

# MINUTES OF THE CLARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Harrison, Michigan 48625  
November 19, 2014

Unapproved Minutes  
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Meeting was called to Order at 9:00 a.m.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**Present:** Commissioners Donald David, Commissioners Jim Gelios, Commissioner Lynn Grim, Commissioner Jack Kleinhardt, Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, Commissioner Leonard Strouse and Commissioner Dale Majewski.

**Absent:** None

**Others Present, Signing In:** Kylee Berger, Marybeth Denton and Shari Spoelman

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to approve the agenda with the additions and changes as noted below. Motion carried.

Add Under Justice: Part-time Animal Control Worker

Add Under Health and Human Services Committee: Senior Services Vehicle

Add Under Physical Resources and Economic Development Committee: Lot 5 of the Industrial Park

Add Under Physical Resources and Economic Development Committee: Discussion on Building Maintenance

Add Under Physical Resources and Economic Development Committee: Building HVAC Controls and Discussions

Add Under Closed Session: Discussion relevant to Union Grievance

Remove From Finance and Administration: MERS Hybrid Discussion

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Lynn Grim, to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2014 Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

## APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Donald David, to approve the CLOSED SESSION minutes of the October 15, 2014 meeting as presented. Motion carried

## GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Holly Keenan of Soil Conservation District introduced Kiley Berger the new forester. Kiley said a few words and Ms. Keenan then provided information on the Festival of Trees Event that they will be hosting.

Marybeth Denton MSUE, Master Gardener talked about several projects that she has been instrumental in working on since she last reported in the spring. She reported that there was a fruit tree pruning workshop that was so popular that a second session was required. She also noted that there was a series of classes held on smart lawns and smart gardening practices and that upcoming events include hosting a train the trainer to teach shoreline property owners good shoreline stewardship. At the end of her report, Shari Spoelman reported to Commissioners that Marybeth had received special recognition and was awarded a plaque for her leadership and dedication to MSU and the community.

## COMMUNICATIONS LIST:

- Washtenaw County Resolution 14-00153 Calling on State for Road Funding and Local Options
- Wise Township Planning Commission Public Hearing, Master Plan Amendments
- Huron County Resolution 152C, Supporting SB 495-498; Resolution 153C, Opposing SB 1038-1040; Resolution 154C Opposing SB 1076.
- Cheboygan County Resolution 14-22 Opposing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Proposal to Garnish Wages Without A Court Order and Support SR 168
- Letter from Senator Debbie Stabenow

It was moved by Commissioner Donald David, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to concur with Cheboygan County in opposition to the Environmental Protection Agency's Proposal to Garnish Wages Without A Court Order and Support SR 168.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Tracy Byard called attention to her report in the packet that highlight events in October and November and reported that workshops sponsored by MSU for new commissioners will be coming up for anyone interested.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Kim Halis, Equalization Director was on hand to provide an update after the November 4<sup>th</sup> election. Because of the election and millage proposals that passed, she presented an amended Apportionment Report and stated that she would require a motion to accept the revised report. She also presented a comparison or previous years, as requested last month, for review.

It was moved by Commissioner Lynn Grim, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to adopt the Revised L4029 Apportionment Report, as amended, and authorize the equalization director to spread the taxes. Motion carried.

**JUSTICE**

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to allow Animal Control to fill a part-time kennel / office worker vacancy. Motion carried.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

It was moved by Commissioner Lynn Grim, seconded by Commissioner Jack Kleinhardt, to approve the Senior Services Department request to purchase a 2012 Malibu in the amount of \$12,700.00. Motion carried.

Ms. Ware reported that last year over \$27,000.00 was expended for reimbursements to office staff members. The vehicle will provide department savings Ms. Ware explained.

