

**MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**  
Tuesday, January 3, 2006  
9:12 AM

The organizational meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Retzloff at 9:12 a.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Caris offered invocation.

Members present: Commissioners Walker, Retzloff, Paepke, Johansen, Baker, Carr, Caris and McCrackin.  
Members absent at roll call: Commissioners Carr & Petersen.

Others present: Kristen Millard, Chris Hyzer and John Berchtold.

The first order of business was the selection of a Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. The Acting Chairman stated he would accept nominations.

Commissioner Caris placed the name of Ron Retzloff in nomination. There were no further nominations.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Caris that nominations be closed and a unanimous ballot for Ron Retzloff as Vice-Chairman be cast. Motion carried.

The Board was provided with a list of Committee Assignments. Acting Chairman Retzloff stated that he was not aware of any changes Chairman Carr wanted to make. The list is as follows:

Finance and Personnel – To meet the second and fourth Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. – As needed. Claims to be audited each second and fourth Monday prior to the Board Meeting with times varying. Members are as follows:

Roger Caris– Chairman  
Marcia Walker– Vice Chairperson  
Ron Baker  
Carl Paepke  
John Johansen- Alternate

Collective Bargaining – Meetings as needed. Members are as follows:

Ron Baker– Chairman  
Ron Retzloff– Vice Chairman  
Roger Caris  
Patrick Carr  
Marcia Walker – Alternate

Health & Human Services – Meetings as needed. Members are as follows:

John McCrackin – Chairperson  
Daniel Petersen- Vice Chairman  
John Johansen  
Carl Paepke  
Ron Retzloff- Alternate

Law Enforcement and Courts – Meetings as needed. Members are as follows:

Ron Retzloff– Chairman  
Carl Paepke– Vice Chairman  
John McCrackin  
John Johansen

Dan Petersen- Alternate

Economic Development and Physical Resources – To meet on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m. – As needed. Members are as follows:

John Johansen – Chairperson  
Marcia Walker – Vice Chairman  
Ron Baker  
Daniel Petersen  
John McCrackin- Alternate

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to accept the 2006 committee assignments as submitted, giving Chairman Carr the prerogative to change the assignments at the next meeting if he so chooses. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Paepke that the Montcalm County Board of Commissioners meeting dates for the year 2006 be held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. with the following exceptions:

- That the first meeting in October be held Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> due to Columbus Day;
- That only one meeting be held in November on the 13<sup>th</sup>;
- And that the meetings in December will be on the first and third Mondays.

Motion carried.

A copy of the By-Laws and Rules of Procedure were reviewed. Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Johansen to approve and adopt the Montcalm County Board of Commissioners By-Laws and Rules of Procedure as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Johansen addressed a letter the board received regarding the Planning Commission. Lonnie Smith will serve as the Public Health representative.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to appoint Lonnie Smith to the Montcalm County Planning Commission, term expiring December 31, 2008 as a representative of Public Health. Motion carried.

Chairman Carr entered the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

The meeting was turned over to Chairman Carr.

Commissioner Paepke informed the board that he has received information on 6 Eagle Scouts in the county. He will provide Missy Hetherington with the information so resolutions can be prepared.

Chairman Carr informed the board that Sietsma Farms opted not to proceed with the last phase of the MEDC grant which dealt with road construction of Federal Road, so Howard City bonded and did the road project on their own. The Village of Howard City has now posted a sign “No Thru Trucks” on Federal Road, which makes it very difficult for Sietsma’s and Wolverine Worldwide. Sietsma’s trucks have already been stopped and given a warning for using the road. He feels the sign was posted in retaliation against Sietsma’s for not proceeding with the road construction. He also feels that this is in very bad taste since these businesses were brought here because of the renaissance zone. Commissioner Paepke informed the board that the Solid Waste Committee put up \$140,000 for construction on Federal Road. Therefore, the County may have some say as to whether these companies can use that road or not.

John Berchtold informed the board that the sign cannot be generic. It must have the number of axles listed not just the word “trucks”. He will look into this, however because Sietsma’s trucks are so large it may not be of any help to them.

Commissioner Baker stated that he feels that what the Village is trying to accomplish is to keep the trucks from turning left right in the heart of Howard City. He will look into it further and report back to the board.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to adjourn at 9:30 a.m. Motion carried.

---

Kristen Millard, County Clerk

---

Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman