

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

Harrison, Michigan 48625

Jm 5/16/18
**Unapproved Minutes
April 18, 2018**

Meeting was called to Order at 9:00 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: Avaunte Frizzell

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Bristol, seconded by Commissioner Pitchford, to approve the agenda with changes. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Gelios, to approve the Minutes of the March 21, 2018 meeting as corrected. Chairperson Lipovsky stated one correction and asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Bristol, seconded by Commissioner Kleinhardt, to approve the Closed Session Minutes of the March 21, 2018 meeting. Chairperson Lipovsky confirmed no discussion is allowed. Motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Marty Johnson brought to the Boards attention a report that was just released called Kids Count in Michigan. The report shows a number of indicators for kids on how they are doing in terms of poverty level, education, teenage pregnancy among other things. Clare County is 81st on the list of 83 counties. That is a very bad spot to be on the list. He gave a copy of the report to Commissioner Sandy Bristol.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Heather Jensen and her 5th grade Hillside Elementary class came into the meeting and Commissioner Bristol gave special recognition, and honored them through a Resolution for being outstanding members of the community for the work they did to develop and conduct their own plan for distributing copies of the book, Love by Matt de la Pena, to spread the message of how love can be found all around us if we choose to recognize it. Several students spoke about the book and their project, and then each Board Member presented a copy of the book back to the class so they may use the copies to spread more love.

Moved by Commissioner Bristol and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski to honor Heather Jensen and her students for being outstanding members of the Clare County Community and to approve Resolution 18-07. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Resolution adopted

Ken Hibl, Clare City Manager appeared for two presentations. The first presentation was in regard to World War I Centennial Commission. Mr. Hibl was appointed as one of twelve to a temporary Centennial Commission for World War I by Governor Snyder. Their primary charter is to go out to the state and raise awareness and ask communities to support activities associated with commemorating WWI. The anniversary this year is on November 11th. They are asking that all boards of government consider adopting a resolution to commemorate WWI and help on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month with a bell ringing ceremony that is going to be conducted nationwide. Mr. Hibl asked that the Commissioners go out into their Districts and ask any governmental entity that has a bell to ring it on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. If you adopt the resolution he will post it to their website.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATION - continued

There are a number of monuments in Michigan and we have one right here in our neighborhood in Beaverton. Please go see it.

Moved by Commissioner Strouse and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Resolution 18-10, offering unequivocal support and endorsement of the efforts and work of Michigan's World War I Centennial to highlight, and pay tribute to the contributions, and sacrifices made by Michigan citizens, Michigan military units, private industry, and business organizations involved with or contributing to our nation's involvement in World War I. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none roll call revealed:

Roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Resolution adopted

Mr. Hibl proceeded to his second presentation regarding a band in County Clare, Ireland that won a national music competition in Ireland last year for the song they wrote and dedicated to County Clare, Ireland. Mr. Hibl brought before his City of Clare Commission, and is now bringing before the Clare County Board of Commissioners, his request to reach across the ocean to our friends in County Clare, Ireland to see if they would have any objection to us partnering with them or letting us use a part of their song to associate with the County of Clare and the City of Clare. Mr. Hibl didn't want to do that without making sure there were no objections to him reaching out to Ireland. The Board of Commissioners had no objection to Mr. Hibl's idea and Commissioner Strouse will partner with the City of Clare on this venture.

COMMUNICATIONS LIST - None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Tracy Byard gave an update on the Indigent Defense Plan, the state has approved Clare County's Plan although the Governor is pushing for counties contribute \$7.25/capita.

The audit is complete (copy given to all members) and Roxanne Nicholas from the State of Michigan will be here most likely at the next meeting to present the audit.

The morgue authority is looking to hire a forensic pathologist.

Administrator Byard gave an update on all the issues that MAC (Michigan Association of Counties) has been working on over the past year.

BS&A will be here to train staff on how to input the budget information into the system.

Commissioner Strouse questioned why the jail wall issue was taken off the agenda. Administrator Byard asked Lori Phelps to speak to that. Lori Phelps, Community Development Director stated there were issues with anyone bidding on it. The only person that bid was a sub. All procurement processes were followed and no one bid on it so the County Building Inspector will oversee the project and hire subcontractors including the one sub-contractor that placed a bid. This will cost less than the approved amount of \$80,000.00.

Commissioner Gelios questioned whether or not employees are required to log into the portal and complete online trainings. Administrator Byard indicated yes, it will be a requirement for employees to log on and complete trainings.

