

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

Harrison, Michigan 48625

Jm 5/15/19
~~Unapproved minutes~~
April 17, 2019

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

Pledge of Allegiance

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

District 1 Dale Majewski, District 2 Samantha Pitchford, District 3 Leonard Strouse, District 4 Jack Kleinhardt, District 5 Mark Fitzpatrick, District 6 David Hoefling, and District 7 Jeff Haskell.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

No Commissioners Absent

OTHERS PRESENT

Dan Wilhelm Summerfield Township, Jerry Burger, Liz Bouchey, Tom Pirnstill Clare County Transit, Nancy Scarbrough Redding Township, Bruce Scarbrough Redding Township, Bill Simpson Hayes Township, Marty Johnson Friends of Parks, and Dan Dysinger Grant Township.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Strouse, to approve the agenda. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve the Board of Commissioners Minutes for March 20, 2019. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Marty Johnson was present and informed the Board of Commissioners on the Community Nutrition program in Clare County and the hunger issue in this county. The first person in line last month did so at 1:30 a.m. to make sure he would get food that day the 80th person in line was there at 8:00 a.m. They provided food for over 600 people that day to Clare County residence.

Don Kolander, Director of Clare County Parks and Recreation was present and gave an update on the non-profit organization Friends of Parks and Recreation and the fundraiser they are having May 11, 2019, Northern Traditions.

COMMUNICATIONS LIST

1. Baraga County - Resolution- Supporting HB 4227, The Creation of a "Committee on Michigan's Mining Future"
2. Jackson County - Resolution # 03-19.14, Request the State of Michigan reconsider the Public Act 93 of 2013 and MCL780.993 (17) regarding the operations of local MIDC offices.
3. Region VII AAA - Allocation Plan for Senior Services for FY 2020

No discussion


April 17, 2019

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Tracy Byard attended Middle Michigan Development Corporation meeting and a talent pipeline called my career quest that is being brought to Clare County that would allow students to get hands on training in advanced manufacturing, agri business, construction, health sciences, and information technology.

Administrator Byard also updated the Board on the following issues: There will be an Easter egg drop/hunt Saturday, April 20, 2019 at the Harrison Airport, the Board of Commissioners asked at a previous meeting for a copy of the solid waste contract, that was distributed, \$150,000.00 of the opioid grant has been made available, Indigent Defense is on its way, and the budget calendar is in your packet to be approved.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

Community Development Director Lori Phelps gave an update on the cost of the 48,792 meals provided to the senior citizens this fiscal year, they have served 12,680 hours of in home health care this fiscal year, there is \$94,382.38 in the revolving loan fund for small business loans that can go out, people can borrow up to \$30,000.00, Director Phelps gave an update on mortgage notes for home repair that are still outstanding, and \$9,961.92 in housing preservation grant money is available for water and sewer, wells and septic, updated the board on demo projects.

Director Phelps attended a webinar for PREA (Prevent, Detect, and Respond to prison rape under the Rape Elimination Act) for the Sheriff's Department to write a grant due May 22, 2019. The maximum is \$250,000.00. The grant is for creating and implementing PREA standards that will eventually be mandatory in facilities that house federal inmates. There is a 50% match and Director Phelps was asking permission to write the grant. Chairperson Kleinhardt put the grant discussion at the end of the meeting under new business.

Chairperson Kleinhardt asked Director Phelps to provide a chart or flyer with the senior services information from her report so they can share the information with their constituents

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Michelle Ambrozaitis- MGT Contract

Prosecuting Attorney Michelle Ambrozaitis updated/refreshed the Board of Commissioners on the security audit that has to be completed for Friend of the Court and her office in order to continue to receive federal funds they are required to comply with the security audit.

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to enter into an agreement with MGT to complete the Clare County Security Audit for the Prosecutor's Office and the Friend of the Court office in the amount not to exceed \$13,225.00 with a net cost for the county not to exceed \$4,500.00. The remainder of the full amount will be reimbursed from the State through the CRP Program. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, after discussion motion carried.

2. Shari Spoelman & Michelle Neff - MSUE, Clare County 2018 Annual Report
Shari Spoelman, MSUE District Director went over the annual report for Michigan State University Extension. MSUE offers classes titled Fiscally ready communities, webinars regarding the marijuana laws, in person free classes for training on opportunity zones. MSUE is also helping to prepare for the 2020 Census. Ms. Spoelman introduced her staff at MSUE and they gave a quick update of what their job consists of.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - continued

3. Pete Preston & Scott Cunningham – County Equalization Report
Pete Preston Clare County Equalization Director reported to the Board of commissioners that this year's SEV for Clare County has a 5% increase over last year and a 4.79% increase in taxable value, which shows a substantial amount of activity in sales.

