

Stark County Board Meeting Minutes
January 14th, 2025

The Stark County Board met in the Courthouse for the January 14th board meeting at 6:30 pm. Chair Bush called the meeting to order. Roll call shows Howes, Schaffer, Loane, Wilson, Orwig, Nowlan, and Bush present. Absent was McMillen. A quorum was established, and Chair Bush led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

During the public comment portion of the meeting board member Nowlan addressed comments made by board member Howes at the December meeting. He felt they were unprofessional, and were personal attacks directed specifically at the board chair. He encouraged the board to work together for the betterment of the county.

Due to the minutes of the December meeting being inadvertently left out of the board packet, no vote was taken to approve. This item was tabled until the next board meeting.

Committee Reports

New committee appointments were announced by the board chair, and they are as follows:

- Police-Schaffer/Howes
- Legislative-Orwig/Loane
- Economic Development-Schaffer/McMillen
- Health Board-Bush
- Road/Bridge-Nowlan/Wilson
- County Highway/Administrative Offices Building-Wilson/Nowlan
- Finance-The monthly bills were presented for approval. After discussion, Wilson made a motion to approve with a second from Loane with all present voting aye, motion carried.

Highway Report

No official report was presented.

Finance Report

Treasurer Leezer had no issues to report.

Sheriff's Report

None

New Business

- 1) A resolution to set the salary for county board members was presented. This salary has not been paid to board members for quite some time. To encourage citizens to run for a county board seat, the board decided to start taking this salary. After a lengthy discussion, the board set a salary of \$100 per meeting for board members and \$150 per meeting for the board chair. If anyone besides the board chair must run a board meeting, they will get

\$150 as well. Board members will also be allowed to request mileage reimbursement for attending outside committee meetings. Orwig made the motion to approve this resolution with a second from Nowlan with all present voting aye, motion carried.

- 2) A resolution to reappoint Tom McMahill to the Planning Commission was presented for approval. Motion made by Wilson with a second from Howes to approve this resolution with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 3) A resolution to reappoint Carl Ryan to the Zoning Board of Appeals was presented for approval. Motion made by Wilson with a second from Howes to approve this resolution with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 4) A resolution for MFT funds was presented for approval. Motion made by Howes with a second from Nowlan to approve this resolution with all present voting aye, motion carried.

At 7:24 pm board member Nowlan made a motion to adjourn into a closed session to discuss the purchase of real property. Orwig seconded the motion with all in favor. The open session is now closed.

At 8:24 pm the meeting was reopened. Chair Bush announced that the county will be utilizing county-owned property for the planned construction of new highway facilities.

At 8:25 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