Chairperson Lipovsky asked Clerk/Register of Deeds Lori Martin to go ahead and introduce her guest. Clerk/Register Martin introduced Avaunte Frizzell a CTE student that has been and will be working in her office in conjunction with the court clerks to gain experience for the criminal justice program he is in. Mr. Frizzell answered questions from the board members and spoke about his future plans after graduation in May. Mr. Frizzell has joined the U.S. Airforce and will leave 9 days after graduation for basic training and plans to make the Airforce his career.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzingler is wrapping up tax season. About 10% of the taxes came back delinquent, which is about average. They have 62 properties in foreclosure this year, which is significantly less than the average 120. They are getting ready to send out about 6,000 delinquent tax notices.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT

Community Services Director Lori Phelps gave a report on economic development and used the City of Harrison as her example. There is a lot to economic development and sometimes it takes years. She writes grants for the county in addition to other Clare County entities. Director Phelps showcased the City of Harrison which includes help from the Rising Tide initiative. Rebranding and marketing the Harrison Community, working on perception of others around us and self-perception.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATION - continued

Dave Coker, Chairman of Parks and Recreation for Clare County, not to be confused with Friends of Parks and Recreation for Clare County, they are separate. As Chairman, Mr. Coker is heading up a restructuring of the Parks and Recreation Board. They hope to have the bylaws updated by the end of May. They are committed to turning things around this year. Chairman Coker asked that the Board of Commissioners appoint Mark Janeczko as board member.

Chairman Coker explained the differences between Parks and Recreation and Friends of Parks and Recreation. Don Kolander resigned as chairman of Friends of Parks and Recreation and remains Director of Parks and Recreation. Chairman Coker then outlined where Clare County Parks and Recreation is heading and the improvements they have planned over the next year.

Moved by Commissioner Strouse and Seconded by Commissioner Kleinhardt to approve Mark Janeczko be appointed to the Parks and Recreation Board. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried with 6 voting yes and 1 voting no.

Betsy Ulicki, Supervisor of Children’s Protective Services and Foster Care at the Department of Health and Human Services gave a presentation regarding her services in Child Protective Services, warning signs, and the Foster Care program.

Pete Preston, Director of Clare County equalization and Tina Moore prepared the Resolution for the Bboard to review and approve for his submission to the State of Michigan saying yes Clare County Equalization did their studies, the Assessors matched their studies with Equalization, and everything has been reviewed, balanced and tabulated. Clare County taxable values have increased about 2.4%, which will generate a little over \$100,000.00 for the counties collection.

Moved by Commissioner Kleinhardt and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski to accept the equalized value recommendation presented by the County Equalization Director of \$1,230,671,140.00 for Clare County and adopt Resolution 18 -14. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Kleinhardt, Majewski, Strouse, Pitchford, Gelios, Bristol, and Lipovsky
 Nays: (0)
 Absent: (0)
 Resolution adopted

Moved by Commissioner Gelios and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to hire Nick Loomis part time in the amount of \$39,000.00 per year to replace Jim Shuster and increase Josh Chapman to \$37,950.00. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion.

Commissioner Majewski asked if this position was posted. Administrator Byard stated it had not been posted because she only had a two week notice from Mr. Shuster. Commissioner Majewski stated that it is county policy to post open positions. Administrator Byard indicated she emailed all commissioners and asked for input and received a response from everyone except Commissioner Majewski.

Sheriff John Wilson voiced his concern regarding replacing a full time IT person with a part time IT person. The Sheriff’s Department and Courts need an IT person when there is an issue and need someone that will be on site to help with emergency IT issues.

IT Director Jim Shuster indicated that Josh Chapman would have more responsibility and Nick Loomis will be on call 24/7. Commissioner Majewski stated that was the reason they added the second full time person (Josh Chapman) a few months ago because the need was there, and the IT department needed two full time people on staff instead of one full time and one part time. Jim Shuster then indicated he has been able to streamline a lot of the process and the issues they had before are not there anymore.

Administrator Byard stated Nick Loomis will put in 25 hours a week and be on call 24/7. If Josh Chapman is not on site Nick Loomis will be. Nick Loomis spoke about his knowledge and experience, and indicated he does not want full time and would not take a full time position. Mr. Loomis indicated he does not expect pay for the last week and a half he has been following Jim Shuster around. Mr. Loomis indicated he is willing to sacrifice his small business, but would not be willing to give up his job at both Harrison and Clare Libraries.

Motion carried with six yes and one no votes.

