

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

Harrison, Michigan 48625

Jm 8/21/19
Unapproved minutes
July 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

Robert and Vickie Buckley, William and Cindy Hoefling, Valerie Kusiak, and Dan Dysinger Grant Township

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Vice Chairperson Pitchford, to approve the agenda after striking off Resolution #19-13 under Justice Committee. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve the Board of Commissioners Minutes for June 19, 2019. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Haskell, seconded by Commissioner Fitzpatrick to approve the Special Budget Board of Commissioners Minutes for July 10, 2019. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried

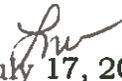
GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Dysinger, Grant Township Supervisor made comment regarding the proposed Sheriff's Dept. millage and suggested the Commissioners talk about this with their local townships while they are at the meetings.

Don Kolander was present to give a quick overview of what is going on with Friends of Clare County Parks of Recreation, they partnered with 4-H for their Forestry Camp, they received a grant for \$5,000.00, and are working on a couple other grants. The Friends of Parks and Recreation is strong. Michelle Ambrozaitis, Prosecuting Attorney, questioned who all these funds came from the County or Friends of Parks and Recreation. Mr. Kolander confirmed he was reporting from the Friends of Parks and Recreation and not Clare County Parks and Recreation.

Terry Acton, Hayes Township Supervisor requested the Board of Commissioners look again at the Gypsy Moth problem, it seems to be increasing. Melissa Townsend of the Conservation District commented on the future of the spraying program and the increase in cost.

Nick Madji, Co-Assistant Court Administrator and Kate Warner, Program Manager for Clare and Isabella County DHHS was here to get an amendment of the child care fund approved by the Board of Commissioners to their current contract. The amendment could add \$80,000.00 to the current budget and \$100,000.00 to next year's budget.


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GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Haskell, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve the amendment of the DHHS Budget Summary for the Child Care Fund contract to be submitted to the State. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, Ms. Warner stated they have two high needs children that will require 24 hour one on one care in an institution, this is not something that could have been anticipated. Administrator Byard confirmed the Board does not have a choice, they must approve it. Ms. Warner stated that there is no other placement for children. Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Eilisia Schwarz disputed that statement saying there is a "non-offending" father in another state that wants his children and is willing to take on the care and cost of treatment for the children and Clare County Department of Health and Human Services will not allow the children to be placed with their father. Motion carried.

Alex Schunk from MSUE and 4H exchange introduced Jennifer, Junior Ambassador and Camilla from Norway. Update on fair week, youth council, Jennifer spoke about "Fun at Four" and the different activities they participate in and it is free to everyone and open to the public. Ms. Schunk invited everyone to Goat yoga with elected officials at the Clare County Fair. They are also looking at starting a youth leadership counsel.

Maggie Meeske, AmeriCorps 4H Spin Club Coordinator spoke about the many skills the kids are learning, CPR, babysitting, personal skills, life skills, healthy eating habits, child development stages, and business skill. They participated in a baby pantry diaper drive and collected a great deal of diapers and clothes.

Pat Adams, Vice President of South Cranberry Lake Homeowners Association stated they have a home infested with cockroaches and is looking for help. The Township does not have an ordinance and the Sheriff's Dept. can't help either. The cockroaches have infested from that house into 3 neighboring houses. The Board of Commissioners offered suggestions, but could not help at this time.

Karl Houser, Veteran's Affairs Director announced he is holding a Veterans Coffee Hour monthly and invites all to attend so all veterans can ask questions.

Recess at 10:21 a.m.

Back in Session at 10:33 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Jennifer Martin, 44 North, Renewal Review.

Ms. Martin gave an overview of the 11% reduction in cost in healthcare and gave two options of coverage the Board of Commissioners can choose from.

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Vice Chairperson Pitchford to approve the hard-cap. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski seconded by Commissioner Strouse to renew the medical "as is". Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Fitzpatrick to switch vision from VSP to EyeMed effective October 1, 2019. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

There was discussion on how often the Board wants 44 North here to discuss rates and options. Commissioner Majewski requested quarterly updates.

COMMUNICATIONS LIST

No discussion

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Byard has been meeting with 44 North, email was sent to Department Heads to roll back to the 2017 budget, Union negotiations are underway with the Courts, and she has been working on the budget.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

Absent – no report

COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Health and Human Services Committee

1. Resolution #19-12

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Resolution #19-12, Urging compliance with the plain language of MCL 35.623a, and calls upon the State Legislature and the Governor to fully fund the County Veterans Service Fund Grant in FY 2020 and beyond, Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none

Roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion for Resolution carried

B. Physical Resources and Economic Development Committee

1. Soul Erosion & Sedimentation

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Strouse to approve the contract with Clare Conservation District for Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Service Agreement through September 30, 2020. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, there was discussion on how to budget for this agreement, motion carried.