**PHYSICAL RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

It was moved by Commissioner Lynn Grim, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky to approve the purchase of four (4) HVAC rooftop units for the County Jail in the amount of \$6,600.00 each for a total amount of \$26,400.00 with money to come from contingency. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky to approve the three-year Airport Manager Agreement to terminate on September 30, 2017. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Lynn Grim, seconded by Commissioner Jack Kleinhardt to approve Resolution #14-15, directing the Administrator to take steps and actions required to be designated as a Participating Partner of the Middle Michigan Development Corporation initiative to apply for designation as a Promise Zone Region. Motion carried.

**Meeting Recessed: 9:57 a.m.**

**Meeting Reconvene: 10:10 a.m.**

Roll call vote revealed for approval of Resolution #14-15

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Grim, Kleinhardt, Lipovsky, Strouse, David, Gelios and Majewski

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Resolution adopted.

It was moved by Commissioner Lynn, seconded by Commissioner Donald David, to hire a social worker to fill a future vacancy when the social worker in Senior Services retires. The social worker will be retiring will stay to train and work with the new social worker, will phase out to part-time at the end of December and with retirement about March 1, 2015.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to allow the Chair or Administrator to sign the closing documents for the sale of Lot 5 of the Harrison Industrial Park, the old transit building. Motion carried.

Purchase was made by Lincoln Sanitation nka American Waste. The building was owned by the Transit Authority with the lot being owned by the County. Eleven thousand five hundred dollars (\$11,500.00) will be deposited in the airport fund for the sale of the lot.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to approve the recommendation of the Building Committee to hire Mark Fitzpatrick as part-time maintenance to coordinate and oversee building improvements with Mark receiving his regular wage from Community Development with an additional wage for services from Building and Grounds. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Lynn Grim, to proceed with Phase 2 of the committee recommendation, and bring the information back to the Board in December. Motion carried.

A lengthy discussion followed relevant to the heating and cooling needs of all county buildings with Ms. Ware of Community Development providing direction. She explained that there are 29 rooftop units with 28 needing replacement, 9 immediately. Some units are twenty to thirty years old. When Honeywell left years ago, they left with codes that have been unregulated. Air units were found to be running at the same time heater units were running. Air exchange units were set to levels wasting heat and cooled air. She explained that a part-time maintenance person is needed to oversee these programs. A recommendation was made to purchase a software program and controls. Cost of this alone is estimated to run approximately \$60,000.00. This would include the Sheriff's Department. With efficiencies in newer systems, it is possible that fewer units may be required to replace the aging equipment. Eventually, a new roof will be needed over the courthouse side of the building and it is likely that insulation will need to be replaced. All doors need new sweeps and some need new hinges. Windows need caulking. A maintenance schedule will be required, put together and routinely monitored. Many other things were discussed.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Grim, to approve the Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of October 14, 2014 in the amount of \$334,719.72, October 28, 2014 in the amount of \$137,818.29 and November 10, 2014 in the amount of \$98,323.17. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve the expenditures for the month of October 2014 in the amount of \$5,047,827.47 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$1,102,724.02. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Donald David, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve Budget Adjustment numbers 15-07, 15-08, 15-10, 15-11, 15-15, 15-16, 15-17, 15-18, 15-19, 15-20, 15-21, 15-22 in the amounts of \$5,520.00, \$5,000.00, \$17,000.00, \$19,326.00, \$1,530.00, \$474.00, \$2,208.00, \$56,037.00, \$8,983.00, \$4,626.72, \$8,090.00 and \$72,284.00 respectively. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Jack Kleinhardt, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to pay for training, travel and per diem costs for newly elected Commissioner Samantha Pitchford to attend the new Commissioners Training. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Jim Gelios, to set the first Board Meeting for 2015 for the third Wednesday, January 21st at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Gelios, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve the Finance meeting dates as presented with dates opposite payroll beginning at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Lynn Grim, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky to approve Resolution #14-14 Allowing Health FSA Carryovers as Permitted by IRS Notice 2013-71, Removing Grace Period, if Applicable, and Option to Opt Out Spouse and/or Child(ren) to the Clare County Section 125 Cafeteria Plan retroactive to 01-01-2014.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Grim, Lipovsky, Gelios, Kleinhardt, Strouse, David, and Majewski

