

**MINUTES OF THE CLARE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING**

Harrison, Michigan 48625
August 5, 2015

DA 8/14/15 pm
**Unapproved Minutes
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Meeting was called to Order at 9:00 a.m. by Vice-Chair Dale Majewski

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Absent: District 4: Jack Kleinhardt

Others Present, Signing In: None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Prosecutor Michelle Ambrozaitis and Magistrate Karen Willing appeared before the Board to express concerns about the recent decision made by the Board to have all Information Technology (I.T.) personnel reporting to the Sheriff and asked that the Board would reconsider their decision. While they both expressed confidence in the abilities of the Sheriff's Department, Prosecutor Ambrozaitis noted that overseeing I.T. was not a part of the Sheriff's constitutional duties and she indicated that the Board was not addressing the real issues at hand in reassigning the duties. She reported that she had polled other counties in which she received a response from twenty-four. None of the twenty-four reporting indicated that I.T. reports to the Sheriff. Magistrate Willing echoed concerns and also asked for the reconsideration.

Clerk Pamela Mayfield introduced Sandra Patch hired to fill a vacancy in the payroll and accounts payable department. She noted that she was chosen by a panel that interviewed her and that Ms. Patch came to the county with a background in payroll and accounts payable as she had previously worked at Clare County Transit during their expansion and growth years.

2016 BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Administrator Tracy Byard called attention to materials she had distributed. She provided an extensive spreadsheet prepared by the accounting department indicating health insurance costs. She also provided budget information for all of the fund accounts not previously provided and gave an updated list of items reviewed at the previous meeting with a column added for Commissioner Recommendations. She also noted that: Forgotten Eagles would be on hand at 10:00 a.m. for a ceremony on the courthouse lawn, an invitation had been received from City of Harrison to attend a check receiving ceremony and that a letter is ready to present to the county attorney regarding the Veteran's Affairs position.

Before moving forward Clerk Pamela Mayfield asked to review the 256 Automation Fund budget presented asking to begin implementation of a project detailed in the 2016 budget immediately. Clerk Mayfield apprised the Board that implementation of the project required a sixteen week lead preparation period which would allow for implementation of the project at the beginning of the 2016 budget year. She indicated that savings for the project has been on-going for a number of years to cover the project today and into the future, that the project meets the guidelines required for use of the funds and that the project meets legislation guidelines in expanding public search capabilities.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Donald David to proceed with the implementation of the Super Search project outlined in the 2016 budget and requested by County Clerk / Register Pamela Mayfield utilizing Automation Fund monies. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Gelios, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to approve Budget Adjustment #15-164 and #15-166 in the amount of \$500.00 & \$6,500.00 respectively. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Samantha Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of July 21, 2015 in the amounts of \$296,717.87. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Donald David, to reappoint Glenn Freeman to the Jury Board with the term expiring April 30, 2021. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Donald David, to approve the request for the collaborative effort between Clare and Gladwin County regarding the Friend of the Court effective August 10, 2015 and approve the budget in the amount of \$8,557.00 increasing the line item. Motion carried with one opposed being Commissioner Leonard Strouse.

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General Budgetary Overview/ Comments

Board reviewed the Summary of Potential Capital Improvements under consideration at this time. The committee prioritized the items and presented their recommendations. Clerk Mayfield distributed a handout prepared by the County Treasurer, who could not be present, with information for Board to consideration when determining how much to borrow and the repayment plan costs and variables.

Meeting recessed at 9:59 a.m. to allow attendance at the Forgotten Eagles Ceremony. Meeting reconvening at 10:19 a.m. with Jennifer Martin from 44 North (formerly Cadillac Insurance) present to discuss health insurance, trends, costs and options. Ms. Martin indicated that not much was changing with the exception that the BCN Prescription plan will have six tiers of co-pays for prescription drug coverage. She offered suggestions and indicated that she would do some additional research and report her findings for further consideration relevant to courts. Current recommendations were to eliminate one of the BCBS plans as there was only 1 plan participant and to change the BCN plans offered as well.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Samantha Pitchford, to remove the BCBS Reimbursed Plan 2 (\$250 deductible) and replace the current BCN plan with Option #1, 6 tier drug card and in addition add Option #2 with a 10/20/40 drug card. Motion carried

Ms. Martin briefly talked about initiating an awareness campaign to increase employee participation in programs with low utilization, namely the FSA, Teledoc and cost comparison incentive plan programs. She will also explore better options for preventative dental care coverage.

Budget discussion continued with Administrator Byard making recommendations and answering questions. She noted that there is little, if anything, to do with the funds.

Next Budget meeting is scheduled Friday, August 14th at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.



Pamela Mayfield, Clerk
Clare County Board of Commissioners



Jack Kleinhardt, Chairman
Clare County Board of Commissioners