

# **PROPOSED**

## **JOURNAL OF THE COMMISSION**

### **CHARTER COUNTY OF WAYNE**

#### **STATE OF MICHIGAN**

##### **NO. 1**

#### **ORGANIZATION SESSION - 2011**

---

##### **FIRST DAY**

---

---

Commission Chamber, Lower Level, Mezzanine, Guardian Building, Detroit, Michigan

Tuesday, January 4, 2011

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 in the Commission Chamber in the Guardian Building in Detroit on the second business day after January 1st, the 4th day of January, 2011 at 10:00 a.m., and were called to order by the Wayne County Clerk, Cathy M. Garrett.

#### **SWEARING IN CEREMONY**

Following the processional, the Wayne County Honor Guards led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

### **INVOCATION**

Wayne County Clerk, Cathy M. Garrett, introduced Reverend Ron D. Coleman, Sr. who delivered the following invocation:

“Bless the Commissioners as they come forth and deliberate what’s best in the interest of Wayne County. We ask Your love be upon the State of Michigan, upon the County of Wayne, and the City of Detroit, because Your love is that unifying power that helps us all work together, and Your love works miracles. We ask in this great 2011 year, that You provide a miracle demonstration right here in our county, our state and our city, that this become our turn around year that we will all be blessed in ways that we can’t even imagine right now. We thank the Holy Spirit right now for touching our Commissioners and blessing them in all of their ways. We thank You God that You are our resource where substance flows from invisibility into visibility. We ask You to bless and keep each of our Commissioners safe and prospered in all of their ways as You will our County. We ask this in the great name of Christ and so it is. AMEN, AMEN and AMEN.”

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

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

First District	<b>TIM KILLEEN</b>
Second District	<b>BERNARD PARKER</b>
Third District	<b>MARTHA G. SCOTT</b>
Fourth District	<b>JEWEL C. WARE</b>
Fifth District	<b>ILONA VARGA</b>
Sixth District	<b>IRMA CLARK-COLEMAN</b>
Seventh District	<b>BURTON LELAND</b>
Eighth District	<b>ALISHA R. BELL</b>
Ninth District	<b>DIANE L. WEBB</b>
Tenth District	<b>LAURA COX</b>
Eleventh District	<b>KEVIN MCNAMARA</b>
Twelfth District	<b>JOAN GEBHARDT</b>
Thirteenth District	<b>GARY WORONCHAK</b>
Fourteenth District	<b>JOSEPH PALAMARA</b>
Fifteenth District	<b>RAYMOND E. BASHAM</b>

### **CONSTITUTIONAL OATH OF OFFICE**

The following named Commissioners took and subscribed the Constitutional Oath of Office, which was administered to the Commissioners-elect by the following:

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

**Mr. Kevin Keveney**, administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Tim Killeen of the First District.

**The Honorable Judge Linda Parker**, administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Bernard Parker of the Second District.

Following the Oath of Office, the Honorable Judge Linda Parker made the following remarks: "Very briefly, I just have to thank you personally for your years of service to Wayne County residents and I am particularly appreciative of your attentiveness to the needs of those who are profoundly challenged in their daily lives whether it is through impoverishment or addiction. I thank you for all you do in that regard."

**The Honorable Judge Christopher Dingell**, administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Martha G. Scott of the Third District.

**The Honorable Cathy M. Garrett, Wayne County Clerk**, administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Jewel C. Ware of the Fourth District.

Following the Oath of Office, Commissioner Ware made the following remarks: "Let me say peace and blessings to everyone and a big thank you to the citizens of Wayne County Commission District 4 for returning me to my elected seat here as their Wayne County Commissioner. Of course to my family, to my husband who stands by my side as I spend many, many hours in the community and to all my community leaders and precinct delegates. Thank you and God bless.

**Mr. Joshua Hirt and Mr. Blake Hirt, grandchildren of Commissioner Varga**, administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Ilona Varga of the Fifth District.

**Reverend Ron. D. Coleman, Sr., husband of Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman**, administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman of the Sixth District.

