

JOURNAL OF THE COMMISSION

CHARTER COUNTY OF WAYNE

STATE OF MICHIGAN

NO. 1

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING - 2023

First Day

Commission Chambers, Mezzanine, Guardian Building, Detroit, MI and online via Zoom.us

Thursday, January 5, 2023

10:00 a.m.

The Commission was called to order by the Acting Clerk of the Commission, Pamela Lane, at 10:11 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 Chambers in the Guardian Building in Detroit on the third business after January 1st, the 5th day of January, 2023 at 10:11 a.m., and was called to order by the Acting Clerk of the Commission, Pamela Lane.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Following the processional, the Wayne County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Commissioner-Elect Clark-Coleman introduced Reverend James Moss, Pastor of Living Waters Church, who gave the following invocation:

“Gracious and eternal Father, we thank you for life, health and strength and in this moment, we thank you for opportunity. An opportunity that you have granted us in this term to see after your people. Thank you for entrusting us to care for something you built. You’ve brought us forth through family; families that have inspired relationships and relationships that have brought us together in community. Communities that we’ve committed to serve and uphold. With Your help, strength and power, may we honor the obligation of the call, and may we handle each citizen, each family, each situation in a manner that not only perpetuates wellness, but also makes you smile. Equip us all to exercise our duties with the integrity, fortitude and humility in a way that exudes a compassion for well-being and safekeeping. Father, as we lead and serve, allow those who voted for us and have confidence in us. Allow them to see dedication, determination and a willingness to support them in tireless effort. Let us capitalize on this great opportunity to use wisdom and strategy to represent the citizens and their concerns that will bring forth comfort, stability and hope. God, we thank you for all victories. We thank you for all triumphs and an awareness to learn from every miscue and potential mistake. With selfless intention and enlightened expectation, in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

CERTIFICATION OF COMMISSIONERS-ELECT AND ROLL CALL

Acting Clerk of the Commission Pamela Lane, called the roll of the following list of Commissioners-elect:

First District	TIM KILLEEN
Second District	JONATHAN C. KINLOCH
Third District	MARTHA G. SCOTT
Fourth District	CARA A. CLEMENTE
Fifth District	IRMA CLARK-COLEMAN
Sixth District	MONIQUE BAKER MCCORMICK
Seventh District	ALISHA R. BELL
Eighth District	DAVID KNEZEK
Ninth District	TERRY MARECKI
Tenth District	MELISSA DAUB
Eleventh District	AL HAIDOUS
Twelfth District	GLENN S. ANDERSON
Thirteenth District	SAM BAYDOUN
Fourteenth District	RAYMOND E. BASHAM
Fifteenth District	JOSEPH PALAMARA

CONSTITUTIONAL OATH OF OFFICE

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

District One, Tim Killeen by Ed Keelean

District Two, Jonathan C. Kinloch by the Honorable Prentis Edwards Jr., Third Judicial Circuit Court Judge, and Michael Kinloch (cousin).

District Three, Martha G. Scott by Alasia Chavious (great-granddaughter) and Kingston Day (great-grandson).

District Four, Cara A. Clemente by Joseph Clemente (son) and Emma Clemente (daughter).

District Five, Irma Clark-Coleman by Pastor James L. Moss, Living Waters Church (son-in-law) and Melanie Moss (daughter).

District Six, Monique Baker McCormick by Gloria Ross (mother) and Bruce Baker (father).

District Seven, Alisha R. Bell by Kranston Young II (son) and Morgan Young (daughter).

District Eight, David Knezek by Assad Turfe, Deputy County Executive.

District Nine, Terry Marecki by Jordyn Sellek (daughter).

District Ten, Melissa Daub by Anupam Chugh Sidhu.

District Eleven, Al Haidous by Sarah Haidous (daughter), Norman Bazzi (grandson) and Danny Bazzi (grandson).

District Twelve, Glenn S. Anderson by the Honorable Mark T. Slavens, Third Judicial Circuit Court Judge.

