

Democratic Caucus Leadership Meeting
5:30 pm, Tuesday, November 28, 2023
Conference Room A, Hilliard Building, 121 E. Maple, Mason
virtually at <https://ingham.zoom.us/j/86246962326>

Agenda

Call to Order

Approval of the Minutes

Limited Public Comment

1. Board Leadership elections (Board Chair, Board Vice Chair, Dem Caucus Chair, Dem Caucus Vice- Chair, Dem Caucus Treasurer).
2. Board of Commissioners committee assignments (selected based on seniority)
3. Committee chairs (based on seniority and in reverse alphabetical order)
4. Commissioner advisory board and commission liaison positions
5. Other Appointments
6. Caucus Treasurer Report: (Comm. Johnson)
7. Commissioner Concerns
 - a. Proposed Amendments to Democratic Caucus Rules
8. Other Issues
9. Liaison Committee Report
10. Items/Amendments for Tonight's Board Meeting

Adjournment

Ingham County Board of Commissioners
Democratic Caucus Meeting
November 14, 2023
Draft Minutes

Members Present: Cahill, Celentino, Grebner, Lawrence, Johnson, Peña, Polsdofer, Sebolt, Pawar, Morgan, Tennis and Trubac.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Commissioner Ruest, Commissioner Maiville, Commissioner Schafer, Becky Bennett, Gregg Todd, Gordon Love, Jared Cypher, Madison Hughes, Courtney Johnson, and others.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lawrence at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Courthouse, 341 South Jefferson, Mason, MI. Virtual public participation was not offered via Zoom due to the County internet being down.

Chairperson Lawrence stated there was a late item to be added to the agenda. Chairperson Lawrence further stated the Proposed Amendments to the Democratic Caucus Rules would be added as Agenda Item No. 6 and the other items would be renumbered accordingly.

2. Approval of the Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. MORGAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. JOHNSON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 24, 2023 DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS MEETING.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Limited Public Comment

None.

4. Appointments

MOVED BY COMM. TENNIS, SUPPORTED BY COMM. MORGAN, TO APPOINT JACQUELYN LIEBNER AND CHRISTIAN POWELL TO THE OPIOID LITIGATION PANEL.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED BY COMM. CELENTINO, SUPPORTED BY COMM. TENNIS, TO APPOINT JENNIFER JACOB TO THE CAPITAL REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED BY COMM. MORGAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. CAHILL, TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER PAWAR AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Liaison Committee Report

6. Proposed Amendments to the Democratic Caucus Rules

MOVED BY COMM. TRUBAC, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SEBOLT, TO ADOPT AMENDED RULES OF THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS OF THE INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

MOVED BY COMM. GREBNER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. TENNIS, TO TABLE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS RULES UNTIL THE CAUCUS LEADERSHIP MEETING.

THE MOTION TO TABLE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS RULES FAILED. **Yeas:** Cahill, Celentino, Grebner, Johnson, Peña, Tennis. **Nays:** Lawrence, Morgan, Pawar, Polsdofer, Trubac, Sebolt. **Absent:** None.

COMM. GREBNER REQUESTED TO DIVIDE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS RULES TO VOTE SEPARATELY ON AMENDMENTS TO THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF SECTION 3, SECTION 4d, AND SECTION 7.

CHAIRPERSON LAWRENCE DENIED THE REQUEST.

MOVED BY COMM. GREBNER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. TENNIS, TO CHALLENGE AND OVERTURN THE RULING OF THE CHAIR.

Chairperson Lawrence stated that Yeas would be in agreeance with Chairperson Lawrence's decision.

THE MOTION TO OVERTURN THE DECISION FAILED. **Yeas:** Lawrence, Morgan, Pawar, Polsdofer, Trubac, Sebolt. **Nays:** Cahill, Celentino, Grebner, Johnson, Peña, Tennis. **Absent:** None.

COMM. SEBOLT STATED THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS RULES SHOULD BE AMENDED TO RENUMBER THE ITEMS AS FOLLOWS:

5. 4. The Chairperson-elect agrees to appoint Standing Committee membership and chairs as selected by the Democratic Caucus at the first Board of **Commissioners** meeting in

~~January held the following year~~ and appoints remaining committee members after receiving recommendations from the Republican Caucus. ~~The Board Chairperson shall appoint Vice Chairs of Standing Committees.~~

6. 5. The Democratic Caucus discusses and by vote of a majority of its membership **a majority vote of its members elected to serve during the following year**, recommends Commissioner appointments and liaisons to Special Committees, Boards, Commissions, etc., giving ~~major~~ **primary** consideration to the wishes of individual Commissioners, **followed by seniority**. The Board Chairperson agrees to follow these recommendations in making appointments.
7. 6. The Democratic Caucus will meet as needed (other than before Board meetings) to discuss substantive issues. The Democratic Caucus does not require its members to conform to a Caucus position on substantive issues, but only on matters of appointments and related procedural votes. A Commissioner may be given leave by ~~the majority of the membership of the caucus to oppose an appointment if approved at a meeting of the caucus.~~ **A simple majority of the Caucus in attendance at the Caucus meeting immediately prior to the Board of Commissioners meeting in which the appointment is to be considered.**
8. 7. ~~Caucus Participation.~~ The Democratic Caucus will be open to all Democratic Commissioners who agree to support Caucus selections for leadership and committee positions, agree to support Caucus recommendations for citizen board appointments (unless the caucus grants leave to oppose) and agree to participate in good faith in Caucus discussions. **The Democratic Caucus may remove any member by a two-thirds vote of Caucus members serving.**

This was considered a friendly amendment.

COMM. SEBOLT REQUESTED TO DIVIDE THE QUESTION TO VOTE ON EACH PARAGRAPH OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS RULES SEPARATELY.

CHAIRPERSON LAWRENCE GRANTED THE REQUEST.

Chairperson Lawrence stated the Democratic Caucus would vote on approving item number one of the Democratic Caucus Rules, as amended.

THE AMENDMENTS TO ITEM NUMBER ONE OF THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS RULES WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairperson Lawrence stated the Democratic Caucus would vote on approving item number two of the Democratic Caucus Rules, as amended.

THE AMENDMENTS TO ITEM NUMBER TWO OF THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS RULES WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairperson Lawrence declared the Democratic Caucus was recessed at 6:29 p.m.

Chairperson Lawrence called the meeting back to order at 6:50 p.m.

MOVED BY COMM. MORGAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. TENNIS, TO TABLE TO THE REMAINING ITEMS OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS OF THE INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. TRUBAC, TO RECONSIDER THE VOTES ON THE AMENDMENTS TO ITEM ONE AND ITEM TWO OF THE RULES OF THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS OF THE INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER THE VOTES FOR AMENDMENTS TO ITEMS ONE AND TWO FAILED. **Yeas:** Sebolt, Trubac. **Nays:** Cahill, Celentino, Grebner, Lawrence, Johnson, Peña, Polsdofer, Pawar, Morgan, Tennis. **Absent:** None.

7. Commissioner Concerns

None.

8. Caucus Treasurer Report/Ads and Sponsorships

9. Other Issues

None.

10. Items/Amendments for Tonight's Board Meeting

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.