Following the Oath of Office, Commissioner Clark-Coleman made the following remarks: "I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my supporters, to thank my members of my church who are here, to thank my friends, my family and above all to thank my husband the Reverend Ron D. Coleman, Sr., for his unwavering support so thank you very much."

**Mr. Kevin Kelley, former Wayne County Commissioner**, administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Burton Leland of the Seventh District.

Following the Oath of Office, Commissioner Leland made the following remarks: "Thank you Kevin. The reason why I had Kevin come up here was because obviously we

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

have been friends for about 30 years, but Kevin was also the Commissioner of northwest Detroit and as you know I represent northwest Detroit on the County Commission. I also want to thank my constituents in northwest Detroit for again reelecting me. It has been 30 years since I have been in electoral politics. My how time flies, so thank you to my constituents, some are here today I recognize, and I will continue to serve you with the same passion and honor and distinction that I have served you with in the past. Thank you very much."

**Ms. Edna Bell, former Wayne County Commissioner and mother of Commissioner Alisha R. Bell,** administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Alisha Bell of the Eighth District.

Following the Oath of Office, Commissioner Bell made the following remarks: "Let me just take this moment to of course thank my family especially my mother, who if not for her I would not be here today. My father and my husband are also in the audience as well as many neighbors, family and friends. Again, thank you all and I look forward to serving on the Wayne County Commission for another two years to the best of my ability. Thank you."

**Mr. Tom Webb, father of Commissioner Diane Webb,** administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Diane Webb of the Ninth District.

Following the Oath of Office, Commissioner Webb made the following remarks: "I just want to take this moment to thank all those who supported me especially my family, my fiancée, my friends and my constituents, thank you and God bless you all."

**The Honorable Michael Cox, former Attorney General and husband of Commissioner Laura Cox,** administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Laura Cox of the Tenth District.

Following the Oath of Office, Commissioner Cox made the following remarks: "I just want to say thank you to everybody who helped me reach this goal and stay here and thanks to my mom and dad for all their support and driving here to come celebrate today. Thank you."

**Mr. Cullen McNamara, son of Commissioner Kevin McNamara,** administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Kevin McNamara of the Eleventh District.

Following the Oath of Office, Commissioner McNamara made the following remarks: "I want to thank obviously, my family, my son who grew up so much that when he put his suit coat on it came up to here (demonstration). In the last two years, I guess I have missed a lot of growing up being in this position. I want to thank all of my friends and the people in the eleventh district for giving me another two year chance and looking forward to the next two years. Thank you."

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

**The Honorable Marilyn Kelly, Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court,** administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Joan Gebhardt of the Twelfth District.

Following the Oath of Office, Commissioner Gebhardt made the following remarks: "Thank you very much Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly, I am so proud of her she is a very good friend of mine. I have helped her in her campaigns and I was so pleased to be there when she took the Oath of Office for the Chief Justice, thank you very much Marilyn. Also to my family, my husband Fred who has been there with me; my son Steven, the chef from L.A. that I talk about so much; my daughter Jen, many of those in the Commission know her; and Ken and my granddaughter Lindsay. I also have family and friends here my brother Don and Pauli, my sister Linda, and Dan; brother-in-law Ed and Ginnie; State Senator Glen Anderson and his aide Travis and Mayor William Wild from Westland and his department heads Councilman Adam Hammons; department directors Bob Kosowski, Chief Reddy and my friends Maryann, Jim, Mary Jane, and Clay and all of the constituents of District 12 thank you so much for reelecting me and I promise to do my best. I would also like to thank my aides Sandy, Diane, and Mary, thank you very much."

**Mrs. Vivian Woronchak, wife of Commissioner Gary Woronchak,** administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Gary Woronchak of the Thirteenth District.

**The Honorable Judge Christopher Dingell,** administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Joseph Palamara of the Fourteenth District.

**The Honorable Judge Christopher Dingell,** administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Raymond E. Basham of the Fifteenth District.

Following the Oath of Office, Commissioner Basham made the following remarks: "I would just like to briefly acknowledge my good friend Chris Dingell whose seat I occupied after he left to become a judge and I would like to acknowledge my wife because we don't do these things and get elected into public office by ourselves and certainly my grandson is here from the Navy and I would like to recognize him Zachary Arp, his dad and mother and also a good friend of mine Roger Lauer is here and also my daughter Tracey and her husband Paul Harris are here and so again without family and friends we don't get elected to these offices. I am looking forward to the next chapter in my life serving the constituents of the fifteenth district of Wayne County. Thank you."

**Wayne County Clerk Garrett:** "That concludes all of the Commission districts and at this time we will pause, I know that Commissioner Scott wanted to come up and say something and if there is anyone else after Commissioner Scott and then we will proceed with the program as it is."

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

**Commissioner Scott:** "Morning, thank you for the opportunity again. I am learning. I would like to certainly thank Judge Dingell for stepping in to swear me in. We served together in the Senate and he was an inspiration then to me and will continue to be. I would like to introduce my family, my daughter Deborah Scott; my brother that came all the way from California, Robert Smith; my cousin Mary Hart who came all the way from South Carolina; and my other family members, my sister-in-laws Barbara and Lisa and all of my constituents from the Third District. I know that there is many out there and some others that don't live in the third district that made it possible for me to be here. God has truly blessed me. This is my second time around on the Wayne County Board of Commissioners. I was able to serve under the 27 and now under the 15 and in between he has allowed me to serve many offices so I thank Him for giving me the tenacity and the opportunity to just serve our people. So I am just grateful to be returning to the Wayne County Board of Commissioners so may God bless each and every one of us so that we will be able to do the people's work. Thank you, God bless you."

**Commissioner Killeen:** "Tim Killeen, District One, if we are going to change our past history, we should tell District One when we lead off. I do want to thank my family, this is tough in public life to do this and the supporters that I have, Kevin thank you for swearing me in and also a thank you to the residents of the First District. It is really challenging times as everybody knows and it's a wonderful opportunity to serve the citizens of Wayne. How we are going to meet those challenges, most of the people are in the room here today that are going to be dealing with those challenges, so I look forward to working with everyone and working for the citizens through this next term. Thank you."

**Commissioner Varga:** "Thank you; I would like my two grandsons who swore me in, Josh and Blake. They have been to meetings with me throughout the 24 years that I have been in office and they enjoy going to meetings with me. I just adore them and I think they know it. On the way here they said I really spoil them, but I tell you what, the joy that they bring me is just unbelievable so God has really blessed me richly. I would like to also acknowledge my two staff who have been with me and as we all know without good staff who are on the front line when we are not here is really vital so Jesse and Laura I appreciate you guys and most of all I would like to thank the Fifth District for reelecting me and allowing me to serve. I am very blessed and I know it and I appreciate it. I would also like to take the opportunity to welcome the new members, the three of you that I am really looking forward to serving with those that I served with in the past years, but also I am so thrilled that you guys are all here. Thank you."

**Wayne County Clerk Garrett:** "there being no other remarks we will move on. At this time we will entertain a motion for the election of the Chairperson of the Wayne County Commission."

## AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011

### ELECTION OF WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION OFFICERS

**A.** Chairperson of the Commission

The Constitutional Oath of Office will be administered by the Honorable Judge Christopher Dingell.

**B.** Vice-Chair of the Commission

The Constitutional Oath of Office will be administered by the Honorable Judge Christopher Dingell.

**C.** Vice-Chair Pro Tempore of the Commission

The Constitutional Oath of Office will be administered by the Honorable Judge Christopher Dingell.

Wayne County Clerk, Cathy M. Garrett, announced that the order of business was the election of the Chairperson of the Commission. Following which, nominations were requested for the Chairperson of the Commission.

**Commissioner Parker, supported by Commissioner Palamara, nominated Commissioner Gary Woronchak as Chairman of the Wayne County Commission.**

There being no other nominations, **Wayne County Clerk, Cathy M. Garrett proceeded to announce that Commissioner Gary Woronchak, having received the unanimous vote of the members serving, was duly elected Chairman of the Wayne County Commission, and the resolution was thereby adopted by a roll call vote.**

[Resolution No. 2011-001]

Wayne County Clerk, Cathy M. Garrett, announced that the order of business was the election of the Vice-Chairperson of the Commission. Following which, nominations were requested for the Vice-Chairperson of the Commission.

**Commissioner Gebhardt, supported by Commissioner Webb, nominated Commissioner Alisha R. Bell as the Vice-Chairperson of the Wayne County Commission.**

There being no other nominations, **Wayne County Clerk, Cathy M. Garrett proceeded to announce that Commissioner Alisha R. Bell, having received the unanimous vote of the members serving, was duly elected Vice-Chairperson of the Wayne County Commission, and the resolution was thereby adopted by a roll call vote.**

[Resolution No. 2011-002]

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

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

**Commissioner Palamara, supported by Commissioner Parker, nominated Commissioner Laura Cox 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 Laura Cox, having received the unanimous vote of the members serving, was duly elected Vice-Chair Pro Tempore of the Wayne County Commission, and the resolution was thereby adopted by a roll call vote.**

[Resolution No. 2011-003]

Wayne County Clerk introduced the Honorable Judge Christopher Dingell to administer the Oath of Office to Chairman Woronchak, Vice-Chair Bell and Vice Chair Pro Tempore Cox.

Wayne County Clerk Garrett acknowledged Robert Ficano, Wayne County Executive and Bernard Register of Deeds, Bernard Youngblood.

At this point in the proceedings, Wayne County Clerk Garrett relinquished the Chair to Chairman Gary Woronchak, who gave the following remarks:

### **REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Chairman Woronchak: "Some have said in the last couple of months that they haven't heard me talk so much since I have been on this Commission for six years so I have a lot to make up for so be comfortable. I would like to acknowledge also our Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano for being here. I would like to thank Clerk Cathy Garrett for her service this morning, Judge Dingell for being here with us, Register of Deeds Youngblood and all the other elected officials, Senator Anderson who I didn't see but I know he is here somewhere and we served together in the state house, our former Attorney General Mike Cox, and all other dignitaries family members. I would also like to welcome our Auditor General Willie Mayo who I haven't seen in a while he's been off on sick leave, welcome back Willie we are glad that you are here, you look good.

I would like to thank my colleagues for their trust in electing me Chair of this Commission and I appreciate your confidence in me. I promise that I will do my best to serve all of you well. While I am thanking people, I want to thank my wife Vivian, because if not for her I am sure I never would have held elective office in the first place so thank you for this long journey that's led to this place. I want to welcome again our three new members Ray Basham, Irma Clark-Coleman and Martha Scott who is actually a welcome back for Commissioner Scott. I had the pleasure of serving with all three of them when we were State Representatives and I look forward to working with them now that they have finished their terms in the State Senate. Their years of experience in the State legislature are going to serve the citizens of Wayne County well in their new roles as County Commissioners. The Wayne County Commission has had a remarkable turnover in the



## AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011

last decade and if you look back at the Commission just ten years ago in the 2001 term, you will find that only four of the fifteen who were Commissioners then are here with us today so the experience our new members bring from their state service will be a great benefit to this body. Of course, I also want to welcome back our returning members and I also want to recognize the new dean of the Wayne County Commission, Commissioner Bernard Parker elected twenty years ago. We will be looking towards you now as we have looked toward the previous deans in the last few years. I think you will agree we have a strong leadership team with Vice-Chair Bell and Vice-Chair Pro Tem Cox, both of whom have demonstrated great commitment and ability over the last several years and I think that you will agree that we have a strong team period in the entire Wayne County Commission. All of you have experience, talent, and most importantly a desire to serve that will help move this County forward. Moving this County forward is going to take all of our collective skill.

We are all too aware of the many and serious challenges facing Wayne County in all levels of government. This Commission needs to be a part of the solution. We will work with our executive branch and our County Executive Robert Ficano to address our challenges. In the process however, we will never lose sight of our function and our duty as a legislative branch to be the check and balance and to always question, and when necessary, challenge the administration. But through it all we must remember that the Commission and the Administration share the same goal, to serve the citizens of this great County. While looking ahead at the next two years, it is my hope that the Wayne County Commission will be defined by a few important concepts; professionalism, respect, communication and relevance. This Commission will function in a professional manner. Our meetings will be conducted with decorum and order. We have rules of procedure and we are going to follow them. We are going to expect respect and be expected to show respect. Respect toward each other, respect toward those who have different opinions, respect for those that come before us whether it is someone from the administration, an employee, or someone that wants to complain about potholes. We will do a better job of communication, communicating with each other, with the administration, with each other, with the public, and with each other. We are not going to just be making decisions, but we will be making informed decisions. If we have to sit around the table in a Committee of the Whole meeting for hours to really understand the key issue and get all of our questions answered, that is what we will do and we will be relevant. The powers and duties of this Commission are listed clearly in the County Charter and are granted to us by the people of Wayne County who adopted this Charter. We are going to leave the administration's responsibilities to the administration, but we will not ignore our roll in the process. Legislative oversight is a vital function and will be regarded as such and insist that others within County government do as well.

Now as I accept this position as the Chair of the Wayne County Commission, I do so realizing there is no way to avoid being the target of some criticism, chatter from you, my colleagues, from others and this will probably happen within days, hours, maybe by the time it takes to walk from here to the lunch reception downstairs. I understand how that goes; I understand the process that comes with the job. My only request to you my colleagues is that along with sharing it amongst yourselves in the hallways, in your offices, and having a smoke outside the building, you also share it with me from time to time. I value your opinion; I value your criticism, your honesty and your advice. I not only value it, I am going to rely on it. It is an honor to serve with each member of this Commission.

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

Thank you again for the honor of serving you as your chair. Now let's get to work and make it a great term for the people of Wayne County. Mr. Clerk, next item."

### **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. ..."

**Commissioner McNamara, supported by Commissioner Varga, pursuant to the Commission's Standing Rules of Procedure, moved adoption of the Rules as Temporary Rules of Procedure for 60 days.**

There being no discussion, **Chairman Woronchak requested a vote on adoption of the foregoing matter and resolution, which prevailed, a majority of Commissioners serving having voted therefore by the following Roll Call:**

Yea -- Commissioners Basham, Clark-Coleman, Gebhardt, Killeen, Leland, McNamara, Palamara, Parker, Scott, Varga, Ware, Webb, Vice-Chair Pro Tempore Cox, Vice-Chair Bell, Chairman Woronchak -- 15  
Nay -- None  
Abstain -- None  
Not Voting -- None  
Excused -- None

[Resolution No. 2011-004]

### **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 Acting 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 2009-2010 Session.

**Vice-Chair Pro Tempore Cox, supported by Vice-Chair Bell, moved to refer the foregoing matter to the appropriate Committees.**

There being no discussion, **the Commissioners voted as follows:**

Yea -- Commissioners Basham, Clark-Coleman, Gebhardt, Killeen, Leland, McNamara, Palamara, Parker, Scott, Varga, Ware, Webb, Vice-Chair Pro Tempore Cox, Vice-Chair Bell, Chairman Woronchak -- 15

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

Nay -- None  
Abstain -- None  
Not Voting -- None  
Excused -- None

### **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, ORDINANCES, AND RESOLUTIONS**

The Acting Clerk of the Commission advised there were no Presentation of Petitions, Ordinances and Resolutions.

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

To Committee  
and  
Set Dates for  
Nominations  
as Appropriate

1. Communication from the Acting Clerk of the Commission John Pfeiffer advising as to the various boards and commissions and other appointed positions in which vacancies shall occur in the coming year. (2010-58-001)

**Vice-Chair Pro Tempore Cox, supported by Vice-Chair Bell, moved that the foregoing communication be received and filed.**

There being no discussion, **the Commissioners voted as follows:**

Yea -- Commissioners Basham, Clark-Coleman, Gebhardt, Killeen, Leland, McNamara, Palamara, Parker, Scott, Varga, Ware, Webb, Vice-Chair Pro Tempore Cox, Vice-Chair Bell, Chairman Woronchak -- 15  
Nay -- None  
Abstain -- None  
Not Voting -- None  
Excused -- None

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES**

The Acting Clerk of the Commission advised there were no Communications from Sources other than Governmental Agencies.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Acting Clerk of the Commission advised there was no New Business.

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Woronchak indicated Committee assignments will be completed within a week and will be discussed individually. It is anticipated that a Committee of the Whole meeting will be scheduled at some time next week and everyone will be notified. Chairman Woronchak also asked for patience and indulgence as the Commissioners are being moved. Chairman Woronchak welcomed all members and guests to join us after the meeting in the Vault Room and thanked Marianne Rea for all of her assistance in this matter and for her 6 years of service.

Commissioner Gebhardt requested a Point of Special Privilege to acknowledge the two Westland residents, James Zell and Leslie Machniak that perished in the fire that occurred in Commissioner McNamara's district at Frank's Furniture Store.

**Chairman Woronchak requested all to stand for a moment of silence in honor of the foregoing individuals.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Pursuant to the County Commission's Rules of Procedure, Chairman Woronchak invited comments from the public. There were no public comments.

### **REMARKS BY MEMBERS**

COMMISSIONER GEBHARDT: "I just want to welcome you and the legislative team of the Commission and know that we are going to have a very good two years."

COMMISSIONER SCOTT: "Thank you Mr. Chair for this opportunity. I would just like to say that I am glad to be back and I look forward to working with each and every one of the Commissioners, but just know, that you just stated that we would be able to speak everyday. I want you to know that I will continue speaking on affordable home and car insurance everyday in here until we get the message. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER PALAMARA: "Thank you Mr. Chair. Congratulations to you and the new leadership team. I just want to wish both the new and returning members all the best as we celebrate our version of opening day. It is exciting and quite an honor to be in this position to help steward our County. The challenges that we face are enormous, but so are the abilities of the members of this body. We are going to need every ounce of that ability to meet our challenges head on. I look forward to working with you, my colleagues as well as our County Executive Bob Ficano and all the countywide elected to help restore the greatness of this County and all of its people. Thank you Mr. Chairman."

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

COMMISSIONER BASHAM: “Congratulations to you first of all Mr. Chairman, but also when I was sworn in, I acknowledged my family but individually I did not acknowledge my son Brian Arp as a councilman in Gibraltar who is here with us with his wife Jodie Arp and also my staff person who will be coming with me from the Michigan Senate Brian Peters. We welcome them.”

COMMISSIONER WEBB: “I want to congratulate Commissioner Woronchak, Commissioner Bell and Commissioner Cox as the new leadership team you will all serve us well. I enjoyed the last two years of working with all of you and I am excited about the next two years and the change that I think will be forthcoming with your leadership. I want to thank all my family and friends for supporting me and I am looking forward to the next two years.”

COMMISSIONER LELAND: “First of all congratulations to you and your new team up there. I appreciated your remarks that you made. I would like to thank once again my constituents for reelecting me, again, it has been 30 years since I have been in this business and it has been an honor and a privilege to be your servant. Kevin to you, thank you for coming here and swearing me in. I know you just got back from a trip and it wasn't easy to get here this early in the morning since your plane probably landed at 5 a.m., so thank you. To Martha, Irma and Ray, congratulations and welcome to this body. I think we probably have more democratic Senators now serving in the Wayne County Commission than we do up in Lansing in the Michigan Legislature. That really is kind of a sad scenario. Just also for the benefit of the new members, the opportunity to speak at the end of session of the Full Board Meeting was something that I requested as a rule change because as you know, we do that in Lansing in the Senate Chambers. We are allowed to speak up to 5 minutes at the end of the day so I am glad that we were able to get that changed and Martha having sat next to you for four years, I am looking forward to your addresses on insurance and other important issues in Detroit. The last thing I want to mention is today on a serious note, today is the final day of my experience with Karmonos. It is my 42nd treatment and I just wanted to thank all of the members of the Commission and the members of the 31st and 32nd floor. I just want you to know how much I appreciate it, all of your love and your concern and your prayers. I think I am going to be okay, probably won't know for a few more months, but I did survive the treatment. I am looking forward to getting my energy back so I can once again become the same outgoing, effervescent, spastic and sometimes obnoxious Burton Leland that many of you have come to know over the years. I have been in a weakened state the last couple of months, but hopefully that will be over with soon. So thank you everybody for being there for me and I hope I will be on the face of the planet for a few more years anyway. Thanks.”

