

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

5/6/15  
Unapproved Minutes  
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Harrison, Michigan 48625  
May 6, 2015

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Present:** Commissioner Donald David, Commissioner Jack Kleinhardt, Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, Commissioner Dale Majewski, Commissioner Samantha Pitchford and Commissioner Leonard Strouse.

**Absent:** Commissioner Jim Gelios  
**Others Present, Signing In:** None

**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 Under Unfinished Business: Motion to reconsider wage increase for District Court Magistrate of April 15, 2015

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to approve the April 15, 2015, Board Meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Holly Keenan, Administrator Clare Conservation District appeared before the Board representing the District along with forester Kiley Burger who could not be present. Ms. Keenan noted that they would like to resume a previous lease that had lapsed on a twelve acre parcel of land in Hatton Township. She also indicated that they would like to add a nine acre parcel to the lease in Redding Township. She noted that the parcel in Redding Township is in a somewhat remote location and it is presently being used as a party spot and is full of garbage and needs attention. Ms. Keenan told the Board that they would like to plant trees that were left over from the annual tree sale and would like to use the property as an educational and demonstration site for workshops and other learning opportunities.

Renee Haley, Veteran's Director appeared to update Board on events within the Department and on the Veteran's Freedom Park Ms. Haley reported that they had just held the biggest fundraising event of year bringing in over \$15,000.00, after expenses. She continued noting that she is in need of additional funding that would allow the construction to move forward to complete the park. Ms. Haley stated that while she did not have the money at the present time, she continues to seek money. She reported that there are additional fundraising events planned and that a brick sale will be wrapping up with 1000 bricks being offered at \$100 per brick generating \$100,000.00 alone. She requested an interest free loan from the county, to be repaid over a short period of time. She requested to borrow \$150,000.00 - \$180,000.00 on an as needed basis.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to permit the Veteran's Department to borrow from the delinquent tax fund up to \$180,000.00, on an as needed basis, to be repaid within a year. Motion carried.

Ms. Haley continued noting that she was once again invited to be a guardian on the honors flight and will be accompanying two Veterans from Clare County on that endeavor.

Administrator Tracy Byard reported that she had anticipated Tom Pirnstill coming before the Board to discuss a millage proposal for the August 2015 election. Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, who sits on the Transit Board, added that the Board has been discussing a millage renewal and recently made the decision that they would like to move forward with the renewal proposal.

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to adopt Resolution #15-11 Clare County Transportation Millage Renewal Proposal with proposal to be placed on the August 2015 ballot.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (6) being Commissioners Strouse, Lipovsky, David, Pitchford, Kleinhardt and Majewski

Nays: (0)

Absent: (1) Jim Gelios

Resolution adopted.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Lori Ware, Director of Senior-Services and Community Development appeared to provide a quarterly update on what is happening within the department. She distributed a May 2015 report outlining activities and services provided showing increased activity in all areas. She noted that it has now been over five years since Clare County took over management of its own Senior Services activities and they have been very progressive. Ms. Ware noted that Clare County was chosen by the Office for Service to the Aging as a model, a sample organization, for other agencies to look to for their transparency and policy procedures. Ms. Ware also acknowledged that Carol Majewski, Nutrition Director developed a menu and recipe book also being used by the State of Michigan as a guidance reference.

**COMMUNICATIONS LIST**

Region VII Area Agency on Aging – FY 2016 Draft, Allocation Plan for Senior Services

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Tracy Byard distributed a copy of the Budgetary Status Report with revenues up \$129,375.00, while expenditures are down \$166,390.26. She provided a brief update on the Drain Commissioner who is now home and working from home. Additionally, she noted that she had a meeting with Information Technology relevant to phones and an opportunity to switch to a new phone system and service, 3CX. She indicated that the system would cost approximately \$14,100.00. Commissioner Dale Majewski questioned advantages of this system.

Jim Schuster, Information Technology then discussed the system and benefits. He indicated that the 3CX phone system would save money annually but it would require approximately \$2000.00 up front to determine if the system would work with all the different programs within the county, especially 9-1-1. He indicated that the money could be recouped if it was determined that it was not feasible by reselling the purchase. Additional information will be prepared and presented at a future date to be considered.

**JUSTICE**

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to allow Animal Control to increase the live trap deposit from \$10.00 to \$20.00 with rental fee remaining \$10.00 and to increase litter drop off fees from \$10.00 to \$25.00. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Donald David, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to allow the Sheriff Department to sell the following items: 2001 Ford Econoline Van (prisoner transport), 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police Vehicle, 2006 Ford Crown Victoria Police Vehicle, 1982 AMC Dump Truck (Community Development Vehicle), 2003 Honda Rancher ATV (parts vehicle), 1999 Lund Boat and EZ Loader Trailer (Marine Patrol), 1999 Lund Boat and EZ Loader Trailer (Marine Patrol) with sealed bids and money received going into the general fund. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to enter into a five-year lease with Lease Corporation of America to replace three computers and a server for Central Dispatch for a total cost of not more than \$74,365.35 to be funded from existing funds and in compliance with the terms of the lease. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to allow the Sheriff Department to purchase the necessary body mics / cameras for road patrol deputies at a total cost of not more than \$15,229 for the project and no more than \$10,500 from existing funds in the 267 fund and balance to come from some townships/cities, private citizen donation and Road Commission. Motion carried.

