

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

Harrison, Michigan 48625
April 27, 2016

5/10/16 pm
~~Un~~approved Minutes
Page One

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: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Samantha Pitchford, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT-NONE

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Roxanne Nicholas, State Auditor appeared before the Board to present the 2015 Audit and provided a financial overview and an unmodified opinion of the FY2015 Audit. She called attention to page 1, the narrative overview of the audit and then dissected various portions of the report apprising the Board of areas of importance.

An in-depth discussion took place regarding the underfunding of the Michigan Employee Retirement System plan for the county and how to reduce the deficit. C/Lipovsky asked about the report findings provided to Grand Traverse County by the Treasury Budget Director to reduce or eliminate their deficit to MERS. The items noted below were suggested as options available to eliminate or reduce unfunded MERS actuarial liability.

1. Pursue bridge down benefit plan options with MERS to employees
2. Increase the employee contribution rate to MERS
3. Increase the employer contributions to MERS beyond that which is required by MERS
4. Offer hybrid plan options
5. Issue municipal securities pension obligation bonds pursuant to Public Act 34

Recess at 10:13 a.m.

Reconvene at 10:32 a.m.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

It was moved by Commissioner Dale Majewski, seconded by Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, to approve a contract for Services through Clare County Equalization Department and Surrey Township for assessment and tax preparation services. Motion Carried.

It was moved Commissioner Karen Lipovsky, seconded by Commissioner Donald David to adopt resolution #16-12, A Five Year Deficit Reduction Plan for the Veteran's Department to repay \$32,000.00 each year to eliminate the Veterans Department obligation to the county.

Roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Resolution adopted.

A round-robin style discussion took place with comments being heard from all about the up-coming budget year and how to reduce the obligation to MERS. A special meeting with MERS present was discussed. Available dates were reviewed and it was determined that a MERS representative would meet with Board members at 2:00 p.m. on May 19th and meet with employees at 4:45 p.m. on that same date.

Meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.



Pamela Mayfield, Clerk
Clare County Board of Commissioners



Jack Kleinhardt, Chairman
Clare County Board of Commissioners