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Resolution adopted.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Lynn Grim to allow the Website Committee to advertise for RFQ/RFP for new website. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to appoint Dale Majewski to fill the vacant seat on the Land Bank Authority created by the resignation of Rick LaBoda with term to expire on September 30, 2016, approve Linda Peterson to fill a vacancy for a term of three years with term to expire on September 30, 2017 and reappoint Tracey Beadle for a three year term with term to expire September 30, 2017. Motion carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

Clerk Pamela Mayfield reported that she had received a Public Notice from Department of Environmental Quality and that she is still expecting a new bill on CPL permits to move forward.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzinger indicated that she has now received replies from the local units of government that had tax parcels in foreclosure letting her know that they were not interested in the properties. She requested that a motion be made to transfer nine properties into the land bank. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger further reported that the Step Forward Program funding is running low so it may not be funded in 2015.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Lynn Grim, to transfer nine tax reverted properties in the land bank with Board Chair to sign the deeds. Motion carried.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

- C/Majewski, reported additional good news about TransCanada tower. He indicated that TransCanada has graciously, without cost, provided a building to use and will additionally cover electricity cost and allow Clare County to utilize the TransCanada battery back-up power source eliminating the need to purchase this item with great saving to the county.
- C/Kleinhardt attended the Hatton Township meeting with a number of residents in attendance expressing their dissatisfaction with the rubbish removal proposal that was on the ballot. He briefly discussed prison issues and escalating cost to Michigan taxpayers.
- C/Gelios attended the Hayes Township groundbreaking for their new multi-purpose facility, attended a ceremony on veteran's day and reported that the new medical care facility open house will be set for some time in January 2015.
- C/Strouse attended his meetings in the southern part of the county. Of interest is the fact that the City of Clare passed an ordinance and it will make a private property owner provide up-keep to an access road and if the improvements are not made the City will repair with expenses to be billed to the property owners.
- C/Lipovsky introduced Merle Harmon as the new owner of the old transit building.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS-continued**

- C/David provided a follow-up comment on C/Kleinhardt's discussion on prisons indicating that Michigan has minimum sentencing guidelines that is bad for Michigan. It was a bad deal when it was passed and is still bad. He attended his regular meetings.
- C/Grim attended the broadband seminar for Connect Michigan. Jerry Becker was also there along with Jeff Hall from this area. She reported that she attended an all day summit with Board of Health with Dr. Graham speaking on human trafficking, a growing widespread problem. She noted that Community Action Agency is providing Support Services for Veteran's through a grant, attended the Collaborative meeting and attended her last meetings at MMRMA, MMDC and Region VII.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-NONE**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS-NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS-NONE**

**Meeting Recessed: 12:14 p.m. for a brief break**

**Meeting Reconvened: 12:23 p.m.**

**CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Don David, to go into CLOSED SESSION to discuss Union Negotiations and a Union Grievance.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Lipovsky, David, Gelios, Kleinhardt, Strouse, Grim and Majewski

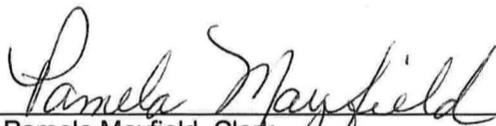
Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

**CLOSED SESSION: 12:31 p.m.**

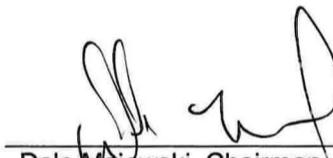
**CLOSED SESSION ENDS: 2:02 p.m.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.




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Pamela Mayfield, Clerk  
Clare County Board of Commissioners




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Dale Majewski, Chairman  
Clare County Board of Commissioners