

# CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## Chairperson

Kam J. Washburn

## Vice-Chairperson

Bruce DeLong

## Members

David W. Pohl

Kenneth B. Mitchell

Robert Showers

Dwight Washington

Adam C. Stacey

**COURTHOUSE**  
**100 E. STATE STREET**  
**ST. JOHNS, MICHIGAN 48879-1571**  
**989-224-5120**



**Administrator**  
Craig Longnecker  
**Clerk of the Board**  
Diane Zuker

## **VIA VIDEO AND TELEPHONIC CONFERENCE** **Pursuant to PA 228 of 2020**

DATE 01/05/2021

The Clinton County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. with Clerk Zuker calling the meeting to order.

- Members of the public were advised that throughout the telephonic conference meeting they will be provided an opportunity to speak on specific matters and also during public comment at the end of the meeting. Any individuals wishing to speak should identify themselves for the record before speaking.
- Roll call votes will be taken. Any formal roll call votes required on motions will be specifically identified in the minutes.

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Washburn called for a moment of silence. The pledge of allegiance was given to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

As the Clerk called the roll, each member identified the location in which they were attending the meeting from remotely. A quorum of members were in attendance as follows:

Kam Washburn (Duplain Township, Michigan)  
David Pohl (Dallas Township, Michigan)  
Bruce DeLong (City of St. Johns, Michigan)  
Kenneth B. Mitchell (Watertown Charter Township, Michigan)  
Robert Showers (DeWitt Charter Township, Michigan)  
Dwight Washington (Bath Charter Township, Michigan)  
Adam Stacey (City of Lansing, Michigan)

COUNTY PERSONNEL

Craig Longnecker, Todd Campbell, Cindy Moser, Krista Martin and Penny Goerge.

VISITORS

None

AGENDA

The agenda was presented for review and approval.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Washington moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

ELECTION OF  
CHAIRPERSON

Clerk Zuker opened the nominations for Chairperson of the Board. Commissioner Showers nominated Kam Washburn for Chairperson. Commissioner Pohl supported the nomination. Clerk Zuker called for further nominations. None were offered.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Showers to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the appointment of Commissioner Kam Washburn as Chairperson for 2021. Motion carried.

ELECTION OF  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Clerk Zuker opened the nominations for Vice-Chairperson of the Board. Commissioner Pohl nominated Bruce DeLong for Vice-Chairperson. Commissioner Showers seconded the nomination. Clerk Zuker called for further nominations. None were offered.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Stacey to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the appointment of Commissioner Bruce DeLong as Vice-Chairperson for 2021. Motion carried.

CHAIRPERSON ASSUMES  
THE CHAIR

Commissioner Washburn assumed the Chair.

Chairperson Washburn thanked the members for their confidence in allowing him to serve as Chair of the Board again in 2021.

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
COMMENTS

Commissioner DeLong thanked the members for their confidence and support in selecting him to serve as Vice-Chairperson of the Board in 2021.

CONFIRMATION OF 2021  
MEETING SCHEDULE AND  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
SCHEDULES

Commissioners reviewed the 2021 proposed meeting schedule.

JANUARY 26 @ 9:00 a.m.	JULY 27 @ 9:00 a.m.
FEBRUARY 23 @ 9:00 a.m.	AUGUST 31 @ 9:00 a.m.
MARCH 30 @ 9:00 a.m.	SEPTEMBER 21 @ 9:00 a.m.
APRIL 20 @ 9:00 a.m.	OCTOBER 12 @ 6:00 p.m.
MAY 25 @ 9:00 a.m.	OCTOBER 26 @ 9:00 a.m.
JUNE 29 @ 9:00 a.m.	NOVEMBER 30 @ 9:00 a.m.
	DECEMBER 17 @ 10:00 a.m. (Friday)

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Stacey moved, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell to adopt the meeting schedule as proposed. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF 2021 BY-  
LAWS AND RULES OF  
PROCEDURE

Chairperson Washburn introduced discussion regarding the 2021 By-Laws and Rules of Procedure. A draft was presented to the Board at their committee meeting in December for review. Amendments are being proposed to Appointments to Boards and Commissions and the Per Diem rates.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to adopt the By-Laws and Rules of Procedure with the amendments discussed. Motion carried unanimously. (INSERT BY-LAWS)

