

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

7/16/14
Unapproved Minutes
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Harrison, Michigan 48625
June 18, 2014

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Present: Commissioner Jim Gelios, Commissioner Lynn Grim, Commissioner Jack Kleinhardt, Commissioner Rick LaBoda, Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, Commissioner Dale Majewski, and Commissioner Leonard Strouse.

Absent: None

Others Present, Signing In: Dave Corner, Craig Derror, Linda Kaufmann

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Lynn Grim, to approve the agenda with additions as noted below. Motion carried.

Add: Under Health and Human Services – Region VII Area Agency on Aging, Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) Worksite Agreement

Add: Under Finance- Add Budget Adjustment #14-96 in the amount of \$6,000.00

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2014, Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT-NONE

COMMUNICATIONS LIST:

- Alger County Resolution #2014-15, Resolution Opposing Development of an Underground Nuclear Waste Facility Near Kincardine, Ohio.
- Barry County Resolution #14-18, Resolution marking Barry County 200th Anniversary of the National Anthem

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Linda Kaufmann, Executive Director and Craig Derror, Program Director, of Community Mental Health of Central Michigan, covering a six county region, appeared before the Board, distributed a copy of their 2012-2013 Fiscal Year Annual Report and discussed the same. Additionally, they announced a recent Board decision to build a new facility just behind their present facility. They are meeting to formalize plans, will be letting bids and they hope that the facility will be available in the Spring of 2015.

Dave Corner of NORESO reported to the Board once again on how the county could enter into a ten-year contract agreement with NORESO and make building improvements and enhancements that pay for itself through energy savings and efficiencies. NORESO would guarantee that the energy saving would be as great or greater than the money investments. There were various concerns on the guaranteed monetary returns and how this would be tracked and figured. Commissioner Majewski expressed concern about paying down debt before jumping in and adding additional debt. It was noted that all new boilers were installed over the last couple of year and questions arose about the need to replace these already. Commissioner LaBoda expressed concern about "escape" clause with fear that a "missed" scheduled maintenance item would be cause for NORESO to avoid paying. There were concerns over the need for a building maintenance person to be on staff and the cost for that staffing. Commissioner Kleinhardt indicated that there were also other building matters to be concerned with since the health department would soon be vacating the building with a need for changes to that structure and no consideration being given to these things.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Lynn Grim, to have NORESO move to the next step in this process.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (4) being Commissioners Lipovsky, Grim, Gelios and LaBoda

Nays: (3) being Commissioners Kleinhardt, Majewski and Strouse

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

Lori Ware, Community Development, since she has some expertise in this area, requested to be made a part of the review team working with NORESO.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION-CONT.

Mike Smock and Stuart Borega, Department of Human Services appeared before the Board with a request for additional program funding to cover anticipated shortfalls in the Clare County DHS Child Care Fund. They discussed the program, the services and the needs of the program indicating that there are presently sixty-two children in foster care in Clare County. Of those, twenty require funding by the county for placement. He requested that the county allocate an additional \$45,000.00 to meet program needs.

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Gelios, seconded by Commissioner Lynn Grim, to allocate an additional \$45,000.00, as required, to the Department of Human Services to cover the needs in the Child Care Fund with money coming from the fund balance. Motion carried.

Recess at 10:07 a.m. with Board back in session at 10:13 a.m. with Equalization Director Kim Halis, present. She then instructed the Board as to the Order of Business and a need for the adoption of Resolution #14-09.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Lynn Grim, to Adopt Resolution #14-09 A Resolution Imposing 2014 Summer Property Tax Levy Pursuant to Public Act 357 of 2004 and Notice of Certification of the County Allocated Tax Levy.

Roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Resolution adopted.

Chairperson Rick LaBoda declared the Public Hearing open at 10:06 a.m.

Kim Halis, Equalization Director then distributed her written reports to the Board and discussed the same. Her reports reflected changes between 2013 and 2014 real property, personal property, homestead and non-homestead property values and she provided an overall report reflecting all gains/losses individually and collectively for all townships and cities in Clare County. Total taxable value for the county is \$1,028,043.754.00 while operating tax is \$4,839,208.00 with a tax loss of \$55,797.00 in 2014.

House Member Joel Johnson, a surprised guest, appeared before the Board and briefly discussed what is happening in Lansing. He noted that the county can expect an additional \$130,000.00 in revenue sharing in the up-coming fiscal year over last year.

Meeting Recessed: 10:29 a.m.

Meeting Reconvened: 10:39 a.m.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Tracy Byard provided her report to the Board. She reminded everyone that she would be presenting the Budget to the Board on July 9th at 9:00 a.m. An inquiry from Commissioner Strouse prompted discussion about the \$280,615.00 refunded from BC/BS.

