

**JOURNAL OF THE COMMISSION**  
**CHARTER COUNTY OF WAYNE**  
**STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**NO. 1**

**ORGANIZATION MEETING - 2003**

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**FIRST DAY**

Wayne County Building, Outdoor Grand Staircase, Detroit, Michigan

Thursday, January 2, 2003

10:00 a.m.

In conformance with the Wayne County Home Rule Charter, the Constitution and applicable Statutes of the State of Michigan, and pursuant to the previous Commission's Rules, the Commissioners-elect to the Wayne County Commission assembled on the Outdoor Grand Staircase of the Wayne County Building at Detroit on the first business day after January 1, the 2nd day of January, 2003 at 10:32 a.m., and were called to order by the Wayne County Clerk Cathy M. Garrett.

# **PROPOSED**

## **CERTIFICATION OF COMMISSIONERS-ELECT AND ROLL CALL**

The Wayne County Clerk, Cathy M. Garrett, advised that the Board of Canvassers duly certified the following list of Commissioners-elect:

First District	<b>CHRISTOPHER F. CAVANAGH</b>
Second District	<b>BERNARD PARKER</b>
Third District	<b>ROBERT B. BLACKWELL</b>
Fourth District	<b>JEWEL C. WARE</b>
Fifth District	<b>ILONA VARGA</b>
Sixth District	<b>KEITH B. STALLWORTH</b>
Seventh District	<b>KWAME KENYATTA</b>
Eighth District	<b>ALISHA R. BELL</b>
Ninth District	<b>PHILIP M. CAVANAGH</b>
Tenth District	<b>LYN BANKES</b>
Eleventh District	<b>JOHN J. SULLIVAN</b>
Twelfth District	<b>KAY BEARD</b>
Thirteenth District	<b>SUSAN L. HUBBARD</b>
Fourteenth District	<b>JOSEPH PALAMARA</b>
Fifteenth District	<b>EDWARD A. BOIKE, JR.</b>

## **CONSTITUTIONAL OATH OF OFFICE**

The foregoing named Commissioners took and subscribed the Constitutional Oath of Office, which was administered to the Commissioners-elect by the Honorable Justice Michael F. Cavanagh, Michigan Supreme Court.

## **ELECTION OF WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION OFFICERS**

### **1. Chairperson of the Commission**

The Constitutional Oath of Office will be administered by the former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Conrad L. Mallet, Jr.

### **2. Vice-Chair of the Commission**

The Constitutional Oath of Office will be administered by the former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Conrad L. Mallet, Jr.

### **3. Vice-Chair Pro Tempore of the Commission**

The Constitutional Oath of Office will be administered by the former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Conrad L. Mallet, Jr.

## **PROPOSED**

The Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett announced that the next order of business was the election of a Chairperson.

**Commissioner Varga, supported by Commissioner Kenyatta, nominated Commissioner Jewel C. Ware as Chairman of the Wayne County Commission.**

There being no other nominations, **Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett proceeded to announce that Commissioner Jewel C. Ware, having received an unanimous vote, was duly elected Chairwoman of the Wayne County Commission, and adoption of the resolution.**

**The motion prevailed by voice vote.**

[Resolution No. 2003-1]

At this point in the proceedings, Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett announced that the next order of business was the election of a Vice-Chair.

**Commissioner Blackwell, supported by Commissioner Boike, nominated Commissioner John J. Sullivan as Vice-Chair of the Wayne County Commission.**

**Wayne County Clerk Cathy M. Garrett requested that without objection the nominations would be closed.**

**The motion prevailed by voice vote.**

There being no other nominations, **Wayne County Clerk Cathy M. Garrett proceeded to announce that Commissioner John J. Sullivan, having received the unanimous vote of the members serving, was duly elected Vice-Chair of the Wayne County Commission, and adoption of the resolution.**

**The motion prevailed by voice vote.**

[Resolution No. 2003-2]

## PROPOSED

Following which, Wayne County Cathy M. Garrett announced that the order of business was the election of Vice-Chair Pro Tempore of the Wayne County Commission.

**Commissioner Boike, supported by Commissioner Sullivan, nominated Commissioner Robert B. Blackwell as Vice-Chair Pro Tempore of the Wayne County Commission.**

There being no other nominations, **Wayne County Clerk Cathy M. Garrett proceeded to announce that Commissioner Robert B. Blackwell, having received the unanimous vote of the members serving, was duly elected Vice-Chair Pro Tempore of the Wayne County Commission, and adoption of the resolution.**

**The motion prevailed by voice vote.**

[Resolution No. 2003-3]

**The Honorable Conrad L. Mallett, Jr.**, former Michigan Supreme Court Justice, administered the Constitutional Oath of Office to Commissioner Jewel C. Ware as Chairwoman of the Wayne County Commission; Commissioner John J. Sullivan as Vice-Chair of the Wayne County Commission; and Commissioner Robert B. Blackwell as Vice-Chair Pro Tempore of the Wayne County Commission.