District Thirteen, Sam Baydoun by the Honorable Helal A. Farhat, Third Judicial Circuit Court Judge, Angela Baydoun (daughter) and Lily Baydoun (daughter).

District Fourteen, Raymond E. Basham by the Honorable Victoria Shackelford, 23rd District Court Judge.

District Fifteen, Joseph Palamara by Luke Westerdale (grandson).

ELECTION OF WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION OFFICERS

The Acting Clerk of the Commission announced that the first order of business was the election of the Chair of the Commission, for which she requested nominations.

Commissioner Baydoun, supported by Commissioner Clark-Coleman, nominated Commissioner Alisha R. Bell as Chair of the Wayne County Commission.

There being no other nominations, the Acting Clerk of the Commission proceeded to announce that Commissioner Alisha R. Bell, having received the unanimous vote of the members serving, was duly elected Chair of the Wayne County Commission, and the resolution was thereby adopted by a voice vote.

[Resolution No. 2023-001]

The Acting Clerk of the Commission announced that the next order of business was the election of the Vice-Chair of the Commission.

Commissioner Basham, supported by Commissioner Clark-Coleman, nominated Commissioner Joseph Palamara as Vice-Chair of the Wayne County Commission.

There being no other nominations, the Acting Clerk of the Commission proceeded to announce that Commissioner Joseph Palamara, having received the unanimous vote of the members serving, was duly elected Vice-Chair of the Wayne County Commission, and the resolution was thereby adopted by a voice vote.

[Resolution No. 2023-002]

The Acting Clerk of the Commission announced that the next order of business was the election of the Vice-Chair Pro Tempore of the Commission.

Commissioner Palamara, supported by Commissioner Bell, nominated Commissioner Sam Baydoun as Vice-Chair Pro Tempore of the Wayne County Commission.

There being no other nominations, the Acting Clerk of the Commission proceeded to announce that Commissioner Baydoun, 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 voice vote.

[Resolution No. 2023-003]

Honorable Chief Judge Patricia Perez Fresard, Third Judicial Circuit Court, administered the Constitutional Oath of Office to Commissioner Alisha R. Bell, as Chair of the Wayne County Commission, Commissioner Joseph Palamara, as the Vice-Chair of the Commission and Commissioner Sam Baydoun, as Vice-Chair Pro Tempore of the Commission.

At this point in the proceedings, the Acting Clerk of the Commission relinquished the gavel to Chair Alisha R. Bell, who gave the following remarks:

“Good morning, everyone. So glad to see so many smiling faces. So glad to see our family and friends here to celebrate us getting sworn in for our 2023-2024 term. Thank you so much for being here with us this morning. I have a little speech. It’s morning now, when I’m done it’ll be afternoon, but don’t fret because lunch is at 12 and I do promise to get us out before lunchtime.

Let me first acknowledge our elected officials here with us today. Wayne County Executive Warren Evans, he was here but he had to step out for a moment, and of course his deputy, Assad Turfe. Thank you all for being here with us today, Treasurer Eric Sabree, Sheriff Ray Washington, Register of Deeds Bernard Youngblood, to all of our judges who here, thank you all so much. Chief Judge Probate Judge Freddie Burton, thank you, Freddie, for being here as well and our new chair, or should I say, Chief Judge of the Third Circuit Court, Judge Fresard, thank you for being here with us today. Ok, well thank you all for being here.

So, here we are. We are entering our term of office. I serve with a dynamic, dynamic Commissioners. I feel grateful to be here today. The three words that really describe how I feel are: blessed, again grateful and then committed. Blessed for my health and the love and health of my family. Even though my son, my husband, my cousin, my sister all contracted COVID over the last two years, we are all healthy and here today. I am grateful. Grateful to work with the best Commissioners and commission staff anywhere in the country. So, give my colleagues another round of applause. Working together, we have done great things over the past two years and I’m looking forward to working with each of you in this next term to continue our great work. And committed, committed to providing the best in service for our 1.7 million residents of Wayne County, as well as, providing an enriching and productive work environment for our employees. For without our dedicated workforce, we could not live up to the service expectations that our residents so rightly deserve.