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to accept the equalized value recommendation presented by the County Equalization Director of \$1,293,369,433.00 for Clare County and approve resolution 19-10. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, it was discussed that this would give Clare County \$173,000.00 increase in tax revenue.

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Pitchford, Majewski, Strouse, Fitzpatrick, Hoefling, Haskell, and Kleinhardt.

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion for Resolution Approved

4. Dan Dysinger Jr., Grant Township Supervisor
Chairperson of Clare County Supervisors Group Dan Dysinger appeared to give the position of the Clare County Supervisors Group regarding Clare County Road Commission Board compensation, board composition, and assessing reform being developed by the State Tax Commission. There was a great deal of discussion on these subjects.
5. Tim Haskin, Clare County Road Commission
Tim Haskin Clare County Road Commissioner and Karen Hulliberger Clare County Road Commissioner. The pair disclosed that their Compensation package is the option of health insurance (\$17,500.00 a year) or salary (\$7,000.00 per year). Road Commissioner Haskin and Road Commissioner Hulliberger voiced their disagreement of the timing of the topic of increasing the Road Commission from a 3-person to a 5-person board. They stressed that they are not against a 5-person board, only the timing of the movement, which was immediately following this past November election.

Bruce Scarboro Redding Township Supervisor and Dan Welhelm Summerfield Township Supervisor spoke out against increasing the Road Commission Board from 3 people to 5 people.

Recess at 10:57 a.m.

Back in session 11:12 a.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Justice Committee

No report

B. Health and Human Services Committee

No report

C. Physical Resources and Economic Development Committee

No Report



April 17, 2019

COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR - continued

D. Finance and Administration Committee

1. Statutory Finance Committee

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Vice Chairperson Pitchford to approve Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of March 26, 2019 in the amount of \$155,193.85 and April 9, 2019 in the amount of \$173,630.88. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

2. Monthly Expenditures

It was moved by Commissioner Haskell, seconded by Commissioner Strouse to approve the expenditures for the month of March 2019 in the amount of \$2,921,268.76 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$1,025,852.82. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

3. Budget Adjustments

It was moved by Commissioner Fitzpatrick, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Budget Adjustment 19-47, 19-48, 19-50, 19-51, 19-53, 19-54, 19-55, 19-56, 19-60, 19-61 and 19-62 in the amount of \$586.63, \$6,612.22, \$4.51, \$2,000.00, \$11,111.00, \$32,000.00, \$47,412.15, \$22,450.00, \$50,000.00, \$49,809.73 and \$2,500.00 to be distributed. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

4. Resolution #19-09

It was moved by Commissioner Hoefling, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Resolution 19-09 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 Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none,

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (7) being Commissioners Hoefling, Majewski, Strouse, Pitchford, Haskell, Fitzpatrick, and Kleinhardt

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion for Resolution Approved

5. Position Change

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Vice Chairperson Pitchford to move Tammy Goodman from Secretary in UAW Unit 1 to Office Manager in UAW Unit 2 effective April 11, 2019. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, Administrator Byard explained the request, which originated from Director Phelps, motion carried.

6. Budget Calendar

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Hoefling to approve the FY 2020 Budget Calendar. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

7. Legal Intervention (Legal Guardian and Conservatorship)

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve the Contract #CT180000001300 amendment #6 with the State of Michigan DHHS increase of \$4980.00 and extend contract expiration date thru September 30, 2020 the, Legal Intervention Agreement. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

