

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

*Approved
11/10/2021*

Harrison, Michigan 48625

~~Unapproved minutes~~
October 20, 2021

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

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence for our active military, veterans and first responders.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

District 1 Dale Majewski, District 2 Samantha Pitchford, District 5 Sandy Bristol, District 6 Bronwyn Asplund, and District 7 Jeff Haskell.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

District 3 Rick Fancon, District 4 Stephanie Brown.

OTHERS PRESENT

Chief Deputy Clerk Stacy Pechacek, Administrator Tracy Byard, Administrative Assistant Dawn Raupp, Prosecuting Attorney Michelle Ambrozaitis, Undersheriff Dwayne Miedzianowski, Sheriff John Wilson, Dewayne Rogers and Kayla Randle from the Clare County Road Commission, Tom Pirstill from the Clare County Transit, Mike Moore, local business owner; Tim Heinig and zoom participants.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve the amended agenda with specified changes. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Majewski, Bristol, Pitchford, Asplund and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Asplund to approve the Board of Commissioners Special Board Meeting Minutes for September 8, 2021. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Majewski, Asplund, Pitchford, Bristol and Haskell

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Bristol to allow a motion to amend the Special Tribute resolution number for Sheryl Engel in the minutes of September 15, 2021. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Majewski, Bristol, Pitchford, Asplund and Haskell

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Continued

It was moved by Commissioner Asplund, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to amend the motion "To adopt Resolution #21-09"... to read as follows: "To adopt Resolution #21-11..." Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Asplund, Majewski, Pitchford, Bristol and Haskell
Nays: (0)
Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown
Motion carried

It was moved by Commissioner Asplund, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve the Board of Commissioners Minutes for September 15, 2021. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Asplund, Majewski, Pitchford, Bristol and Haskell
Nays: (0)
Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown
Motion carried

It was moved by Commissioner Bristol, seconded by Commissioner Asplund to approve the Board of Commissioners Special Meeting Minutes for September 22, 2021. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Bristol, Asplund, Majewski, Pitchford and Haskell
Nays: (0)
Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown
Motion carried

It was moved by Commissioner Asplund, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve the Board of Commissioners Special Meeting Minutes for September 30, 2021. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Asplund, Majewski, Pitchford, Bristol and Haskell
Nays: (0)
Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown
Motion carried

It was moved by Commissioner Bristol, seconded by Commissioner Asplund to approve the Board of Commissioners Closed Session Minutes for September 8, 2021. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Bristol, Asplund, Majewski, Pitchford and Haskell
Nays: (0)
Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown
Motion carried

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Kayla Randle and Dewayne Rogers from the Clare County Road Commission addressed the Board about the recent letter requesting that the Board of Commissioners approve the designation of \$540,000.00 in ARPA Funds to the Clare County Road Commission for the following purposes: to cover MTF 2020 revenue loss, reimbursement for radio upgrades, and purchase of a new tractor for roadside mowing. They stated that they were available to answer any questions that the Board has about their request. The Board stated that once they have further clarification, they will revisit the Road Commissions' request.

Tom Pirstill, Clare County Transit, stated that he was available to answer any questions about the contract up for approval on the agenda.

COMMUNICATIONS LIST

None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Tracy Byard stated that she has been working on budgeting and recently attended the MERS conference. She also stated that Menominee County reached out about their plight to change the Open Meetings Act, which, as of January 1, 2022 does not allow board members to attend and vote virtually via Zoom. They are hoping to change this so that voting members may be allowed to attend and vote virtually. Finally, in Lori Phelps' absence, Administrator Byard asked the Board to consider paying out a Senior Services employee's balance of vacation that was not able to be used due to staff shortages. The County limits the amount of vacation time to be carried over or paid out to 5 days; this particular employee has in excess of five days. Administrator Byard stated that she would need to reach out to the payroll department to find out exactly how much over.

RECESS: 9:16 am – Zoom Technical Difficulties
BACK IN SESSION: 9:19 am

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Kyle O'Meara – Lake Level Resolutions

Mr. O'Meara provided an explanation of how lake levels are determined and what orders must be in place to comply with the law.

It was moved by Commissioner Bristol, seconded by Commissioner Pitchford to adopt the following resolutions:

21-17 Arnold Lake	21-18 Bertha Lake
21-19 Cranberry Lake	21-20 Crooked Lake
21-21 Doc and Tom Lake	21-22 Dodge and Sand Lakes
21-23 Eight Point Lake	21-24 Gray Lake
21-25 Lake George	21-26 Little Long Lake
21-27 Long Lake	21-28 Otter Lake
21-29 Shingle Lake	21-30 Surrey Lake
21-31 Sutherland Lake	21-32 Windover Lake

Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion.

Commissioner Majewski asked about the individual townships' knowledge of this information or involvement in this process. Mr. O'Meara stated none to very little at this point as the County has jurisdiction regarding these decisions not the townships. Dale asserted that if there are going to be possible assessments, that the townships and the constituents should be made aware of the process. Mr. O'Meara did state that they would have at least two opportunities to object if an assessment were needed. At this stage the County is simply approving to finance the cost of changing current orders to meet legal obligations regarding the lake levels, easements and assessments.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (4) being Commissioners Bristol, Pitchford, Asplund and Haskell.

Nays: (1) being Commissioner Majewski

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - Continued

2. Tim Heinig – Bracket Racing – Clare County Airport
Mr. Heinig stated that he is approaching the County to request they entertain allowing him to organize a fundraising event for veterans. He is a veteran and is interested in hosting a community racing event with, and for, veterans at the Harrison Airport. Commissioner Bristol stated that as a member of the Airport Board, she is interested and invited Mr. Heinig to attend the meeting on the second Monday in November at 5:00 p.m. with more information.

3. Farmland Preservation Request for Packard Farm
It was moved by Commissioner Bristol, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve the four Packard Farm's applications for Farmland Preservation under PA116 and allow the Clerk to sign. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Bristol, Majewski, Pitchford, Asplund and Haskell.
Nays: (0)
Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown
Motion carried

CLOSED SESSION – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (10:08 a.m.)

It was moved by Commissioner Asplund, seconded by Commissioner Bristol to go into closed session for the reason of Collective Bargaining. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Asplund, Bristol, Majewski, Pitchford and Haskell.
Nays: (0)
Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown
Motion carried

REGULAR SESSION CALLED TO ORDER (10:41 a.m.)

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - Continued

4. Pete Preston, County Equalization – Apportionment Report
It was moved by Commissioner Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Bristol to accept the Apportionment Report, as presented, and authorize the Equalization Director to spread the tax roll. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Pitchford, Bristol, Majewski, Asplund and Haskell.
Nays: (0)
Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown
Motion carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Justice Committee

1. Resolution #21-33 Supporting HB5026

It was moved by Commissioner Bristol, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to adopt Resolution #21-33 supporting the enactment of HB 5026 to ensure continued operation and funding of 9-1-1 service. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Bristol, Majewski, Pitchford, Asplund and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

2. Jail Building Request

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Asplund to allow the purchase and installation of a fire suppression system from Summit Fire Protection in the Sheriff's Office IT Server Room, which holds the server for all County offices, in the amount of \$17,843.00 with funds to be paid from the 351.931 account in the Jail's budget. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Majewski, Asplund, Pitchford, Bristol and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

B. Physical Resources and Economic Development Committee

1. Resolution #21-16 Blanket Signature

It was moved by Commissioner Asplund, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to adopt Resolution #21-16 authorizing the Clare County Transit Director to enter into and execute on behalf of the County Board of Commissioners all such project authorizations with the Michigan Department of Transportation for passenger transportation related services for the agreement period. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Asplund, Majewski, Pitchford, Bristol and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

2. Gypsy Moth Contract Renewal FY 2022 Discussion

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve the Gypsy Moth Contract renewal for 2022 with AI's Ariel Spraying. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Majewski, Bristol, Pitchford, Asplund and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR - continued

3. MSU Extension Services Agreement

It was moved by Commissioner Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve the agreement between MSU Extension Services for FY 2022 and allow the Chair to sign. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Pitchford, Bristol, Majewski, Asplund and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

C. Finance and Administration Committee

1. Wage Reimbursement for Vaccination Clinics – ARPA

It was moved by Commissioner Bristol, seconded by Commissioner Asplund to allow for reimbursement of ARPA funds for wages to the Senior Service Fund in the amount of \$66,783.22 for employees in the Senior Services that worked the COVID vaccination clinics. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Bristol, Asplund, Majewski, Pitchford and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

2. Budget Adjustment

It was moved by Commissioner Asplund, seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve Budget Adjustment #22-01 in the amount of \$49,990.00 for the UVC lighting previously approved. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Asplund, Bristol, Majewski, Pitchford and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

3. National Opioid Settlement Discussion

Administrator Byard requested that the Commissioners reconsider being a part of the National Opioid Settlement.

It was moved by Commissioner Asplund, seconded by Commissioner Majewski for Clare County to join the National Opioid Settlement. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Asplund, Majewski, Pitchford, Bristol, and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR-Continued

4. Statutory Finance Committee

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve statutory finance committee meeting minutes of September 20, 2021 in the amount of \$31,955.95 and approval of payout to David Lipovsky in the amount of \$2,930.89 due to resignation and October 4, 2021 in the amount of \$220,191.82. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Majewski, Bristol, Pitchford, Asplund and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

5. Monthly Expenditures

It was moved by Commissioner Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve the expenditures for the month of September 2021 in the amount of \$5,325,661.90 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$1,503,877.28. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Pitchford, Bristol, Majewski, Asplund and Haskell.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

PROSECUTOR'S REPORT

Prosecutor Michelle Ambrozaitis stated that she has hired three new employees recently. Kari Gallo who is the full time FOC position, Kim Keely who is the Victim's Rights Advocate, and Angel Mashue who is the ARPA funded secretarial position. She has a murder preliminary examination in District Court this Friday.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Undersheriff Dwayne Miedzianowski thanked the Board for approving the IT project. He stated that there will be an inspection on November 1, 2021 which is a big step. If they are given the green light they may be able to open up to federal inmates again. Blight was briefly discussed and Undersheriff Miedzianowski stressed that it is not a law enforcement issue and that these individuals should consult an attorney.

IT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

IT Director Jesse Bellinger stated that he had nothing new to report and that IT was just continuing to work on tickets.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Jeff Haskell reported that an Eagle Scout is looking to develop a dog park in Clare County as a project. Haskell stated that he would be interested in seeing what the County could do to help out. Could we possibly use ARPA funds?

VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Vice Chairperson Dale Majewski reported that he is still having constituents approach him about the Gypsy Moth Spray and that it is still an issue. He also asked Administrator Byard how much of the ARPA funding we have left. She stated that she was still working on that as well as the list of requests for money. Commissioner Majewski asked that she have that prepared by next week.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Pitchford attended her meetings.

Commissioner Bristol stated that her townships are doing well. Sheridan Township has a webpage now. She has been assigned to the HASMAT Committee. Commissioner Bristol encouraged everyone to have their townships complete the survey on the website. She is working on funding projects for the airport, and is interested in revisiting the County/townships' prior financial contribution to airport for matching funds. Questions have been raised about the individual who currently leases the Airport Restaurant wanting to possibly purchase. Not sure how this can be done, but Administrator Byard will look into it. Commissioner Bristol brought up some mental health bills that are currently in the legislature, and would like to request that they not vote in favor of this legislation. She encourages all townships to make any formal requests regarding upcoming projects to the Road Commission. She would like the minutes and attendance of the Reapportionment Meetings. She stated that she was upset about the proposed re-districting. She encourages others to be present at the upcoming meeting on November 5, 2021.

Commissioner Asplund has received constituent questions about booster shots. Will they be available at Hayes Township? Chairperson Haskell stated that presently the Health Department is not cleared to administer at Hayes Township, but they can check about going directly to the Health Department. She asked if Administrator Byard had gotten the information she requested about IT, she stated she had not.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Administrator Byard provided the missing information regarding Lori Phelps' request to pay out a Senior Services employee's excess vacation time. According to payroll, the employee, Jen Wilson, has an additional 43 hours of vacation time that she was unable to use due to staff shortages.

It was moved by Chairperson Haskell, seconded by Commissioner Asplund to allow the Senior Services Director to pay out the additional 43 hours of vacation time for Jen Wilson due to staff shortage. Chairperson Haskell asked for discussion, hearing none, roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (5) being Commissioners Haskell, Asplund, Majewski, Pitchford, and Bristol.

Nays: (0)

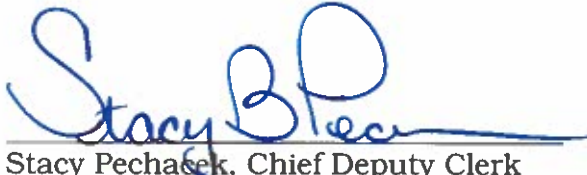
Absent: (2) being Commissioners Fancon and Brown

Motion carried

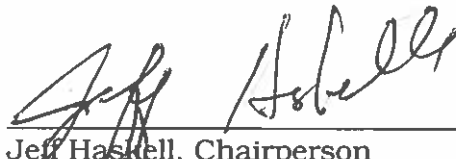
NEW BUSINESS

None

Meeting Adjourned at 11:37 a.m.



Stacy Pechacek, Chief Deputy Clerk
Clare County Board of Commissioners



Jeff Hasbelle, Chairperson
Clare County Board of Commissioners