Allow me to briefly reflect on the work that the Wayne County Commission has accomplished over the last two years. In January of 2021, we were still heavily in COVID, and thus meeting remotely. When I became Chair in 2019, one of my goals was for us to become paperless, and this was a concept that was actually first initiated by the late, great Jewel Ware. In the early 2000s, she was certainly ahead of her time when she wanted us as a County Commission to be paperless. In 2019-2020, I was able to do that, and who knew that in March of 2020 we would be stricken by a worldwide pandemic and having the laptops and going paperless would allow us not to skip a beat as we did our work remotely for the next year. So, I want to make sure that we understand that although we were in the midst of a pandemic, the Wayne County

Commission continued to work for the people of Wayne County. It allowed the public, and I guess that was a blessing in the chaos, because it allowed the public to be more interactive with the County Commission than ever before. People could view us on Zoom. They could provide public comments without having to come downtown, which is sometimes problematic for some of our residents. Under the leadership of the entire Ways and Means Committee, chaired by our retired Commissioner Varga, we unanimously approved a \$1.8 billion budget, which had increases to salaries for our workforce. We are now funded 65% in our pension fund, and that's important because just a few years ago we were at 45%.

So, those things that we did in our budget are the accomplishment of this Wayne County Commission, especially the Ways and Means Committee. But each Commissioner has contributed to our collective success. Commissioner Killeen advocated greatly for a deteriorated sea wall on Jefferson Avenue and is also an important voice in our Wayne County Arts Authority. We continued oversight of the Wayne County Criminal Justice Center with Chairman Kinloch under the lead and he's also our representative on the Detroit Wayne County Mental Health Authority. Commissioner Martha G. Scott championed the development of a historic Negro League stadium in Hamtramck and as she did in the Legislature, we are now celebrating Juneteenth as a County holiday. Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Clark-Coleman continues to give out over 500 Thanksgiving dinners every year and as Chair of the Public Safety Committee, her support of the rape kits being tested has greatly helped us and we are now at having all rape kits tested, and that means that 11,341 rape kits have been tested in Wayne County. Thank you, Prosecutor Worthy and Commissioner Clark-Coleman. Commissioner Haidous is the Chair of Economic Development and Chair of our Wayne County Airport Authority. He has overseen the development of the Metroplex business area in his district and has assisted in Wayne County having one of the top-performing airports in the country. Thank you, Commissioner Haidous. Road projects are important to all of us and as a longtime public servant, Commissioner Anderson has prioritized Wayne and Warren roads to be paved so that his residents can have a smooth commute in his district. We want to thank you for your leadership and for the Criminal Justice Task Force Commissioner Knezek strongly advocated for the replacement of County pump stations after our recent devastating floods and worked tirelessly with residents for funding assistance after those devastating floods destroyed so many homes. And as Chair of Public Services, Commissioner Marecki helped oversee the myriad of construction projects, participated on the water infrastructure committee for our Tri-County Summit and on the national stage, she has been appointed to the Transportation Steering Committee of the National Association of Counties. Commissioner Daub is the Commission's representative on our Wayne County Women's Commission, as a strong advocate for women's issues such as maternal mortality, which is such an issue, especially in the African American community. She's also a newly elected board member of the Michigan Association of Counties. That's good, congratulations. Commissioner Baker McCormick chairs our Health and Human Services Committee and has been our successful leader under the Wayne County Youth Commission. She took those students up to Lansing a few weeks ago to meet state legislators and that is an opportunity that those young people would not have been able to accomplish had it not been for the leadership of Commissioner Baker McCormick as she continues her war on trash to make sure that we live in a clean environment. As a self-proclaimed skunk at the picnic, Commissioner