COMMITTEE  
APPOINTMENTS FOR 2021

The 2021 Committee Chairpersons, Committee Assignments and other Boards/Agencies was presented in detail with the following Committee Chairpersons being recommended by Chairperson Washburn:  
Ways and Means Committee – Adam Stacey  
Human Resources Committee – David Pohl  
Public Safety Committee – Ken Mitchell

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Showers moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington to concur with the recommendation of Chairperson Washburn to appoint the above named Commissioners as Chairpersons to the respective Committees, in addition concur with the

Committee Assignments and Appointments to other Boards/Agencies. Brief discussion followed regarding changing the name of the Clinton County Economic Alliance to Clinton County Catalyst. Motion carried. (INSERT BOARD COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS)

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairperson Washburn called for public comments. There were no public comments.

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Craig Longnecker, County Administrator provided a brief update:

- We are looking for a better year here in the County in 2021;
- Thanked the Board members for their support throughout the last several months;
- We continue to follow the COVID response plan;
- We are dealing with COVID related issues on a daily basis;
- It is challenge to handle workplace absences under normal circumstances, but now we have the added layer of the COVID pandemic to deal with on top of everything else from day to day;
- Resources are stretched thin, so we may need to be cautious about adding more projects to our plates;
- The pandemic will have long-term effects, which we will realize in the years to come.

#### COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Chairperson Washburn called for Commissioners' comments.

- Commissioner Mitchell noted that we seem to have a good plan in place to handle all the issues we have been facing, particularly when we take a look at what is happening in other locations around the state.
- Commissioner Showers spoke about the regional area and some of the changes in leadership for 2021.
- Commissioner Stacey stated that the wheels of democracy continue to grind in the Michigan Legislature.
- Commissioner Pohl:
  - Recognized the County Clerk for her efforts in dealing with the election related issues during 2020 and the remote meetings;
  - Expressed his thanks to former Administrator Wood for helping put the county in a good position to weather the 2020 pandemic.
- Commissioner DeLong:
  - Thanked the members for their confidence in allowing him to serve as the Vice-Chair of the Board;
  - Thanked the entire county staff for all their efforts during 2020.
- Commissioner Washington shared the same comments expressed by the members of the board and extended his appreciation to all the county employees;
- Chairperson Washburn:
  - Reviewed the 2020 year noting the following:
    - In March we began our journey with the COVID pandemic, with multiple phone calls on a daily basis trying to figure out what direction to go;
    - We successfully passed the 911 millage, with Chris Collom taking the lead on the project and keeping it on schedule;
    - We had a seamless transition from Administrator Wood to Administrator Longnecker, as well as the hiring of Todd Campbell as the new Deputy Administrator
    - Clinton Transit millage passed successfully;
    - The County Clerk's Office carried out an election under some of the most trying circumstances during a very difficult year with Diane Zuker at the helm;
    - The Coleman Road project overseen by Clinton County was completed with credit going to Commissioner Showers for taking the lead on this positive addition to the southern end of the county;

- Moving forward to 2021, we need to stay on course:
  - Continue to have each county employee complete a health screening before coming to work with Administration remaining vigilant on how this health information is handled;
  - Anxiously awaiting the day when we can meet again in person in the County Commissioner's room;
  - The pandemic has forced us to look at alternate ways of doing business and now we need to examine how we move forward with business as well as conducting meetings, while at the same time continue to offer remote accessibility;
  - Look at economic development and growing the county's tax base;
  - Review our capital improvement plan in 2021;
- In closing, Chairperson Washburn thanked all the employees for their dedication and the work they do to keep the county running smoothly.

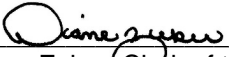
OTHER COMMENTS

Chairperson Washburn called for other comments:

- Clerk Zuker thanked the Board for their kind words, however wanted to recognize all the employees who worked behind the scenes to run meetings as well as the election, as well as give credit to all the county employees for their efforts during a difficult time, as she could not do her job without their support.

ADJOURNMENT

**BOARD ACTION:** With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Stacey to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

  
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Diane Zuker, Clerk of the Board

NOTE: These minutes are subject to approval on January 26, 2021.