Bell. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAY

ABSENT

Henry Lievens	Jerry Oley
David Hoffman	Mary O'Neill
Stephen Bell	Jason Sheppard
Daniel Donahue	LaMar Frederick
William Sisk	

Motion carried.

16. Consideration of amending Section 14 of County Policy 448 – Courthouse Facility Security Screening to include the Prosecuting Attorney and Board of Commissioners.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens to refer section 14 of County Policy 448 – Courthouse Facility Security Screening; to the Judiciary Committee for review and recommendation. Supported by Vice-Chairman Sisk. Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAY

ABSENT

Henry Lievens	Jerry Oley
David Hoffman	Mary O'Neill
Stephen Bell	Jason Sheppard
Daniel Donahue	LaMar Frederick
William Sisk	

Motion carried.

17. Discussion of Retiree Health Care Board.

Chairman Frederick stated he is looking at all committees and board to determine if they are providing value/service. He questioned if the Board of Commissioners would like the Retiree Health Care Board to continue, the Board of Commissioners is the fiduciary to the trust and provided three options in his memo dated July 26, 2011.

Dan Stefanski, member, Retiree Health Care Board stated members are volunteers, they make the best decisions possible, when he was appointed he did not know the Retiree Health Care Board was not the fiduciary, discussion commenced regarding the plan when they wanted to include a Vice-Chairman in the absence of the Chairman, they are only a recommending body and he is willing to serve and make recommendations and be co-fiduciaries.

Michael Brown, member, Retiree Health Care Board stated the performance of the funds has improved, there is institutional knowledge on the Board, urged the Board of Commissioners not to eliminate the Board; it is important for employees/retirees to have representation and he is willing to be the fiduciary to the trust.

Chairman Frederick stated labor council is reviewing the plan; looking at IRS rules.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens to refer the Retiree Health Care Trust to labor counsel for review and bring back their findings in two weeks. Supported by Commissioner Bell.

Commissioner Oley questioned if the county legal counsel could review the plan.

Chairman Frederick stated that is not in their realm of expertise.

Royce Maniko, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer stated Dykema Gossett wrote the original plan for the county; the firm has two qualified staff that is familiar with this type of work.

Commissioner Lievens stated other counties did not have foresight to put money into a plan; in the past, the County Administrator took a conservative approach to the plan.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYES

NAY

ABSENT

Henry Lievens
David Hoffman
Stephen Bell
Daniel Donahue
William Sisk

Jerry Oley
Mary O'Neill
Jason Sheppard
LaMar Frederick

Motion carried.

18. Discussion of Proposed MSU Extension Memorandum of Agreement.

Chairman Frederick stated he met with MSU staff today; contained in the agreement is a provision that the County would pay \$76,000 to MSU for services; services was not defined and that gives him "heartburn."

Chairman Frederick stated he is concerned about the 4-H Program; a beneficial program. MSU wants an office for the educator, have discussed the possibility of placing staff at the fairgrounds 4-H building, MSU wants clerical support, MSU plans to furlough the educator position, the educator is contacting agencies such as Farm Bureau and the Soil Conservation District to see if there are interested in paying his salary and provide him with office space.

Chairman Frederick suggested referring the possibility of finding office space for the MSU Educator to staff and discuss the outcome of retaining the educator position at the next meeting.

Mr. Maniko noted the agreement, is a five year agreement and there is a 120 day clause to terminate the agreement.

Chairman Frederick noted if Judy See, 4-H Educator retires, the Board will have serious decisions to make.

Brian Shane, MSU noted the agreement is a five year umbrella agreement that allows Extension to remain in the community.

19. Old Business –

A. Proposed changes to the Solid Waste Hauler Licensing and Waste Generator Fee Ordinance and Solid Waste Funding Resolution – referred to Physical Resources Committee.

B. Electronic monitoring program recommendation – Royce Maniko, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer. To be placed on Judiciary, Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee agenda.

C. Employee cell phone and social internet usage – referred to staff; creating policy

20. Citizens Time –

Jan Jay, Exeter Township spoke regarding restricting citizen's time, private conversations and the Board not having the authority to amend section 14 to include the Prosecuting Attorney and Board of Commissioners.

Joanne Hanapen, Garden City questioned who the Sheriff answers to if he is unlawful.

Chairman Frederick stated the Sheriff is an elected official and complaints are filed with Michigan's Attorney General.

Dorothy Navarre, Monroe questioned why the three dogs are at Animal Control when a capable organization offered to take them and spoke regarding the cost of housing the animals.

Margaret Sabona, Ypsilanti urged the Board to look at the Animal Control facility and telling others to come to Monroe County; they only receive a slap on their wrist.

William P. Nichols, Prosecutor stated he is an animal lover, has referred people to adopt animals and urged everyone to work together. He noted there are two pending cases; the defendants have been charged with a felony, has recommended jail/prison time and the defendants paying the cost of prosecuting the case and boarding the animals to the judge. He also noted two pit bulls may have been released from Animal Control.

Richard Micka, Monroe spoke regarding Commissioner Sheppard's comments.

Chris Kull, Museum Archivist spoke regarding a couple from St. Louis that wrote a \$200.00 check to the museum. She noted obituaries are the most visited site on the county's website and the museum being important to Monroe County and the world.

Jeanne Micka, Monroe urged everyone to visit the museum and battlefield park and stated it is a privilege to live in Monroe County.

Ed LaClair, Monroe stated Monroe County's history brought him to Monroe County, closing the museum would be a disservice to the community, he will help in any way to save the museum, urged the Board to fund the museum through PA 88 and the cost of closing the museum would be greater than keeping it open.

Ken Burgard, Dundee spoke in support of keeping the museum open and stated healing comes from remembering and one way to remember is keeping the museum open.

Representative Dale Zorn thanked Chairman Frederick and Commissioner Lievens for testifying on behalf of his bill for road funding and spoke regarding sharing resources with other governmental offices.

21. Administrator's Report –

Royce Maniko, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer spoke regarding the following:

Veteran's Affairs Director resigned; the position has been posted internally and Mark Hammond, Director, Emergency Management Division has scheduled disaster preparedness training sessions on September 10th and September 17th at Cabelas.

22. Members Time –

Commissioner Sheppard stated he is not against the museum, he is against raising taxes, the museum's solution is to give them another year under PA 88 and suggested the Board speak to Dr. Nixon about the museum; the college is a great resource.

Commissioner Donahue thanked Terri Hamad, former Commission on Aging Director for assisting a resident that had no air conditioning and stated he is working with Frenchtown Charter Township to purchase a rescue watercraft.

Commissioner Bell stated he has an interest in history, money is shrinking, there are life and death issues that the Board will have to make decisions about; the museum is on the "back seat", museum has value and would love to see the museum do well without utilizing taxpayer dollars. He spoke regarding his family adopting rescue animals and suggested if anyone in the audience has questions for the Sheriff to submit them to him.

Chairman Frederick urged the Board to research the Retiree Health Care Board's future, MSU Extension's proposal and the museum's proposals to make a rational business decision.

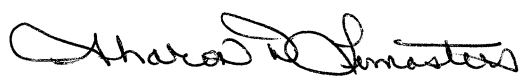
23. Motion by Commissioner Bell to adjourn. Supported by Commissioner Donahue.

Motion carried.

24. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.



R. LaMar Frederick, Chairman



Sharon D. Lemasters, Monroe County Clerk