Basham, as chair of the Audit Committee, has led the audit of the Medical Examiner's Office, which resulted in 33 recommendations to help strengthen controls and processes for the Medical Examiner's Office. We are now under a new operating agreement with Wayne State University, and we look forward to that new partnership. Vice-Chair Pro Tem Baydoun was very active in securing funding for the Miller Road project. Anyone who lives on that side of town knows how terrible that road was. Commissioner Baydoun was able to provide funding and help his residents also during the devastating floods that we had a few years ago. Vice-Chair Palamara, our dean of the Wayne County Commission, is a long-standing member of the Michigan Association of Counties Board and was very involved in the repairs to the Grosse Ile bridge, as well as, the redevelopment of the McLouth Steel site. Thank you, Commissioner, for your leadership. And we are thrilled to have former State Rep. Cara Clemente, now representing where Commission Varga was, and we are so happy to have her here because her experience in the Legislature is going to be an asset to the work that we continue to do on the Wayne County Commission.

And I was honored to be on the Governor's Juvenile Justice Task Force over the last 18 months. We are looking to solutions for juvenile justice that affects all of the counties in Michigan. And I'm thrilled to have worked with Judge Burton and Judge Kenny to help develop a behavioral health unit in the Probate Court. This is very important because those persons who have mental or substance abuse issues should not be in jail, but they should get the services that they need to help them with their issues. And I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Chair Woodward of Oakland County and Chair Brown of Macomb County as we plan and execute the Tri-County Summit.

We had our second Tri-County Summit in November, and it was absolutely successful, working on issues of water infrastructure and broadband, which is an issue that affects all our communities. Water doesn't stop at Eight Mile Road; they don't know the difference to stop. They go into Macomb. They go into Oakland. We are working regionally and collectively to make sure that we are working in a regional aspect for all our citizens. So, it has been an honor to work with those gentlemen over the last two years. And this year we will have our Tri-County Summit right here in Wayne County. So, that's just a snippet of some of the things that we've done over the past two years. I could stay up here and talk extensively and be here forever talking about all of the great work that each of these dynamic commissioners have done in their personal life, as a commissioner in their district and then collectively. We have done great things and know we are going to talk about what's going to happen in the future.

We've spent about \$100 million of our ARPA dollars and have about \$200 million more to go. So, working with the administration we're going to make sure that we look at what needs to be done moving forward. So far, we've spent money on great outdoor projects, great park projects, the Motown Museum, the Joe Louis Greenway, wonderful projects. Workforce development, making sure that those persons who were affected by the pandemic get the skills and the training they need to become productive citizens in our County. Now, we have to look forward to where we're going to spend the rest of those dollars on. The rest of those dollars I think can be spent on making sure that we help small businesses, not only to survive but to thrive. Making sure that they get the marketing, the legal and the social media support to help them grow because they were devastated by the pandemic. We also need to complete, and I know the Sheriff is happy

about this, the Criminal Justice Complex that is scheduled to be done, at last, this year. Let's give a hand to that because we've been waiting on that for a long time. That complex will address years of concern that we've had with the jails and with the Prosecutor's Office and with the JDF. We can't wait to open that facility later on this year. Not only will it be wonderful for our deputies, but it has to be humane for our prisoners that we have in our custody. We have to make sure that we're treating everyone humanely. So, we can't wait till that. Opioid, later this year we will receive funds from our opioid settlement. As you recall a few years back, opioids devastated so many families in our communities. So, once we get those funds, we will distribute them to make sure we are addressing the needs of the families that were devastated by the opioid epidemic. And it is of the utmost importance that we attract and maintain our current dedicated workforce, so to that end, I established a Staffing and Benefits Task Force to address the issues and come up with solutions to keep and attract the talent that we need to provide the services to our residents. Because we know if we do not have a dedicated workforce, we are not able to provide the services that our Wayne County residents deserve. So, I can't wait to work on that this year. And if you know anyone looking a job, send them our way.

Again, I would like to thank my colleagues for trusting me again. We have a great working group. It is a pleasure to work with each and every one of my colleagues every day, and not everybody can always say that especially when you have a group of 15. When I go to state conferences and conferences across the country, they asked me how many members do I have? I say 15, there's 15 of us, and they say 15, how do you get anything done? And I say no, no, no, we have a great group of people and we get the job done. So again, I want to thank our commissioners for entrusting me in this position. I look forward to the work that we're going to do over the next two-year period.

