

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

Am 4-18-18

**Unapproved Minutes
March 21, 2018**

Harrison, Michigan 48625

Meeting was called to Order at 9:03 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Present: Commissioners: District 1: Dale Majewski, District 2: Samantha Pitchford, District 3: Leonard Strouse, District 4: Jack Kleinhardt, District 5: Sandra Bristol, District 6: Karen Lipovsky, District 7: Jim Gelios

Absent: None

Others Present, Signing In: Dan Dysinger Grant Township Supervisor and Marty Johnson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse seconded by Commissioner Kleinhardt, to approve the agenda with addition of closed session for pending litigation. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Gelios, seconded by Commissioner Pitchford, to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2018 meeting. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT Marty Johnson spoke about the fundraiser for Friends of Parks and Recreation, Gateway Affair on Saturday, April 7, 2018 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Jays Sporting Goods in Clare. All funds benefit the parks of Clare County.

COMMUNICATIONS LIST – No discussion

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Tracy Byard will be attending the ^{mortgage} ~~mortgage~~ authority meeting. She also told about the Easter egg hunt that will be held at the Clare County Airport at 11:30 a.m. on March 31, 2018, the RFP's are out for the Sheriff's Dept. wall in the jail, she is gearing up for the 2019 budget, and lastly she has not heard anything on the indigent defense fund.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Clare County Drain Commissioner Carl Parks was present to answer questions from the Board of Commissioners regarding the Tobacco drain. Commissioner Kleinhardt asked what's going on with the drain. Drain Commissioner Parks replied that he is waiting on a response from FEMA regarding the 52 homes in that flood zone. If FEMA grants are approved the 52 homeowners would have the option to sell their homes, and they would be torn down, and the land donated back to the City of Clare. There is \$750,000.00 due back this year, and they are unable to pay so the bank is willing to wait until 2019. By then he anticipates to have the project rolling, and if they receive the FEMA grant, it will be about \$2,000,000.00. The project will still go through with or without the FEMA grant. He anticipates the project to be rolling this year, and then the residents would begin paying taxes on the project in 2019. This tax will be only for the residence that are affected in the City of Clare, part of Grant Township, and part of Isabella County in the form of a special assessment tax.

Director of Clare County Parks and Recreation Don Kolander was there mainly to give an update on his department, and the direction they are moving. Director Kolander resigned from the Board of Directors for the Friends of Parks and Recreation, and is dedicating himself solely to Clare County Parks and Recreation. The Pere Marquette property that was talked about being turned over to the County could be made into a wildlife preserve property.

Barney Ledford Criminal Justice Director of 4 degree programs and Trisha Farrell Director of Security Operations and Systems, both from Mid-Michigan Community College, were present to give a presentation. Ms. Farrell and Mr. Ledford discussed the larger effort to connect MMCC with the community members in which they serve. Ms. Farrell gave a background of MMCC in our county, and then discussed the different options available at MMCC for the community. They offer a wide variety of associate degrees and trade school certificates. They are here to talk about partnerships they can develop in the community, and want to expand on the partnerships they already have.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATION – continued

Renee Davis of Clare Conservation District (her job is soil erosion permits and gypsy moth coordinator). Last time sprayed 2012, egg masses are showing it's time to spray again. Received two sealed bids and she is here to present them both to the Board of Commissioners for their decision. Comparing both 48B sprays Al's Aerial Spraying, LLC came in at \$98,090.46 and Hamilton Helicopters Inc. came in at \$105,692.40, which is a difference of \$7,601.94. Ms. Davis recommends Al's Aerial because they sprayed in 2011 and 2012 and sent a packet with descriptions and safety information on the chemical along with procedures on how everything would be handled if they were awarded the contract. She did not get that background information from Hamilton Helicopters. The townships that would need sprayed are Frost, Franklin, Freeman, Greenwood, Hayes, Lincoln, and Hatton. There are still funds available from the gypsy moth millage previously passed by voters.

Moved by Commissioner Strouse and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski to award the gypsy moth spraying contract to Al's Aerial Spraying, LLC in the amount of \$98,090.46 with the funds being used from the gypsy moth millage fund. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

Recess: 10:18 a.m.

Back in session: 10:30 a.m.

Justice Committee

State of emergency Termination

Moved by Commissioner Gelios and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski the Clare County Board of Commissioners, as the governing body of Clare County hereby terminates the proclamation of a local state of emergency described in the preamble. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Motion carried after discussion.

Moved by Commissioner Pitchford and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to allow the Circuit Court to replace the retiring Assignment Clerk and approve the budget adjustment #18-65 in the amount of \$29,636.03 for this position. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. After discussion motion carried.

Health and Human Services Committee - None

Physical Resources and Economic Development Committee

Reappointment

Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Strouse to reappoint Michelle Ambrozaitis to the Parks & Recreation Board, with term ending April 30, 2021. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

Clare Gap – Resolution #18-09

Moved by Commissioner Strouse and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski the Clare County Board of Commissioners offers its unequivocal, definitive support of any and all actions taken by any and all agencies, organizations and activities to complete construction of the unfinished portion (the "Clare Gap") of the Pere Marquette Rail Trail and U.S. Bike Route 20. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Commissioner Bristol spoke about the reorganization of the Parks and Recreation Board and how things are getting better.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Strouse, Majewski, Gelios, Bristol, Kleinhardt, Pitchford, and Lipovsky.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried/resolution adopted.