 April 17, 2019

CLERK/REGISTER OF DEEDS REPORT

Clerk/Register of Deeds Lori Martin gave an update on the text messaging reminders for payment of fines, costs, and restitution for Circuit Court, it appears to be a success. Deadline to file a proposal for the August 2019 election is May 14, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Clerk/Register Martin brought to the Commissioner's attention the increase in jury trials along the lack of response to being summons to report for jury duty, along with an update on the bidding process for the Register of Deeds software.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzinger reported that her office sent out 6,000 delinquent tax notices, foreclosures are still down at 67 foreclosures. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger handed out revenue trends, as she does each meeting, and fund balance trend 2009 – 2019. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger outlined how the trend of the fund balance continues to decline and ended in a deficit of -\$486,504.00 in FY 2018. She then confirmed that if the Board of Commissioner's leaves the current FY 2019 budget unchanged Clare County will end with a deficit of -\$54,037.00. This is caused by the Board of Commissioners using the fund balance for capital outlay and the departmental revenues being overstated. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger confirmed what she told the Board of Commissioners at the March 20, 2019 meeting, that without the delinquent tax and tax reversion funds being appropriated, the jail revenue, and state revenue sharing, the general fund of the County would not be able to operate. The revenue trend chart shows that Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger has had to give the general fund on average over \$700,000.00 of delinquent tax/tax reverted funds each year over the past 11 years to balance the budget. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger then confirmed with the Board of Commissioners that the purpose for the delinquent tax fund is to buy back all the delinquent taxes from the townships/cities so that all taxing entities, such as the schools, senior services, etc... can operate in their current year. Any extra proceeds the Treasurer has been loaning to the general fund, already this year she has advanced from the delinquent tax fund \$900,000.00 and \$1.5 million of the tax anticipation note on top of appropriating/gifting \$750,000.00 from the tax funds. She uses that tax fund not only to appropriate to the general fund as a gift, but also loans it money to get through until the current tax revenue comes in so as to not have to pay as much interest on the tax anticipation note. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger does not charge interest to the general fund because at this time the general fund is not in a position to pay interest. Commissioner Majewski asked what that money would be used for if not appropriated to the general fund. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger indicated it would be used for projects for the county instead of borrowing money to fund projects. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger asked the Commissioners to re-adjust the budget now so they will not end the fiscal year in a deficit. The Commissioners agreed to do that. The State of Michigan sent a cautionary letter to Administrator Byard two weeks' prior regarding the low percentage of fund balance as a percent of operating revenue. Administrator Byard indicated she has not had time to complete the corrective action plan. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger requested that the Board of Commissioners agree to meet at a budget workshop prior to the regularly scheduled budget meetings. The Board agreed and that meeting was set for May 1, 2019 in the Sherwood Conference Room at the Sheriff's Dept. at 9:00 a.m.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Jack Kleinhardt had nothing to report.

VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Vice Chairperson Samantha Pitchford commented that when the number of employees comes back to be huge it is because we live in different times than we did 10 years ago. It should not come as a surprise.

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April 17, 2019

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Strouse has been attending his meetings and at every meeting the roads are discussed.

Commissioner Majewski confirmed that they fail to plan and recommended the Commissioners review their budget plan and change it, 3-year budget was discussed.

Commissioner Hoefling attended most of his meetings. Summerfield is revenue positive, Road Commission approved a cost sharing agreement with Farwell to fix a bridge, and Greenwood Township celebrated their 145th anniversary.

Commissioner Fitzpartick talked about maybe the Department Heads can get together to discuss what they absolutely need and what they can do without, wants to take a hard look at the purchasing process to make sure the county is getting all their bang for their buck. Arthur Township received enough donations to get their fire protection paid for the year.

Commissioner Haskell reported on two of the big issues in Hayes Township, the deer farm did pass and they have not come to a vote for the gravel pit yet. City of Harrison is going smooth. He would like to get with Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger to learn how the funds work together.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Pirnstill offered his thanks to the Commissioners and Sheriff's Department for the years of helping with the Paula Pirnstill Memorial Health Fair, then invited everyone to come this year also.

Bill Hoefling stated in the private sector there would be an immediate hiring freeze and task the departments with a 10% cut to cure budget issues.

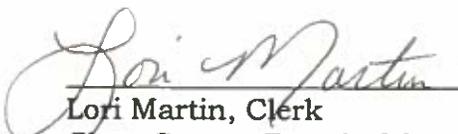
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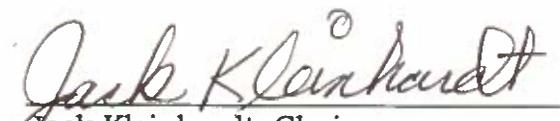
None

NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Kleinhardt asked Sheriff John Wilson to speak about the PREA Grant. Sheriff Wilson indicated that because they have Federal Inmates they have to be PREA compliant. Commissioner Majewski asked where the funds would be pulled from in order to fund the 50% (\$50,000.00) of the grant. Sheriff Wilson offered his commissary account as a last resort. Commissioner Haskell asked to postpone until all the figures can be provided to the Board of Commissioners.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:59 p.m.


Lori Martin, Clerk
Clare County Board of Commissioners


Jack Kleinhardt, Chairperson
Clare County Board of Commissioners