Recess: 10:55 a.m.
Back in session: 11:10 a.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR

Justice Committee

Moved by Commissioner Pitchford and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Resolution 18 -12, authorizing election for Clare County E911/Central Dispatch millage renewal proposal and certifying ballot language election. For Years 2019 - 2024. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Administrator Byard pointed out that this is a renewal, but added an additional year so that future elections would not

COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR - continued

have to be special elections, and the same thing was done with the Senior Services proposal. Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Pitchford, Majewski, Kleinhardt, Bristol, Gelios, Strouse, and Lipovsky
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Resolution adopted

Moved by Commissioner Gelios and Seconded by Commissioner Strouse to allow the Sheriff Department to spend up to \$13,450.00 for a new ORV/UTV that was allocated under the DNR ORV Grant. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. There was discussion regarding the grant and motion carried.

Health and Human Services Committee

Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve Resolution 18 -13, authorizing election for Clare County Senior Services millage renewal proposal and certifying ballot language election for Years 2019 - 2024. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Majewski, Bristol, Strouse, Kleinhardt, Pitchford, Gelios, and Lipovsky
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Resolution adopted

Physical Resources and Economic Development Committee - none

Finance and Administration Committee

Statutory Finance Committee

It was moved by Commissioner Bristol and seconded by Commissioner Pitchford to approve Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of March 27, 2018 in the amount of \$48,973.71 and April 10, 2018 in the amount of \$265,151.22. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

Monthly Expenditures

Moved by Commissioner Pitchford and seconded by Commissioner Bristol To approve the expenditures for the month of March 2018 in the amount of \$2,466,062.27 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$805,854.09. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

Budget Adjustments

Moved by Commissioner Strouse and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Budget Adjustment 18-76, 18-77, 18-79, and 18-81 in the amount of \$10,447.00, \$6000.00, \$33.60 and \$26,657.00. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gelios and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve Resolution 18-11 to allow the Clare County Veterans Affairs to repay the \$160,000.00 loan received from the Delinquent Tax Revolving Loan Fund as per approval by the Board of Commissioners on May 6, 2015 and per the updated pro forma. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Commissioner Strouse asked if this is going to pay the County back and Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzinger indicated that was the total amount borrowed and they are down to \$12,000.00 now. Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Gelios, Bristol, Majewski, Pitchford, Strouse, Kleinhardt, and Lipovsky
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Resolution adopted

Budget Calendar

Moved by Commissioner Kleinhardt and Seconded by Commissioner Strouse to approve the FY 2019 Budget Calendar. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

Hire Replacement

Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Pitchford to allow the Clerk's office to hire a replacement in a current vacancy. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Clerk/Register Martin indicated that someone in her office left and this request was to simply replace that person. Motion carried.

CLERK/REGISTER OF DEED'S REPORT

Clerk/Register of Deeds Lori Martin gave election filing deadlines for the August and November elections. Clerk/Register Martin explained that she is holding voter registrations in all 3 high schools in Clare County, explained how she is going to take the election equipment to the schools and hold actual elections for student council or homecoming, and gave dates for election inspector training. Clerk/Register Martin then gave an update about the June 9, 2018 Pig Roast/Raffel for Clare County Habitat for Humanity.

Moved by Commissioner Bristol and Seconded by Commissioner Pitchford to go into closed session for attorney client discussion. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Bristol, Pitchford, Strouse, Gelios, Kleinhardt, Majewski, and Lipovsky
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Motion carried

Recess for closed session 11:33 a.m.
Back in session 12:38

CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Chairperson Lipovsky attended her meetings.

VICE CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Vice Chairperson Kleinhardt spoke about how people's videos and voices are being manipulated to make it appear like they are speaking or doing something that they are not, and it looks so real.

COMMISSIONER REPORT

Commissioner Bristol has been attending her township meetings, and talked about Girls on the Run 5K coming to Clare County on May 19, 2018, and the need for volunteers and the importance of helping to make this a success.

Commissioner Pitchford has been attending her meetings.

Commissioner Gelios' Hayes Township meeting was canceled and he had nothing else to report.

Commissioner Majewski has been attending his meetings.

Commissioner Strouse has been attending his meetings.

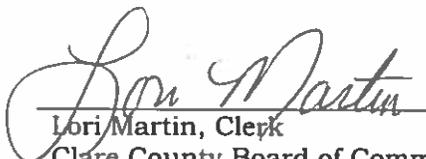
PUBLIC COMMENT

Lisa Ashley, Director of Clare/Gladwin Recovery Court spoke about the fundraiser for Recovery Court on May 31, 2018 at the Venue in Clare and invited everyone to attend. The Recovery Court is about to have their 50th graduate.

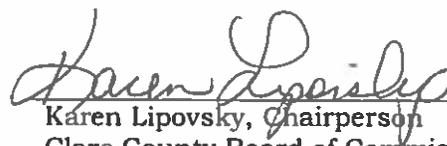
UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.



Lori Martin, Clerk
Clare County Board of Commissioners



Karen Lipovsky, Chairperson
Clare County Board of Commissioners