



Gratiot County Board of Commissioners

Dave Owens, Chair
George Bailey Jan Bunting
Tim Gay Steve Sopocy
Chris Oosterhoff, County Administrator

Angie Thompson, Clerk
214 E. Center Street, Ithaca, MI 48847
989-875-5215 (Clerk)

A Regular Full Board Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Gratiot County was held Tuesday, September 17, 2024 beginning at 4:30 PM in the Gratiot County Courthouse Commissioners Room.

- A. Call to Order by Chair Owens at 4:30 p.m.
- B. Roll call of commissioners, Present: George Bailey, Jan Bunting, Tim Gay, Dave Owens, and Steve Sopocy. Absent: None. Also present: County Administrator Chris Oosterhoff and Clerk Angie Thompson.
- C. Invocation by Commissioner Bailey.
- D. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
- E. Additions/Deletions to Agenda and Approval of Agenda.
 - 1.

Board Action: Motion by Bailey, second by Sopocy to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

- F. Brief public comment. None.
The Board welcomes all public input and appreciates adherence to the time limits established. Each period shall be limited to one 3 minute comment per period.
- G. Consideration to Commence the public Hearing regarding the adoption of FY 2024-2025 Budget for Gratiot County.

Board Action: Motion by Bailey, second by Gay to go into Public Hearing at 4:32 p.m. regarding the adoption of FY 2024-2025 Budget for Gratiot County. Motion carried 5-0.

- 1. Presentation of FY 2024-2025 Gratiot County Budget.
- 2. Millage Review.
- 3. Discussion.
- 4. Public Comment.
- 5. Consideration to adjourn the public Hearing.

Board Action: Motion by Bailey, second by Gay to adjourn Public Hearing at 4:55 p.m. and proceed to Regular meeting for the purpose to approve the L-4029 and the 2024-2025 Gratiot County Budget. Motion carried 5-0.

H. Consideration to approve the L-4029- Keegan Bengel.

Board Action: Motion by Sopocy, second by Bunting approve the L-4029 as presented, with the following: Road Patrol .4486, Parks .35, Senior .6492, Ag/Econ .500, Library .4994, and 911 .60. Motion carried 5-0.

I. Consideration to Approve the 2024-2025 Gratiot County Budget.

Board Action: Motion by Bailey, second by Sopocy to approve Resolution 24-327 to adopt the Gratiot County Budget General Appropriation Act and Millage rates for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025. Roll Call: Yes: Bailey, Bunting, Gay, Owens, and Sopocy. No: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Action: Motion by Sopocy, second by Bunting to amend the budget to include \$9,000.00 in overtime for District Court Magistrates. Motion carried 5-0.

J. Consideration of Consent Calendar: Board Minutes, Communications and recommendations from committees.

1. Commissions Minutes of September 3, 2024.
2. Communications.

- a. Gratiot County Drain Office.
- b. Eaton County Request for Support.

Board Action: Motion by Bailey, second by Sopocy to approve the minutes and receive the communications. Motion carried 5-0.

K. Administrator's report.

Keagan Bengel has taken his position to go private, and he still be the Gratiot County Equalization Director.

There will be a Tire pick up at the Gratiot County Fair Ground, from 8 a.m – 3 p.m., they can take up to 2,000.

L. Commissioner Committee Reports.

Commissioner Bailey: Hamilton was cancelled, North Star, normal business, talked about Blight. Lafayette Township cemetery is being talked about. Attended the Veterans appreciation at the Football game.

Commissioner Gay: Emerson Township, talked about Dormant Accounts. Looking at a Fire Truck. Emerson township has 2 Cemeteries, and upkeep is a lot. Emerson had a perfect score on their Audit. Mental Health meeting, Hope in the park, Suicide Prevision Day. They are also talking about Budget. Having Classes on parenting Skills. They are in the process of building a new building.

Commissioner Owens: Seville, and LEPC, (Local Emergency Planning Committee) emergency preparedness.

Commissioner Bunting: Child Advocacy had an event in the Park.

Commissioner Sopocy: New Haven, working on Zoning. Newark, new Board so doing some training. Perrington working on Lead Pipes. Ashley Planning Commission working to bring a Bank to the Village. Elba Township wants the Board to know they are Thankful. Healthy Pine River- talked about the change in the river. North Shade, planning

commission meeting- talking to Consumers about the power lines. Townships and Counties need to have a plan for the Solar and Wind Farms come in. Washington township started on their new hall.

M. Consideration of New Business.

1. MSU-Extension Contract.

Board Action: Motion by Bunting, second by Sopocy to sign the Agreement for extension services with Michigan State University Extension. Motion carried 5-0.

2. Fair Labor Standards Act Rule Change-Overtime Eligibility Update.

Board Action: Motion by Sopocy, second by Bailey to approve the provided verbiage removing the threshold and citing only the law for our Overtime Eligibility. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment program.

Board Action: Motion by Bailey, second by Gay to sign the letter of Support for the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program. Motion carried 5-0.

4. FY2023-24 Budget Amendments.

Board Action: Motion by Gay, second by Bailey to make the Budget adjustments as presented for both the General and Specialty funds for FY 23-24. Motion carried 5-0.

N. Consideration of Unfinished Business.

O. Recess the Regular meeting and enter into Finance Meeting. Entered into the Finance Meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Board Action: Motion by Bailey, second by Gay to go into the Finance Meeting at 5:54 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Regular Meeting Reconvened at 6:14 p.m.

P. Additional public comment and board comments. None.

Q. Adjournment.-

Board Action: Motion by Sopocy, and second by Bailey to adjourn at 6:15 p.m.

Angie Thompson
Gratiot County Clerk
Approved: