

# IT / EQUALIZATION COMMITTEE

**Kimberly L. Murphy**  
Administrator

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## MEMBERS

*Dustin Krasny, Nancy Jenkins-Arno, Dawn Bales*

## MEETING LOCATION

Chambers  
301 N. Main Street  
Adrian, MI 49221

**Minutes:** Thursday, February 5, 2023 – 1:30 p.m.

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**Present:** Commissioners Krasny, Jenkins-Arno, and Tillotson

**Others:** Commissioner Bales and Collins

**Also Present:** Kim Murphy, Shelly DeLong, Ben Ricker, Micah Hassenzahl, Derek Dickerson, Jen Ambrose, Shannon Elliott, and Rebecca Borton

### I. Approval of Minutes

*Motion by Jenkins-Arno, supported by Tillotson, to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.*

#### A. Information Technology

Administrator Murphy announced that interviews were conducted for the position of IT Director; the position was offered and accepted by Ben Ricker.

**B. Finance Reports:** Administrator Murphy explained that the IT Committee has authority over the IT Division of the Capital Improvement Plan that is adopted on an annual basis by the Board of Commissioners.

She reviewed the finance report and reported that project TECH2204 Badge/Card Printer/Software has been completed and the project can be closed.

*Motion by Jenkins-Arno, supported by Tillotson, to close project TECH2204 Badge/Card Printer/Software. Motion carried.*

**C. IT Report:** IT Director Ben Ricker reviewed the IT Report.

- Derek Dickerson was introduced as a new member of the IT Department
- Cisco System Refresh is still in process
- Prosecuting Attorney Onbase software continues as they move toward Carpel Software
- Tyler Public Safety upgrade went live last week
- Server replacement – Ben needs to get more information on this project

There was general discussion regarding Frontier and broadband efforts throughout Lenawee.

Kim reported that Michigan High-Speed Internet Office (MIHI) is encouraging broadband efforts throughout the state. Several broadband providers are currently laying broadband cable throughout the county. Admin Office staff have recently participated in webinars put on by the

State of Michigan where it became clear that the broadband maps are not up to date. DCS Technology was funded by BOC through ARPA to conduct broadband mapping of the county.

Kim is setting up a meeting with representatives from MIHI, ITC, and DCS along with service providers and municipal leaders to determine where we are at county-wide. This meeting is expected to be soon because there is a Robin Grant opportunity that is due at the end of March.

**D. Department Reports:**

Kim reported that the Administrator's Office has received the quarterly report from Hoyden and she asked Jen Ambrose to review some highlights.

Jen reviewed highlights of the report which shows social followers increased by 2.9% this quarter while the net growth rate decreased, and activity on LinkedIn grew substantially. While website visitors remain constant, it was the first-time that the number of mobile users outnumbered desktop users.

Jen also pointed out the recommendations that are discussed with the Administrator.

**E. Zencity:** The Zencity contract was available for review.

Commissioner Krasny inquired on the length of contract and termination clause.

Kim read the termination clause in its entirety.

There was discussion regarding the end date; which expires 1/1/2024. There are two contracts: Zencity organic and Zencity Community Survey – Semi-Annual.

Commissioner Krasny is not in favor of contracting with Zencity. He does not believe that Zencity can provide a full spectrum of representation through their surveying process and noted that there is a large agricultural and senior population that is not on social media. He is also uncomfortable with supporting a company that is not in the United State monitoring social media.

Commissioner Jenkins-Arno also shared her concerns about invasion of privacy, the way the data is collected, as well as, the company's location makes her uncomfortable.

There was more discussion on "organic data gathering" and the algorithms that are currently be used by social media platforms.

It was noted that the State of Michigan, as well as, many county governments that are utilizing Zencity, which is actually held at a higher standard.

*Motion by Jenkins-Arno to place the elimination of the Zencity contract on to the March Personnel/Ways & Means Committee, seconded by Krasny. Discussion regarding the intention of the motion. Motion carried.*

**F. Updates/Other IT Business:** There were no other updates.

## **II. Equalization**

**A. Updates/ Other Business:** Equalization Director Shelly Delong reported that information is being collected for changes notices that will go to the printers and will be sent out this month for the units that are on our database. Personal property statements are coming in and change notices will be printed for those units. The 2023 parcels are being chosen to start the study process.

The state will be conducting the five-year audit. There was further discussion regarding compliances and remediations.

Shelly also noted that the CPI is 7.9% and the taxable value increase is at 5%. The lessor of the two will be applied.

**III. Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

## **IV. Adjournment**

*Motion by Tillotson, seconded by Jenkins-Arno, to adjourn the meeting at 2:33 p.m. Motion carried.*