

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

Harrison, Michigan 48625

*John* 7/17/19  
Unapproved minutes  
June 19, 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**

Sheriff John Wilson, Chief Deputy Treasurer Janet Price, Prosecuting Attorney Michelle Ambrozaitis, Bill Simpson, Robert and Vickie Buckley, Liz Bouchey, and Roxanne Nichols

**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 Commissioner Hoefling, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve the Special Board Meeting Workshop Minutes for May 8, 2019. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Haskell, seconded by Commissioner Hoefling to approve the Board of Commissioners Minutes for May 15, 2019. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don Kolander Director of Clare County Parks and Recreation reported the annual fundraiser Friends of Parks and Recreation puts had a fairly good turnout, they were able to donate funds to 4H and the Veterans statue committee. Director Kolander is working on the Master Plan for 2020-2025.

Sherry Spoolman MSUE, there will be a very important delayed planting meeting on June 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Isabella County building.

Bill Simpson was present and wanted the Board of Commissioner's to know he was ashamed how the Road Commission acted at the last meeting.

Alex Schunk, MSUE Coordinator gave an update on the exploration days, camp floater, and day camp coming up this summer along with many other events being offered. They will be starting a youth leadership program that will be fun and educational.

Robert Buckley Hayes Township resident wanted to express his dissatisfaction with the Gypsy Moth spraying, he has gone through all the departments and no one can answer how they determine what areas get sprayed. Much discussion continued about the Gypsy Moth problem.

  
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### **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Majewski stated per Lincoln Township procedures, any time Lincoln Township Board makes amendments to their zoning ordinance change they bring it to the County Board of Commissioners for their approval. Commissioner Majewski handed out the proposed amendments.

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Hoefling to approve the Lincoln Township Zoning Ordinance changes to Articles 2, 8 and 14. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

### **COMMUNICATIONS LIST**

No discussion

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Dawn Raupp, Secretary to Administrator Byard provided the Commissioners with Road Commission options as requested.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Lori Phelps, Community Development Director handed out a request for proposal, and new grant for a multi-year contract. Senior Services offices will be closed on July 5, 2019 for staff training. Director Phelps gave an update on meals provided, hours of in home care, new client count, permits, and electrical inspector.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

1. Roxanne Nichols, Department of Treasury – FY 2018 Audit  
Ms. Nichols handed out the audit binder and started her review of the condition of the county. Commissioner Majewski questioned the significant deficiencies and why is there a repeat every year under preparation of financial statements. Ms. Nichols explained that they, as the auditor, are preparing the financial statements (exhibits A-W) when they should be prepared by county employees. Commissioner Majewski also questioned expenditures in excess of appropriations has been there at least 10 years and a corrective action plan is submitted each year. The County has made improvements since 2017.
2. Malachi Bear, 4-H Youth – 4-H Capitol Experience  
Mr. Bear discussed the leadership abilities, learned about the government, how impactful this experience was for him and his peers. He met a lot of interesting people and learned about their journey to get to where they are.
3. Paul Lapham, County Surveyor – Clare County Remonumentation Program  
Surveyor Lapham gave an update on the Remonumentation program and notified the Board of Commissioners there will be a revised plan drawn up by early 2020.

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve the contract with Lapham Associates for the 2019 Remonumentation Services and approval of the Peer Review Committee consisting of Larry Cavanagh P.S., Jerry Jones P.S., and William Rundell P.S. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, after a brief discussion motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Justice Committee**

**1. Phone Reimbursement**

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Strouse to allow cell phone reimbursement of \$30.00 per month to be paid from the Child Care fund to Laura Delagrang. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

**2. Jury Board Appointment**

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to appoint Charles T. Dorsey to complete the unexpired term of Glenn Freeman- from June 19, 2019 thru April 30, 2021 and appoint Linda Barkell to a 6-year term of May1, 2019 thru April 30, 2025. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

**3. Mutual Aid Agreement**

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Hoefling to allow the signing of the Northern Michigan Mutual Aid Reciprocal Law Enforcement Agreement for the Sheriff's Office. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

**4. Department of Corrections Staff Analysis**

Undersheriff Miedzianowski introduced Larry Abraham from the State of Michigan Department of Corrections who conducted the Corrections Staff Analysis in Clare County. It was determined that the Clare County Jail is operating with an adequate level of employees, more employees would be preferred, but is adequate at this time (bare minimum).

**B. Health and Human Services Committee**

**1. Appointment**

It was moved by Commissioner Haskell, seconded by Commissioner Hoefling to extend Sandra Bristol's appointment on the Region VII Area Agency on Aging's Advisory Council through March 31, 2022. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

**2. Grant Application**

It was moved by Commissioner Fitzpatrick, seconded by Vice Chairperson Pitchford to approve the submission of the Region VII AAA grant application for continues senior services funding in Clare County. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

**C. Physical Resources and Economic Development Committee**

It was moved by Commissioner Hoefling, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve resolution #19-11, Gray Lake level resolution pursuant to MCL 324.30701 et seq

**1.** The Clare County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Clare County Drain Commissioner to incur costs for the maintenance and improvement of Gray Lake.

**2.** Financing of all future maintenance and improvements related to the established lake level for Gray Lake shall be borne by assessing the Gray Lake Special Assessment District (the "Special Assessment District").

**3.** The Board of Commissioners does hereby determine that the whole cost of the project to improve and maintain the established lake level for Gray Lake shall be defrayed by special assessments against privately owned parcels of land, State owned lands that are under the jurisdiction and

**COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR - continued**

control of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and political subdivisions of the State that are benefited by the project in accordance with procedures set forth in Part 307.

4. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as the same may be in conflict herewith are hereby rescinded. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none,

Roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

**Motion for Resolution carried**

**D. Finance and Administration Committee**

**1. Statutory Finance Committee**

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Vice Chairperson Pitchford to approve Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of May 21, 2019 in the amount of \$108,622.26 and June 4, 2019 in the amount of \$128,573.83. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

**2. Monthly Expenditures**

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Strouse to approve the expenditures for the month of May 2019 in the amount of \$2,172,619.39 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$1,176,654.50. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

**3. Budget Adjustments**

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Haskell to approve Budget Adjustment #19-88, 19-95, 19-96, 19-98, 19-102 and 19-110 in the amount of \$9,809.27, \$9,933.00, \$3,114.05, \$15,707.07, \$5,150.00 and \$120,779.00 to be distributed. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

**4. L-4029**

It was moved by Commissioner Haskell, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Notice of Certification of County Allocated Tax Levy, with the Board Chair and Clerk to sign the L-4029 and authorize the spread of tax rolls. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

**CLERK/REGISTER OF DEEDS REPORT**

Clerk/Register of Deeds Lori Martin gave an update on May 2019 election, no August 2019 election, and deadline to file for November 2019 election will be August 13, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Election Commission is looking at 3 recall petitions. Clerk/Register Martin explained her visit to Harrison High School to show the students how to use the voting equipment, and her intent to offer this to all 3 high schools. Clerk/Register Martin held election inspector training and even had 2 students.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzinger was absent, but did provide updated spreadsheets for the Board of Commissioners on their desks.



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**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairperson Jack Kleinhardt reported he has attended his meetings.

**VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Vice Chairperson Samantha Pitchford reported she has attended her meetings.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Majewski attended all his meetings. Hot Dogs and Hot Rods event in Lincoln Township was well attended and raised money for the neighborhood watch program.

Commissioner Strouse attended most of his meetings. Commissioner Strouse also attended the Road Commission meeting.

Commissioner Haskell attended his meetings. City of Harrison has a lot of building projects going on.

Commissioner Fitzpatrick attended most of his meetings. Arthur Township continues to have issues with fire protection and discussion of a petition to stop fire protection. The township did receive enough donations to keep fire protection through the end of the year.

Commissioner Hoefling attended his meetings. Greenwood Township is updating the cemetery ordinance and electrical for pavilion, attended the MAC Regional Summit in Frankenmuth that covered 4 different topics, and the MTA meeting.

**Recess at 10:30 a.m.**

**Back in session 10:42 a.m.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment that doesn't pertain to the Road Commission. Anyone that would like to speak about the Road Commission may raise their hand during the Boards New Business on the Road Commission.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Road Commission Discussion

Commissioner Majewski commented he was appalled by the behavior of the Road Commission when dealing with the constituents. Commissioner Majewski commented on the gutless effort of someone sending information to the Board of Commissioners and not signing the letter. Commissioner Strouse agreed that the packet and letter should have been signed if it wanted to be taken seriously. Commissioner Fitzpatrick commented on the manner the meeting was handled. Commissioner Strouse went over the options the Board of Commissioners have in handling the Road Commission, as provided by county attorney.

Bill Simpson, resident, spoke regarding an independent investigation. Dennis Zimmerman, Lincoln Township Supervisor spoke regarding a number of illegal actions that took place during the meeting. Terry Acton, Hayes Township Supervisor commented that the public is only hearing from 3 Commissioners and thinks the public would like to hear from the other 4 Commissioner's that are staying silent. Chairperson Kleinhardt commented about the attorney being in charge of the Road Commission meeting. Al Housler, Freeman Township Supervisor talked about the FOAI request that has been met with resistance. Commissioner Fitzpatrick pointed out the Board of Commissioners are limited in what they can do.



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**NEW BUSINESS - continued**

Commissioner Haskell wondered if the Road Commissioners are replaced or dissolved would that change anything. Commissioner Hoefling would like more information from the Road Commission before making a decision and requested a meeting with the Road Commission, the meeting was scheduled for June 26, 2019. Vickie Buckley, resident, gave complaint about the Road Commission. Liz Bouchey, a business owner, agreed with Commissioner Hoefling, but was worried about being directly affected if the Road Commission didn't like what she had to say. Chairperson Kleinhardt struggles with what the right decision would be. Commissioner Strouse talked about the compensation of the Road Commission. Vice Chairperson Pitchford's husband works at the Road Commission and had a problem years ago under different Commissioners and because of previous harassment after speaking up against the Road Commission she will be abstaining from all discussion and votes.

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Haskell to start the process of reviewing having the Road Commission under the Board of Commissioners. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, after a great deal more discussion roll call vote revealed

Roll call vote revealed:

Yeas: (6) being Commissioners Majewski, Haskell, Hoefling, Strouse, Fitzpatrick, and Kleinhardt

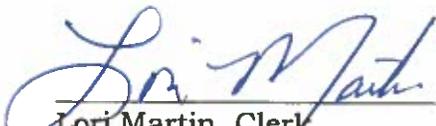
Nays: (0)

Abstained: (1) Vice Chairperson Pitchford

Absent: (0)

**Motion carried**

Meeting Adjourned at 11:50 a.m.



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Lori Martin, Clerk  
Clare County Board of Commissioners



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Jack Kleinhardt, Chairperson  
Clare County Board of Commissioners