Recess was called at 10:15 a.m. and Reconvened 10:23 a.m.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-NONE**

**PHYSICAL RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

It was moved by Commissioner Samantha Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Donald David, to appoint Jan M. Anthony as a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission for a three-year term with term to expire April 30, 2018. Motion carried.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to approve the Statutory Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2015 and April 28, 2015 in the amount of \$128,861.02 and \$49,855.12. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve Budget Adjustment #15-93, 15-94, 15-95, 15-96, 15-97, 15-99, 15-100, 15-101, 15-102 and 15-103 in the amount of \$750.00, \$5.00, \$227.00, \$170.00, \$65.61, \$158,356.14, \$5,262.00, \$2,075.00, \$6,530.00 and \$750.00 respectively. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to approve the expenditures for the month of April 2015 in the amount of \$5,531,861.94 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$997,889.22. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Donald David, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve Clare County entering into a five year lease renewal with Michigan Office Solutions for new copiers, printers and scanners for a total cost of not more than \$6,526.00 per month. Motion carried.

Discussion followed with Jim Neff, Information Technology acknowledging that the lease contract was up and it was time to renew. When asked, he indicated that the previous lease contained an automatic renewal clause for a one-year period with the lease price remaining the same if there was a desire to hold off on a new lease. The new lease, if signed, would provide some additional equipment for an increased cost of \$733 per month.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (4) being Commissioners Lipovsky, Strouse, Pitchford and Kleinhardt

Nays: (2) being Commissioners David and Majewski

Absent: (1) Gelios

Motion carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

Clerk Pamela Mayfield distributed a Summary Report relevant to the election just concluded. She reported that Clare County followed the state-wide trend and overwhelming voted no on the tax increase proposal.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzinger distributed her annual delinquency report. She reported that the delinquencies were down and at their lowest since 2009 when she took office. She indicated that for three years delinquencies stayed at the same level with them being down twenty-seven parcel this year. She stated that there are a few new laws governing tax foreclosed properties and the laws should help curtail those same properties from being delinquent again immediately. Next auction will be held August 14<sup>th</sup>, possibly at the Doherty again.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

- Chairman Jack Kleinhardt reported that the election "NO" vote far exceeded what polls were projecting. He also noted that a survey went out to department heads after having receiving a phone call from someone indicating that they felt that the Board was not providing support to help.
- Vice-Chair Dale Majewski noted that he had forgotten about the Waste Management contract but would be working to providing a copy.
- Commissioner Leonard Strouse and Commissioner Donald David both took a moment to talk about raises and department heads and elected officials. Without providing that incentive quality employees will leave.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-NONE**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Donald David, to reconsider the wage increase motion for the District Court Magistrate made at the regular Board of Commissioner's Meeting on April 15, 2015.

Clarification followed relative to the motion on the floor. Commissioner David stated that the original motion made on April 15<sup>th</sup> was convoluted and unclear and was not understood. There were too many people that had different ideas. Based on the discussions on April 15<sup>th</sup>, an approximate 11.36% raise does not give an exact figure. Commissioner Strouse who made the original motion indicated that he thought that the motion was to raise the salary 2%, the same raise as everyone else had received and that the additional money request would go into the 2016 budget, raising the salary equal to that received by the Circuit Court Administrator.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (2) being Commissioners Lipovsky and David

Nays: (4) Commissioners Strouse, Majewski, Kleinhardt and Pitchford

Absent: (1) Jim Gelios

Motion failed.

Magistrate Karen Willing was asked if she would accept an equal salary of \$62,424, prorated for the year with response being yes. At that time, a further motion was made.

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse to set the Magistrate wage at \$62,424, the same, no more no less. With no second being heard, Chairperson Jack Kleinhardt stepped down as Chair to second the motion and Vice Chair Dale Majewski took over as Chair. He called for the vote.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (3) being Commissioners Strouse, Kleinhardt and Pitchford

Nays: (3) being Lipovsky, David and Majewski

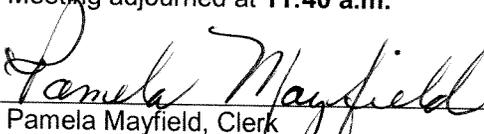
Absent: (1) Gelios

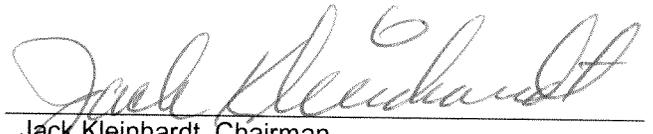
Motion failed.

With both motions failing, the raise was determined to be 11.36%.

**NEW BUSINESS-NONE**

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

  
Pamela Mayfield, Clerk  
Clare County Board of Commissioners

  
Jack Kleinhardt, Chairman  
Clare County Board of Commissioners