

**MINUTES OF THE CLARE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Harrison, Michigan 48625
April 20, 2016

5/18/16 pm
**Unapproved Minutes
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Meeting was called to Order at 9:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Present: Commissioners: District 1: Dale Majewski, District 2: Samantha Pitchford, District 3: Leonard Strouse, District 4: Jack Kleinhardt, District 5: Donald David, District 6: Karen Lipovsky, District 7: Jim Gelios

Absent: None

Others Present, Signing In: Jason Wentworth, Michelle Neff, Nancy Petree, Michelle Stiglich, Shari Spoelman, Teagan Lefere, Marybeth Denton, Katherine Methner, Jerry Becker and Bill Ernst

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Donald David, to approve the agenda with changes as noted below. Motion carried.

- Add: Approval of Closed Session Minutes
- Add: Move Some Discussions into Public Hearings & Special Presentation
- Add: Old Business, Discussion of I.T.
- Remove: Roxanne Nicholas, County Audit, alternate date to be determined
- Remove: Discussion about MERS, alternate date to be determined

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Samantha Pitchford, to approve the Minutes of the March 16, 2016 meeting and the Minutes of the March 22, 2016, Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to approve the Closed Session minutes of the March 16, 2016, Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Jason Wentworth, candidate from Clare County running for the 97th State House of Representative seat appeared before the Board to introduce himself and discuss his credentials for the House seat.

Dennis McKee, Communications Director for Consumers Energy appeared before the Board to provide information about smart meter upgrades that will be coming to the Clare County around this time next year. He identified that the program will begin to roll out with notifications to the public about the program and what to expect.

Ray Elliott came before the Board again to discuss the smell and noxious odor that he claims are from the landfill that he states is impacting quality of life and causing medical issues for his family and other families in the area. He questioned what would be done. He noted that he has stacks and stacks of documentation on the matter and noted that calls to public service agencies for assistance go unanswered. It was requested that he provide some of the letters that he has received to the Board.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Michelle Ambrozaitis, Prosecutor, appeared before the Board to request temporary staffing changes to the office while an employee is off for maternity leave. She estimated that the change would be for approximately ninety days with an estimated additional price tag of \$20,381.43 with money to come from the general fund.

It was move by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Jim Gelios to allow the temporary staff changes as requested by the Prosecutor, for approximately a ninety day period, while an employee is on maternity leave. Motion carried.

Shari Spoelman, District Coordinator for MSU and staff appeared to present the 2015 Annual Report. She called upon each staff member to briefly tell about their area of expertise.

Kim Halis, Clare County Equalization Director appeared before the Board to provide Equalized Value Recommendations for the county. She referred to the handouts given indicating that State Equalized Value of property in Clare County went up a bit in 2016. She stated that the SEV in 2015 was \$1,163,553,123.00 and SEV has increased to \$1,193,156,033.00 in 2016. She indicated that things are pretty even across the county, that there are increases in the real estate market and that agricultural property is selling very well.


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It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to accept the equalized value recommendation presented by the County Equalization Director of \$1,193,156,033.00 for Clare County. Motion carried.

Jerry Becker, Emergency Management Director and Bill Ernat, East Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG), appeared to present the Final Draft of the Hazard Mitigation Plan to Commissioners. They indicated that the plan is basically an update of the 2007 plan and identifies amongst many things, twenty-five key projects that they would like to focus on. They stated that these are not all projects for the county but projects within the county that they will partner with other agencies on. They indicated that the purpose of the plan was to assist in the reduction of loss of life and property during hazardous event. It helps to qualify the county for pre and post disaster emergency funds.

COMMUNICATIONS LIST

- County of Marquette - Letter to the Governor, Opposing the Appointment of Marcus Abood
- County of Marquette – Resolution Urging State Transparency
- DNR – Auction of Surplus Land
- Kalkaska County – Resolution #2016-11, Opposing HB 5016 Which Regulates Use of Public Right of Ways
- Kalkaska County – Resolution #2016-10, Support Preventing EPA and Army Corp of Engineers Proposed Rule Expanding the Definition “Waters of the United States”
- Roscommon County – Resolution SB 703

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administrator Tracy Byard provided her report. She distributed a postcard about the grand opening of the Veterans Freedom Park and the Unveiling the Wall of Tears to be held Wednesday, May 25th 2016 at 1:00 p.m. She also reported progress on various projects for Lori Ware. She noted that Lori Ware wrote a grant for the City of Harrison for funding to write their Master Plan. Also, she reported that work on the roof will be starting very soon, the lighting project is in progress, parts are in for the elevators and the key card replacement will also be starting soon. Everyone was reminded of the Public Officials Conference being held at 1:00 and it was noted that a copy of the Audit was presented to everyone for review. It was discussed and decided that a special meeting will be conducted on Wednesday, April 27th at 9:00 a.m. to hear from the State Auditor on the 2015 budget and discuss MERS.

Recess: 10:40 a.m.
Reconvened: 10:52 a.m.

