Ingham County Board of Commissioners Joint Republican and Democratic Caucus Meeting  
July 23, 2019  
Draft Minutes

Members Present: Celentino, Crenshaw, Grebner (arrived at 5:43 p.m.), Koenig, Maiville, Morgan, Sebolt, Slaughter, Stivers, Tennis (arrived at 5:43 p.m.), and Trubac.

Members Absent: Naeyaert, Polsdofer, and Schafer.

Others Present: Sheriff Scott Wriggelsworth, Tim Dolehanty, Jared Cypher, Becky Bennett, Liz Noel, Beth Foster, and others.

Call to Order

Chairperson Slaughter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of the April 9, 2019 Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. KOENIG, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 9, 2019 JOINT REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS MEETING.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Grebner, Naeyaert, Polsdofer, Schafer, and Tennis.

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Limited Public Comment

None.

1. Sheriff’s Office – Volunteer Policy/Liability Issues

Sheriff Scott Wriggelsworth gave an update on the Volunteer Policy and Liability Issues.

Commissioner Crenshaw asked how many special deputies were working the Fair.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that all 14 special deputies were working the Fair.

Commissioner Crenshaw asked if the special deputies did not get paid.
Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that the special deputies would get paid by the Fair but would donate that money back into the community.

Commissioner Sebolt asked if there were any plans to recruit a new volunteer heavy rescue team.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that heavy rescue was done and the services they provided would be incorporated into the fire departments around the County.

Commissioner Koenig asked if the volunteers were the chaplains, explorers, special deputies, and victim advocates.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that that was correct.

Commissioner Koenig asked how many chaplains the Sheriff’s Department had.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that they had 4.

Commissioner Koenig asked how many victim advocates the Sheriff’s Department had.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that they had 16 or 17.

Commissioner Koenig asked how many explorers the Sheriff’s Department had.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that they just joined forces with East Lansing Police and Michigan State University Police and went from 8 to approximately 20 explorers.

Commissioner Koenig stated that there were 14 special deputies.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that that was correct.

Commissioner Koenig asked if the special deputies carry guns.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that they did.

Commissioner Koenig asked if the special deputies were licensed under their own license.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that the special deputies had their own CPLs but were also run through the Sheriff’s Department qualification course and the academy, which includes firearms decision making. He further stated that the special deputies have to donate they have to donate 100 hours of their time annually and part of that includes training.

Commissioner Koenig asked about the contract that the Fair had with the Sheriff’s Department.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that last year it was $6,000.

Discussion.
Commissioner Koenig asked who would provide the air compressor for firefighters now that there was no heavy rescue unit.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that the Fire Chiefs collaborated and the air compressor was now housed at Delhi and they have a rotating schedule.

Commissioner Morgan stated that he was aware of an issue in smaller communities where volunteers would sign up just for the CPL exemption and asked if the Sheriff had seen that issue here.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that he had not and they would get rid of anyone they suspected was doing that.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the special deputies with CPLs were allowed the exemption on their license.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that they were.

Chairperson Slaughter asked if the volunteer form had been shared with other departments as an example.

Tim Dolehanty, Controller, stated that it has been. He further stated that the zoo already had a similar form that was more comprehensive and that animal control and parks were looking at using the same form as the Sheriff’s Department.

Commissioner Maiville asked about volunteers driving County vehicles and how insurance coverage worked for that.

Mr. Dolehanty stated that the volunteer’s insurance was the first stop and the County would not be the first stop under No-Fault. He further stated that this complication only existed when a car was involved.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that the Sheriff’s Department mandated that the volunteers had auto insurance.

Commissioner Maiville asked how other volunteers would be covered if they were riding in a car that was in an accident.

Mr. Dolehanty stated that for each of them their own insurance would be the first stop.

Commissioner Crenshaw stated that that was the issue at Animal Control, years ago, when we stopped the volunteers from driving to adoption events in County vehicles.

Mr. Dolehanty stated that as far as he knew that issue had not come up since.

Commissioner Maiville asked if the special deputies drove marked cars.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated that sometimes they did.
Commissioner Grebner arrived at 5:43 p.m.

Commissioner Tennis arrived at 5:43 p.m.

**Announcements**

None.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:44 p.m.