We have an open-door policy and I'm so glad that our countywide electeds are here because it takes a partnership with all of us to get the job done. No one can do this by themselves, it takes all of us working together. So, I am just thrilled to be here and let me do my acknowledgments at this time as well. My office staff Michelle, Beverly, Keiondra and Dustin, thank you for what you do, because they make me look good every day. I have my family here today, if my family could please rise, my father James Bell, retiree of Wayne County, my mother Edna Bell former Commissioner, my sister a dynamic social worker and employed with DPS. Thank you, thank you, thank you. It's so cute we have stairstep children, my nephew Grant Johnson, who's in the 11th grade at Cass, my son Kranston is a 10th grader at Cass and my daughter Morgan is a 9th grader at Cass. So, we are just so proud of them because they are superstar students and do so well, thank you all for coming here. I guess they had no choice. Then I want to also acknowledge my dear friend for over 35 years my line sister, my sorrow, my all in all, Lasonia Chapels and her husband Darryl Campbell, thank you all for coming. I appreciate you, and then I saw Brian Love, Darryl Bingham, Kenyetta Campbell. Thank you all, thank you Summer Crawford. Thank you all for voting for me over the years, being there when I needed you. We are only as great as the people that love us and we love them back. So, thank you to the community members, the families who are here. And we gave a shout-out to them once, but I'm going to do it again, our Commission staff are the best staff anywhere bar none; so, let's give our Commission staff a hand. All of the research, analysis, legal opinions, clerking our meetings, social media newsletters, everything that we do is because our staff are so efficient and just a

dynamic group of people that make us again, look good. So, thank you to our Commission staff.

So, we've accomplished a lot over the years, and I look forward to the next two years. Anything that you ever need, I am here. We do good work. I think that's a jingle from a commercial, but we do, do good work, and I am just so happy to be here and to be Chair, again, thank you so much. We have a lot to do with the Tri-County summit coming up. As I said again expanding these ARPA dollars, we have a lot of work to do but we're up for it! We're ready to get busy to work and I just want to again, thank you all for being here today."

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...."

Vice-Chair Pro Tempore Baydoun, supported by Vice-Chair Palamara, pursuant to the Commission's Standing Rules of Procedure, moved adoption of the Rules as the Temporary Rules of Procedure for 60 days.

There being no discussion, Chair Bell 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:

The Commissioners voted as follows:

Yea -- Commissioners Anderson, Basham, Clark-Coleman, Clemente, Daub, Haidous, Killeen, Kinloch, Knezek, Marecki, Baker McCormick, Scott, Vice-Chair Pro Tempore Baydoun, Vice-Chair Palamara, Chair Bell -- 15
Nay -- None
Abstain -- None
Absent -- None
Not Voting -- None
Excused -- None

[Resolution No. 2023-004]

READING, CORRECTING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Vice-Chair Pro Tempore Baydoun, supported by Vice-Chair Palamara, moved approval of the proposed Journal of the meeting held on December 15, 2022.

The Commissioners voted as follows:

Yea -- Commissioners Anderson, Basham, Clark-Coleman, Clemente, Daub, Haidous, Killeen, Kinloch, Knezek, Marecki, Baker McCormick, Scott, Vice-Chair Pro Tempore Baydoun, Vice-Chair Palamara, Chair Bell -- 15
Nay -- None
Abstain -- None
Absent -- None
Not Voting -- None
Excused -- None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pursuant to the Wayne County Commission's Rules of Procedure, Chair Bell invited comments from the public. Emailed comments were read by the Acting Clerk from Anthony Plescia.

REMARKS BY MEMBERS

Pursuant to the Wayne County Commission's Rules of Procedure, there were no members requesting Remarks to be added to the journal.

Vice-Chair Pro Tempore Baydoun, supported by Commissioner Scott, moved to adjourn. Chair Bell adjourned the meeting, the time being 11:45 a.m., Chair Bell declared the Commission adjourned until Thursday, January 19, 2023.

Octavia Hunter
Legislative Research Assistant