2. Agreement between Clare county and Townships

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Pitchford, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve a contract for services through Clare County Equalization Department and Townships to provide assessment and tax preparation services to the Township under terms and conditions as set forth. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

C. Finance and Administration Committee

1. Statutory Finance Committee

It was moved by Commissioner Haskell, seconded by Vice Chairperson Pitchford to approve Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of June 18, 2019 in the amount of \$72,026.15 and July 1, 2019 in the amount of \$72,136.80. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

2. Monthly Expenditures

It was moved by Commissioner Fitzpatrick, seconded by Vice Chairperson Pitchford to approve the expenditures for the month of June 2019 in the amount of \$1,885,140.36 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$880,815.70. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR - continued

3. Budget Adjustments

It was moved by Commissioner Hoefling, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Budget Adjustment #19-119, 19-121, 19-124, 19-125 and 19-129 in the amount of \$95,590.00, \$35,204.00, \$21,865.00, \$36,564.00 and \$109,524.00. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

4. Finance Committee Dates

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve moving the Finance Meeting Dates from every other Tuesday to every other Monday, starting July 29, 2019. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

5. MERS Annual Meeting

It was moved by Commissioner Majewski, seconded by Vice Chairperson Pitchford to appoint David Hoefling as the delegate and Tracy Byard as the alternate to represent Clare County at the MERS Annual Meeting of Delegation to be held in Grand Rapids on October 3 & 4, 2019. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for discussion, hearing none motion carried.

CLERK/REGISTER OF DEEDS REPORT

Clerk/Register of Deeds Lori Martin gave an update on the collections program in her Circuit Court. At the end of the FY2019 3rd quarter our collections are more than double than just 2 years ago. Reminder deadline to file for November Election is August 13, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Clerk/Register Martin discussed the proposed State takeover of the Trial Courts and also pointed out that the Trail Court Funding Committee addressed many things, but at no point did they say how this would be paid for, they will figure that out later. Also pointing out that research regarding other state-funded court systems has shown that state funding creates a culture of complacency that tolerates delay. In Michigan, public school funding is an excellent example of this reality.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzinger gave a reminder that the first land auction will be August 15, 2019 in Clare at the Doherty Hotel and they have 67 parcels (down from previous years). The FY2019 budget is still -\$187,000.00 and the fund balance is still under 8%. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger urged the Board of Commissioners to hold more than 1 meeting a month in order to be updated more frequently on the budget, no action was taken.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Jack Kleinhardt had nothing to report.

VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Vice Chairperson Samantha Pitchford reported there has been talk about an increase for the Clare County Transit.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Majewski attended his meetings. The Health Department may have a refund of \$14,000.00 to the County. Commissioner Majewski stated the talk at all his townships has been Road Commission and the public supports the County Board of Commissioners to take over the Road Commission. Commissioner Fitzpatrick asked for clarification of what would change for the Board of Commissioners if they took it over.

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COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - continued

Commissioner Haskell spoke about the Michigan Works Job Fair, Splash Park in the City of Harrison and the loss of their general contractor, he will not answer their calls also spoke about the gypsy moth issue growing.

Commissioner Fitzpatrick agrees there is a push in his townships for the County to take over the Road Commission. Arthur Township passed a special assessment for fire protection and will begin collection at the first of the year.

Commissioner Hoefling has attended his meetings, Greenwood Township will be having a recycling day and they are concerned about gypsy moths, Winterfield Township is reviewing their master plan for their Planning Commission, Frost Township having issues with cemetery and may fence it in. Frost Township seems to be against a Road Commission take over by the County, and the Road Commission meeting ran smoothly.

Commissioner Strouse Grant Township wants to get the Road Commission issue settled, Sheridan Township had a lot of discussion regarding the roads.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

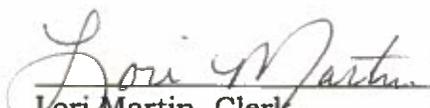
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

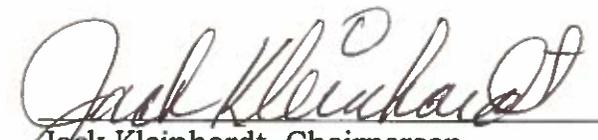
NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion – Meal and Room Rates
Clerk/Register of Deeds Martin asked the Board of Commissioners to consider increasing their policy amounts for hotel room rates by \$20.00 and lunch and dinner rates by \$5.00 each. Room rates are near or above \$150.00 per room and food costs are almost always above the allotted amount. Clerk/Register of Deeds Martin does not want the travel and expense amounts to be increased, only policy changed. Chairperson Kleinhardt asked for that to be put on the next budget meeting agenda.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:03 p.m.



Lori Martin, Clerk
Clare County Board of Commissioners



Jack Kleinhardt, Chairperson
Clare County Board of Commissioners