

Stark County Board Meeting Minutes
December 10th, 2024

The Stark County Board met in the Courthouse for the December 10th board meeting at 6:30 pm. County Clerk Hollis called the meeting to order. Roll call shows Howes, Schaffer, Loane, Wilson, Orwig, Nowlan, and Bush present. Absent was McMillen.

County Clerk Hollis called for the nomination of a new County Board Chair. Mr. Nowlan nominated Ms. Bush for the position with a second from Mr. Loane with 4 ayes and 3 nays, motion carried.

A quorum was established, and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Board Chair Bush then called for the nomination of a new County Board Vice Chair. Mr. Howes nominated Mr. Wilson with a second from Mr. Schaffer with 3 ayes and 4 nays; the motion failed. Mr. Loane then nominated Mr. Nowlan with a second from Mr. Orwig. During the discussion board member Howes took the opportunity to voice his displeasure on several issues including board member presence in the public, the short length of the monthly board meetings, and no regular committee meetings. After discussion a roll call vote was taken on the nomination of Mr. Nowlan for vice chair with 4 ayes and 3 nays, motion carried.

Howes made a motion to approve the agenda with a second from Mr. Loane with all present voting aye, motion carried.

There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Nowlan to approve the minutes from the November 12th, 2024, board meeting with a second by Howes with 6 ayes and 1 abstain, motion carried.

A motion was made by Howes to approve the November 27th special meeting minutes with a second by Orwig with 6 ayes and 1 abstain, motion carried.

Committee Reports

There are no committee reports this month. Committee appointments will be on the agenda for the January meeting. There will also be a committee created to oversee the construction of the new county highway and administrative building.

Finance-The monthly bills were presented for approval. After discussion concerning the uniform allowance for sheriff union employees and how the money is distributed was clarified, a motion was made by Orwig with a second from Nowlan to approve the payment of the bills with all present voting aye, motion carried.

Highway Report

In the absence of the county engineer, a paper copy of the report was handed out for the board to review. If there were any questions board members were directed to contact the engineer.

Finance Report

Treasurer Leezer went over the end of the fiscal year financial report.

Sheriff's Report

Interviews are underway to replace retiring employee Betsy Colclasure. This position will be transitioned to an administrative position only and not part of the union.

New Business

- 1) The annual resolution to approve the fiscal year 2025 board meeting dates was presented for approval. Motion made by Wilson to approve the dates with a second from Howes with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 2) The newly formed regional drug court representing Marshall, Putnam, and Stark Counties presented a resolution for approval to officially establish this program. Motion made by Nowlan with a second from Wilson to approve this resolution with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 3) A resolution to appoint Shannon Peterson to the Human Services Transportation Plan Steering Committee was presented for approval. Motion made by Nowlan with a second from Loane to approve this resolution with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 4) A resolution to amend the predictable fee schedule for recording documents was presented for approval. Motion made by Orwig with a second from Wilson to approve this resolution with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 5) The 2025 noxious weed plan was presented for approval. Motion made by Orwig with a second from Wilson to approve the plan with all present voting aye, motion carried.

At 7:20 pm Howes made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Nowlan with all present voting aye, meeting **adjourned**.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather L. Hollis, County Clerk