COMMISSIONER KILLEEN: “Thank you Mr. Chair, congratulations on taking the gavel and I look forward to your leadership and that's all I got. Thank you.”

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

COMMISSIONER CLARK-COLEMAN: "Thank you Gary. Congratulations to Alisha, Vice Chair; Gary, Chair; and Laura as Pro Tem. It is wonderful to be back in Wayne County. Many of you might not know, but I spent 31 years working for Wayne County government so I feel like I am coming home back to Wayne County government so it is wonderful to be here. It is wonderful to be a part of this great body. I look forward to the challenges that I know that we will encounter and Burton, same ole Burton, nice to see you again Burton."

COMMISSIONER PARKER: "Congratulations to the new leadership team. I know you are going to do a great job. During the time I was like Commissioner Killeen, I didn't know that they were going to make any remarks but I am kind of glad I was second so I didn't have to do it since none of my family is here. That is the problem when you have been elected or sworn in eleven times, they say "yeah, okay glad you are going to get sworn in", so I thank them for their efforts and all the people in District 2. I know it is a real challenge than when I first came here 20 years ago. Kay Beard was the dean at that time and continued to be the dean the whole time I was here. Many times I would have some criticism of her history and of coming to always raise up some process or something, but I find myself being in that same type of situation. So I apologize for anybody that thinks that when I bring something up it is not necessary, but I guess that is one of the responsibilities you have when you have 20 years of being a Commissioner. I just want to comment to my fellow commissioners, new and former, that this is probably the most challenging time I think that I have experienced as a Commissioner. I think that we all know what is happening in our communities with the high unemployment, the crime going up, loss of population and then here within the Commission, the loss of funds that we continue to experience because of lower property values and people are moving out of Michigan because the lack of jobs and things. So we really have a real challenge before us. I think more so than any other, I really hope that the County Executive and his team are going to work with the Commission to really plan and do some future and long-term planning. We cannot just keep operating year to year, but we really have to look at this in a long-term basis to really see what we are going to look like five years from now. So I hope that we are going to be able to do and to the other elected officials, I hope that they are all willing to work with us so that we will be able to serve the people of Wayne County that elected us to this office. Thank you Mr. Chair."

COMMISSIONER VARGA: "Thank you, congratulations to the three of you and I do like the view from down here. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER MCNAMARA: "Thank you, first of all congratulations Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Vice-Chair Pro Tempore, you look great up there. I liked your speech and I liked the framework of it. I am excited to see what happens next, it sounds like you are going to roll your sleeves up and get right into it which is great because I know we have a lot of problems coming up but congratulations and good luck."

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**

COMMISSIONER COX: "I just wanted to thank everybody for their vote into this office. I really appreciate your confidence that I am going to do a great job. I am going to work really hard with our Chairman, congratulations Gary. It was a perfect choice at a very perfect time and you have the temperament and the knowledge to really lead this Commission in a very strong direction and I am proud to be a part of the team and congratulations to Alisha as well. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER BELL: "Thank you Mr. Chairman, I did not acknowledge my father and husband by asking them to stand so I will do that at this time. My father is also a retiree of Wayne County who worked here for over 30 years, James Bell and my husband Cranston Young. I love you both. You all have met my mother already, you all know her. I also need to thank and recognize my staff, Beverly King and Michelle Joyner. I think all of us know the importance of our staff. Without them, we would not be able to do half of the things that we do so thank you Beverly and Michelle. I thank this Commission, this body for electing myself as well as the Chairman and Vice-Chair Pro Tem. Thank you for your confidence in us. Thank you for this opportunity. We look forward to leading this great Commission over the next two years. I look forward to working with each and every one of you and a special welcome to our new members Commissioner Basham, Commissioner Scott and Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman. We look forward to a great two years. Thank you all so much."

### **QUORUM CALL**

**A quorum being present, Vice Chair Bell, supported by Vice Chair Pro Tempore Cox, declared the Commission adjourned until Thursday, January 20, 2011, the time being 11:12 a.m.**

John E. Pfeiffer  
Acting Clerk of the Commission

JP:mm

## **AGENDA - JANUARY 4, 2011**