

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

4/20/16
Unapproved Minutes
Page One

Harrison, Michigan 48625
March 22, 2016

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: Donald David, District 6: Karen Lipovsky, District 7: Jim Gelios

Absent: None

Others Present, Signing In: Sheryl Presler and Kim Kennicott

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Donald David, to approve the agenda as provided. Motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Sheryl Presler, Superintendent of Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District appeared before the Board to discuss the 1 mil for ten year bond proposal request that will be on the up-coming May ballot. She said that the requested money, if the proposal passes, will help provide upgrades to existing programs and establish new programs that are needed. She noted that they are struggling to keep CTE (Career & Technical Education) Programs strong. Ms. Presler went on to explain that they currently have seven different programs of education that include Automotive Technology, Health Occupations, Education Occupations, Digital Media, Culinary Arts, Criminal Justice and Construction Trades. The welding program, a much needed program, had been eliminated. That is one program that they would like to bring back. She also stated that they are hearing from the agricultural residents in the area that many are retiring and there is a need for education in this field as well. Local schools are also requesting business education classes as many of these have been cut from the local school programs. Career and Technical Education demands are high and the plans for upgrades if the millage passes will help local student to compete for jobs within the region. If the millage fails, additional classes will likely be cut.

PHYSICAL RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Terry Acton, Hayes Township Supervisor appeared to plead his case and expressed his desire for a tri-entity municipal partnership between the County, the City of Harrison and Hayes Township for an Airport Authority Board. He stressed that the closing of the airport would put a hole in the area and create an eyesore that no one would be happy with.

He indicated that his first choice would be a plan with county involvement and that the undertaking of the project did not require large sums of money. With the \$7,000 already there and what he suggested would be an additional \$10,000 from the county and \$5,000 each from the two other entities involved, City of Harrison and Hayes Township, there should be money to sustain the airport and that the partnership could make them eligible for grant funding or low interest long term government loans. Connie Couchi, representing City of Harrison, also voiced her opinion in support of the suggested Authority Board.

Commissioner Majewski asked how the airport benefits the rest of Clare County residents. Commissioner David indicated that he had done some research and stated that the airport dated back to 1948 when it was first purchased. He stated that in review of the deed it was found that the airport could be leased to anyone, not only a governmental entity, as long as it remained an airport. Commissioner David pointed out that as an option, the County could also petition the state and ask that the land be turned over to the county. Many other items of interest and concern were expressed.

It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse to enter into an agreement with Hayes Township and City of Harrison to form the Airport Authority, as per the agreement, with financial terms to be worked out for a three year period from time of inception. Motion carried.

JUSTICE

Undersheriff Dwayne Miedzianowski appeared to review the lease options outlined at the previous meeting and to discuss the options and respond to questions. He noted that these were originally called lease options and should be called financial agreements. Discussion followed with the following motion offered.

It was moved by Commissioner Donald David, seconded by Commissioner Jim Gelios, to approve the Sheriff Department to enter into a finance and purchase program for nine patrol units in the amount of \$123,100.00 annually for three years and a total cost of not more than \$349, 605.00 with no mileage penalty with lease payments to begin after October 1, 2016 and with attorney review and approval of the agreement. The Sheriff Department may take immediate possession of the vehicles. Motion carried.

JUSTICE-CONTINUED

An amended motion was offered by Commissioner David, seconded by Commissioner Gelios, to correct the monetary figures presented. \$123,100.00 annually for three years equals \$369,300.00 not \$349,605.00. Motion carried.

Chairperson Kleinhardt took a moment to comment on the aging U.S. population with 10,000 individuals turning 65 a day. The Affordable Care Act, Social Security and other social programs will be stressed as this trend continues. With the federal government in debt and the State just keeping above water and the many financial needs to keep programs afloat, storm clouds are overhead. An ability to raise money is limited and State funding is likely to shrink.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-NONE

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Leonard Strouse, to approve Budget Adjustment #16-45 in the amount of \$806.00. Motion carried.

Clerk/Register Pamela Mayfield once again outlined a need for additional staffing within the office to cover staff shortages in circuit court and a need for a Chief Deputy Register. She highlighted the same items as the discussion at the prior meeting stating that there was clearly a staff shortage to cover the various mandated function within the office. She also stressed that the state is adding new responsibilities routinely calling attention to the recent law changes with concealed pistol permits and additional court functions.

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Donald David, to promote a part-time person to full time and hire a chief deputy with reevaluation at budget time and money to come from contingency based on needs with the Clerk to look at dedicated revenue within the office to offset the additional costs. Motion carried.

Recess: 10:33 a.m.
Resumed: 10:43 a.m.

A discussion took place on a handout detailing an Administrative Orders from the Michigan Supreme Court titled "Unscheduled Court Closing Due to Weather Emergencies" and of the expected procedures. Based on the information contained within, policy was not followed and the courts are not in compliance. Court employees did not report to work, at the direction of the Judge, while others complied with Board policy and were present at work. Non-court employees not at work were required to take a personal or vacation day. It was suggested that policy needs to be consistent to be fair to all. A decision was made, not to close, that was known and that should have been the final say. Use of time clocks came under discussion once again with Administrator Byard already looking into this.

Continuation of the I.T. Committee discussion took place with many commenting and questioning the original formation of the committee. Commissioner David was adamant that the committee formed was to evaluate the transition from the Sheriff's Department back to the Administrator. Chairperson Kleinhardt was in agreement stating that he did believe that was the original intent, that the present committee is the review committee for the management change. Commissioner David suggested that people from outside the county be brought in to be a part of the committee, experts in the field. Several names were suggested. Chairperson Kleinhardt made a suggestion that at the next meeting a new Board would be appointed. Chairperson Kleinhardt suggested maybe several Board members should sit on the committee. Commissioner Gelios stated that he preferred to be removed from the committee and Commissioner Majewski agreed to the spot. Commissioner Strouse inquired about current members with Administrator Byard identifying that she was a member, I.T., Jerry Becker, Undersheriff Miedzianowski, and Michelle Ambrozaitis.

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky to form a committee of seven member to review the efficiencies and progress of the I.T. group with review of Admin handling by the Commissioners.

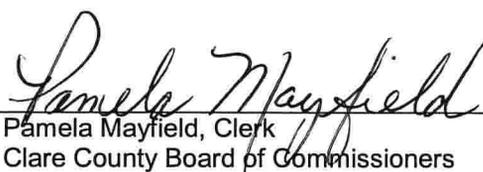
It was moved by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Samantha Pitchford, to replace a part-time kennel employee. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.


Pamela Mayfield, Clerk
Clare County Board of Commissioners


Jack Kleinhardt, Chairman
Clare County Board of Commissioners