Following which, Wayne County Clerk Cathy M. Garrett relinquished the Chair to Chairwoman Ware. Following which she made the following remarks:

CHAIRWOMAN WARE: "Let me say peace and blessings to everyone. Today is a great day in Wayne County and it's the beginning of what we would call a new era.

I want to thank the people in my district for returning me to the Commission.

Special thanks to our precinct delegates and our community leaders--the backbone of Wayne County.

I also would like to congratulate my fellow Commissioners on their elections and re-elections.

I know that their spirits are always with me, but I give honor to my mother and father; and all praises to my dear husband, Jesse Long-Bey for his love, understanding and his patience.

## **PROPOSED**

I know that this Commission wishes to join me in thanking our predecessor as our Chair, and I know he's here, the Honorable Ricardo Solomon for his strong leadership skills, for his sincere friendship, and for his great dedication to the people of Wayne County. I also value the friendship and support of Detroit's great, Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick.

You, my fellow Commissioners, have honored me deeply by selecting me to serve as your Chair. I pledge to do all in my power to be worthy of your trust.

I am proud to join my sisters in public service, including our new Governor Jennifer Granholm; our Minority Leader and Floor Leader, Mary Waters and Dianne Byrum, as we each assume positions of great public trust.

Wayne County is the eighth largest County in America. With our 43 cities, townships and villages, we are the most diverse unit of government in the State of Michigan. We are rural, suburban, urban, and we are truly a multi-racial major unit of government in our State.

We, fifteen Wayne County Commissioners, constitute the legislative branch of Wayne County government as laid out in our County Charter. The 1983 Charter, under which we operate, sets forth the separation of powers and a system of checks and balances in which the Commission serves as a fully co-equal branch of government.

History is looking to our Commission, the branch of County government closest to the people, to fully realize its potential for public service. Together, we must strive to expand indigent healthcare, mental health services, rid our streets of crime, and reduce disgraceful levels of infant mortality.

We must make Wayne County more competitive in the new global economy, improve mass transit, and better control our drains and sewers. Finally, as a vital international gateway, Wayne County must see to the security of our homeland for our fellow American citizens.

These are all difficult challenges. I am optimistic that together we will make progress.

This is the dawn of a new era in Wayne County government. The Honorable Robert Ficano, our new County Executive, is a man of integrity and ability. We, on the Commission, are dedicated to meeting our legislative responsibilities. Let us together achieve a new spirit of cooperation between the executive and legislative branches of Wayne County government. I believe that Mr. Ficano shares our vision of the separation of powers embodied in the charter. If,

## **PROPOSED**

however, he should forget, I will remind him.

In the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Come, let us reason together."

The citizens of Wayne County who sent us here are honest, hard working, fair-minded people. They are the salt of the earth and truly deserve the very best from each member of this great legislative body. Let us strive together with all of our might to make them proud.

Together, let us heed the wisdom of the 37th Psalm:

"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

Thank you and God bless you."

At this point in the proceedings, the Clerk of the Commission Joyce D. Williams indicated the order of business would be to entertain a motion to move the entire Agenda.

### **CONSIDERATION OF STANDING RULES OF THE COMMISSION**

Rule 2 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure provides, in part:

"...The Commission shall also adopt Temporary Rules of Procedure ..."

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Pursuant to Rule 2 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, any matters not having received final action by the outgoing Commission shall be referred back to the Committees for consideration, except those matters "... declared as requiring emergency action involving civil disaster, public health, and public safety...".

Note: A report will be submitted by the Clerk of the Commission detailing those matters which have been submitted to the Commission for consideration, but which did not receive final action during the 2001-2002 Session.

# **PROPOSED**

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS AND AGENCIES**

To Committee  
And Set Dates for  
Nominations  
as Appropriate

1. Communication from the Clerk of the Commission Joyce D. Williams advising as to the various boards and commissions and other appointed positions in which vacancies shall occur in the coming year. (2002-58-019)

**Commissioner Varga, supported by Commissioner Parker, moved to approve the remaining items on the Agenda.**

**The motion prevailed by voice vote.**

**Commissioner Varga, supported by Commissioner Parker, moved adjournment. The motion prevailed and Chairwoman Ware declared the Commission adjourned until Thursday, January 16, 2003.**

JOYCE D. WILLIAMS  
Clerk of the Commission

JDW:JAB:jab

# **PROPOSED**