Jim McBryde and Kathy Methner, Middle Michigan Development Corporation (MMDC) appeared before the Board to present the 2015 Annual Report. Mr. McBryde explained the focus of the group is to promote business retention and growth, attract business and provide development within the community.

JUSTICE

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Jim Gelios, to allow the District Court to hire a Probation Officer prior to the retirement of the existing employee with funds to come from the salary line item within the District Court budget. Motion carried.

Judge Farrell also briefly discussed potential future employee needs.

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Gelios, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to adopt Resolution #16-10, Resolution to Adopt Increased Monthly Telephone Surcharge For Emergency Telephone Services (9-1-1 Services).

Roll call vote revealed:
Yeas: (6) being Commissioners Gelios, Lipovsky, Majewski, Kleinhardt, Pitchford and David
Nays: (1) being Commissioner Strouse
Absent: (0)
Resolution adopted.

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to approve an agreement for shared networks between the State of Michigan and Clare County, Michigan. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Samantha Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to approve the Letter of Understanding between employees of the Clare County POAM Corrections, POAM Non-Supervisory, COAM Command and Central Dispatch Units to donate earned sick time for an employee, as per the signed letter, with time to begin April 20, 2016 until they are able to return to work from the current illness. Motion carried.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-NONE

PHYSICAL RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Donald David, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to adopt Resolution #16-11 supporting the submission of an application for a Michigan Natural Trust Fund for a Garfield Township trailhead development grant.

Roll call vote revealed:
Yeas: (7) being Commissioners David, Majewski, Lipovsky, Strouse, Kleinhardt, Gelios and Pitchford
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Resolution adopted.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to reappoint Lester Vida, Brian Tomaski and Alan Jessup to the DPW Board for a three year term with term to expire April 31, 2019. Motion carried.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve the Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of March 15, 2016 in the amount of \$60,132.85 and March 29, 2016 in the amount of \$46,416.38. Motion carried.

Commissioner Lipovsky noted that the Statutory Meeting Minutes for March 15th need to be changed to reflect that Commissioner Kleinhardt was at the meeting and Commissioner Strouse was not.

It was moved by Commissioner Samantha Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve the expenditures for the month of February 2016 in the amount of \$3,448,258.38 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$934,946.19. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Donald David, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve Budget Adjustment #16-51, #16-52, #16-58, #16-60, #16-61, #16-62, #16-65 and #16-66 in the amounts of \$14,385.00, \$17,555.25, \$6,000.00, \$118,216.05, \$40,010.00, \$5,000.00, \$4,675.00, \$1,927.24 and \$301.62 respectively along with Budget Adjustment #16-69, #16-70, #16-71 in the amounts of \$9,114.80, \$1,750.00 and \$35,000.00 respectively. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to approve the Budget Planning Calendar for FY 2017. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Pamela Mayfield reported that the initial filing deadline for county and township offices has now lapsed for those that will be on the August Primary. She also acknowledged the receipt of start-up money of over \$13,000.00 for the remonumentation grant work to be performed in the county during 2016.

TREASURER'S REPORT-Absent

COMMUNITY DIRECTOR REPORT-Absent

COMMISSIONER REPORT and COMMENTS

- Chairperson Kleinhardt noted that he and Commissioner Majewski met with the Deputy Director of the DNR. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss potential projects and collaborative projects utilizing money available through the DNR trust fund. Chairperson Kleinhardt reported that he was in Lansing for a Transportation Committee Meeting; he warned everyone that they will really be getting acquainted with orange as the road projects get started.
- Commissioner Gelios reported that Region 7B won the appeal to the Department of Labor and has implication country-wide. Dave Stoker was the attorney for Michigan Works and the appeal to the Department of Labor. The appeal was won realigning Region 7B again with the northern Michigan counties.
- Commissioner Strouse took a moment to express his concern for his grandchildren and the future of our country.
- Commissioner Pitchford reported that the Downtown Development Authority was at a recent meeting providing a presentation and she reported that people are skeptical. At the meeting, an individual reported that money has been used in the past and it made little to no difference.
- Commissioner David expressed concern about settling contracts and settling MERS.

PUBLIC COMMENT-NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky to keep the committee presently meeting on I.T. issues and name the members of Commissioner Majewski, Jerry Becker, Undersheriff Miedzianowski, Prosecutor Ambrozaitis, Jim Shuster, Jim Neff and Tracy Byard. Motion carried with one opposed being Commissioner David.

Commissioner David again brought up the need for a second meeting each month. He was assured that there will be a number of additional meetings coming up that will meet his additional meeting request. It was noted as budget discussions begin and with other discussions to begin on contract negotiations, health care and retirement talks about to begin, many extra meetings will be required. Special meetings will be called and posted as needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m. with the special Public Officials Conference to begin at 1:30 p.m. in Meeting Room A.

Pamela Mayfield

Pamela Mayfield, Clerk
Clare County Board of Commissioners

Jack Kleinhardt

Jack Kleinhardt, Chairman
Clare County Board of Commissioners