Finance and Administration Committee

Statutory Finance Committee

It was moved by Commissioner Bristol and seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of February 27, 2018 in the amount of \$82,192.30 and March 13, 2018 in the amount of \$94,383.28. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

Monthly Expenditures

Moved by Commissioner Bristol and seconded by Commissioner Pitchford to approve the expenditures for the month of February 2018 in the amount of \$3,107,709.41 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$813,526.46. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

Budget Adjustments

Moved by Commissioner Bristol and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Budget Adjustments #18-58 through #18-70. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

IPAD – Paperless Discussion

Administrator Byard presented to the Board the option of purchasing IPAD's for the Board of Commissioners to reduce the need to print board packets. The cost of 7 IPADS would be \$4,199.93. After discussion it was determined the IPAD's were not needed at this point.

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Finance and Administration Committee - continued

Hire Replacement

Moved by Commissioner Gelios and Seconded by Commissioner Strouse to allow the Clerk's office to hire a replacement in a current vacancy. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Clerk/Register of Deeds Lori Martin explained it is a replacement of an employee that transferred to another department. Motion carried.

Tax Anticipation Note

Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Gelios to adopt Resolution #18-08 authorizing the county to Borrow \$1,200,000 in anticipation of collection of taxes, "Tax Anticipation Note" and approve all required parties to sign as specified. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. The Board asked Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzinger what the interest rate is and she replied 1.7%.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Majewski, Gelios, Strouse, Bristol, Kleinhardt, Pitchford, and Lipovsky.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried/resolution adopted.

Legal Intervention (Legal Guardian)

Moved by Commissioner Pitchford and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve the extension of Guard16-18001, Legal Intervention Agreement to September 30, 2019 in the amount of \$3,600.00. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Chairperson Lipovsky asked Administrator Byard what exactly this agreement was. Administrator Byard explained it is an extension of the Public Guardian contract they have with the State of Michigan and they do this every year. Motion carried.

CLERK/REGISTER OF DEED'S REPORT

Clerk/Register of Deeds Lori Martin gave updates on the August and November 2018 elections and announced several different deadlines. Bureau of Elections is requiring Election Inspectors to take training twice this year in order to become certified to work elections. There has been a great deal of cross training being completed in her office. Clerk/Register of Deeds Martin and 3 other employees are taking the training to become CEO's (certified electronic officers) to be able to go into court, and record in order to help the court staff when necessary. Clerk/Register of Deeds Martin went to an election training in Bay City regarding the new voter registration software. Clerk/Register of Deeds Martin also reported on plans to partner again this year with local high schools and the college for voter registration.

Clerk/Register of Deeds Martin brought to the Board of Commissioners her concerns with several different issues and complaints regarding the lack of security in the courthouse. There was a great deal of discussion regarding this subject. The Board agreed Administrator Byard would place this issue on the agenda for April, hold a department head meeting prior to the next Board of Commissioners meeting to get input from the department heads, and bring that input to the next Board of Commissioners meeting in April.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzinger is finishing up with tax settlements (about 90% collected). Forfeitures are down almost the same as last year down from 1,100 to 900. The forfeiture deadline is on a Saturday this year so the deadline has been moved to Monday, April 2, 2018. Library penal fine funds have been released from Franklin and Summerfield Townships. The only townships left that are holding these funds are Arthur and Sheridan Townships.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT - Not present

CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Chairperson Lipovsky attended her meetings and met with the Emergency Director regarding the state of emergency for Clare County.

VICE CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Vice Chairperson Kleinhardt talked about automated cars (driverless cars).

COMMISSIONER REPORT

Commissioner Majewski had no report.

Commissioner Bristol has been attending her township meetings. She has been talking with Representative Wentworth regarding school security and grant money available. She has also talked with Representative Wentworth regarding what she needs to bring to the legislatures to try and make a change to the animal ordinances. Commissioner Bristol is also going to a senior abuse conference and she is working with the women's aid center for women's health care and domestic violence. Townships seem to be happy with the roads. Hamilton Township has curbside recycling.

Commissioner Gelios has been attending his meetings. Hayes Township has about 350 abandoned vehicles in 65% of the township. Michigan Works and Middle Michigan have secured grants totaling \$520,384.20 for skilled trades training and \$283,000.00 of that went to Clare County along with 25 Clare County businesses.

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COMMISSIONER REPORT - continued

Commissioner Strouse asked where the process is for building the wall in the jail. Administrator Byard stated the RFP's are due back April 9th. Commissioner Strouse also asked if a county employee could also be a county commissioner. Clerk/Register of Deeds will check into it.

Commissioner Pitchford had nothing to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Administrator Byard spoke about the dog that was severely abused will now be trained to become a drug dog. She also reported that Bissel has donated a tool that allows the veterinarian to insert a microchip into animals being adopted out along with 100 microchips.

Commissioner Bristol asked if the Board of Commissioners have anything they would like her to take to the Road Commission. There was nothing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

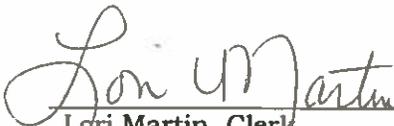
NEW BUSINESS

None

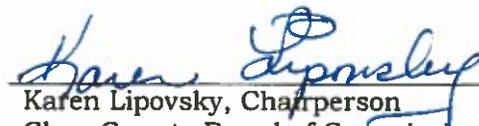
Chairperson Lipovsky indicated the Board of Commissioners would be going into closed session regarding pending litigation. Regular meeting will be adjourned at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to go into closed session to discuss pending litigation. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.



Lori Martin, Clerk
Clare County Board of Commissioners



Karen Lipovsky, Chairperson
Clare County Board of Commissioners