JUSTICE

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to approve the Agreement for Law Enforcement Services between Clare County Sheriff's Department and Garfield Township not to exceed \$6,000.00 or 90 days. Motion carried.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

It was moved by Commissioner Lynn Grim, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve the Region VII Area Agency on Aging, Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) Worksite Agreement. Motion carried.

PHYSICAL RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-NONE

Chairperson Rick LaBoda declared the Public Hearing closed at 11:28 a.m.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to approve the Statutory Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2014 in the amount of \$86,511.63 and June 10, 2014 in the amount of \$83,082.96. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to approve the expenditures for the month of May 2014 in the amount of \$1,186,041.76 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$742,392.41. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Gelios, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to approve Budget Adjustments #14-94, #14-95 and #14-96 in the amounts of \$4,000.00, \$20,146.30 and \$6,000.00 respectively. Motion carried.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION-CONT.

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Lynn Grim, to approve Bond Resolution #14-10 for the property purchase of 212 S. Broad Street to provide facilities for Clare County Senior Services in the amount of \$135,000.00 and authorize the issuance of Bonds designated "Capital Improvement Bonds Series 2014 E."

Roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Resolution adopted.

It was moved by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to authorize the County Clerk to publish the Notice of Intent to issue bonds in a newspaper of general circulation, which shall be not less than one-quarter page in size. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Lynn Grim, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to approve the grant submission to Region VII Area Agency on Aging in the amount of \$212,082.00. Motion carried.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the lease agreement with Clare Castle. The lease agreement signed includes increasing payment each year until the terms of the lease are fulfilled. The lease agreement also leaves the burden of various maintenance items on Senior Services. Attempts to discuss amendments to the lease have not proven beneficial. Based on conversations with the attorney the lease is iron-clad.

It was moved by Commissioner Lynn Grim, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to accept the Equalization Director's recommendations and approve the 2014 tax levy of 4.7072 mill and authorize the Equalization Director to spread the rolls with Board Chair to sign.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (6) being Commissioners Grim, Majewski, Kleinhardt, Strouse, Lipovsky and LaBoda

Nays: (1) being Commissioner Gelios

Absent: (0)

Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzing reported on the meeting held by the Website Committee. Based on a consensus of those present at the meeting, it was decided to recommend that Sheryl Judd be paid to repair/fix the website immediately and that the committee would continue to meet and review future options and enhancements.

Another discussion ensued relevant to the Special Drain Assessment loan request made by the Drain Commissioner for money to proceed with the engineering study. It was apparent that there was confusion on this matter. This discussion will continue in the future. Additionally the Treasurer reported that the City of Clare exercised their first right of refusal on some property that she would have been foreclosing on. She also reported on an issue with township blight and concern over attempts to add the cost burden for clean-up on the county.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Chairperson Rick LaBoda remarked about problems experienced by local garbage haulers with the frost laws.
- Vice-Chair Dale Majewski reported that the tower project and agreement with Trans-Canada is now official. He thanked everyone involved with making this happen.
- Commissioner Lipovsky reported that she attended Northern MAC and talk was about migrant farm workers and the inability to recruit workers to the state causing a burden on the agricultural communities.
- Commissioner Gelios attended MTA and Hayes Township. They are seeing some revitalization and happy to see once vacant commercial buildings being reopened again.
- Commissioner Grim attended many meetings, distributed literature and noted that Public Health is not sustainable and the director will be coming before the Board in the future. She also reported that Lincoln Township is concerned about gypsy moths.
- Commissioner Kleinhardt took time to discuss his concern about maintenance

PUBLIC COMMENT-NONE**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Further discussion took place relevant to NORESKO and concerns. Of most importance is the need to have qualified trained maintenance.

It was moved by Commissioner Jack Kleinhardt, seconded by Commissioner Dale Majewski, to authorize an advance \$80,000.00 to the Drain Commission and work with the County Treasurer. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky to provide a cell phone for Jim Neff, Information Technology that is comparable to the phone provided to Jim Shuster, Information Technology. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS-NONE

It was moved by Commissioner Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Grim, to go into CLOSED SESSION to discuss potential litigation.

Roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried.

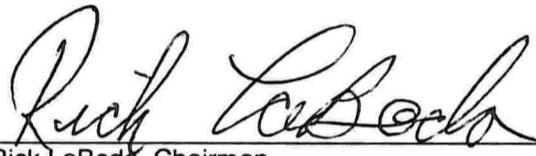
Closed session starts 1:21 p.m.

Closed session ends 1:27 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.



Pamela Mayfield, Clerk
Clare County Board of Commissioners



Rick LaBoda, Chairman
Clare County Board of Commissioners