

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

9/20/17

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**Unapproved Minutes  
August 16, 2017**

**Harrison, Michigan 48625**

**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: Sandra Bristol, District 6: Karen Lipovsky, District 7: Jim Gelios

**Absent: None**

**Others Present, Signing In:** Don Kolander of Clare County Parks and Recreation, Marty Johnson, Jason Wentworth 97<sup>th</sup> District State Representative, Lisa Ashley of Recovery Court, Genine Hayden, and Robert VanDenbrook.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Commissioner Strouse, seconded by Commissioner Gelios, to approve the Minutes of the July 19, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Kleinhardt, seconded by Commissioner Pitchford, to approve the Closed Session Minutes of the July 19, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Commissioner Gelios, seconded by Commissioner Strouse, to approve the agenda with additions. Motion carried.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Marty Johnson spoke about the upcoming events in Harrison and Clare and encouraged everyone to attend.

Lisa Ashley from Recovery Court asked once again for the Commissioners to encourage their districts to wait before making a decision on the marijuana initiative until guidelines are put in place.

Alex and Michelle from MSUE (Michigan State University Extension), addressed the board regarding 4H and the horse program regarding the email that was wrote to the Board of Commissioners at the last meeting. Michelle Neff also spoke about the YAC (Youth Action Council)

Jason Wentworth spoke about the Mental Health Task Force and invited everyone to attend on 8-21-17. During the last session the House passed legislation to increase transparency amongst the State Reps, State Senate, Governor and Lt. Governor's offices. That is sitting in the Senate and he encouraged everyone to make a call to their State Senator Judy Emmons and ask her to pass the bill.

**Resolution #17-18**

Moved by Commissioner Bristol and Seconded by Commissioner Kleinhardt to create and sign a resolution that states the Clare County Board of Commissioners send a letter to Senator Emmons encouraging her to pass the transparency bill through the Senate as soon as possible. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none there was a roll call vote.

Roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Resolution adopted

**COMMUNICATIONS LIST**

Beckett & Reader - City of Harrison Master Plan - No discussion

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Tracy Byard was absent.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

John Obermesik, Executive Director CMHCM (Community Mental Health of Central Michigan) and Craig Derror, Program Director of Clare County presented the Annual Report and the vision of where CMHCM is heading in Clare County.

Don Kolander, Director of Clare County Parks and Recreation gave his quarterly report. Annual picnic was a success at Shingle Lake. Just finished up the Water Wheels fundraiser selling all 500 raffle tickets. Events coming up are hikes at Neithercut, Harrison Street Fair run/walk, and star gazing. Halloween party at Lions Building on Halloween. Community Connection on August 22, 2017 at the Lions Building. Received a grant for 2 Eagle Scout projects. The Clare Gap project has been approved for 2020.

Genine Hayden an instructor at MMCC (Mid-Michigan Community College) and Robert Vandenbrook spoke about Moving Clare County Forward and taking our destiny into our own hands. They gave county data, which included school performances being Clare (overall 68<sup>th</sup> percentile), Harrison (overall bottom 13<sup>th</sup> percentile) and Farwell (overall bottom 33<sup>rd</sup> percentile). They also spoke on improvements, employment, and good wages. Clare County can be a leader in development of industrywide standard improvements.

Debbie Hoyt, Hayes Township Clerk spoke of the DNR purchase of property (Clark Memorial Park). All funds received for the sale of the park would go directly to the State of Michigan, the State of Michigan would then use the funds to purchase other land, some from Clare County, for park use.

Moved by Commissioner Gelios and Seconded by Commissioner Kleinhardt to allow the DNR to purchase the property (9 acres) from Clare County, at a fair market price. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

Recess: 10:40 a.m.

Back in session: 10:51 a.m.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT**

Director Ware was absent.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Justice Committee**

Facility Emergency/Bomb Threat Plan

Moved by Commissioner Strouse and Seconded by Commissioner Gelios to approve the updated Facility Emergency/ Bomb Threat Plan. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

**Grant Agreement**

Moved by Commissioner Gelios and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Animal Control accept a Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 to spay and neuter animals in Clare County Animal Shelter's care, with the Board of Commissioner Chair to sign the agreement.. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

**Resolution**

Moved by Commissioner Kleinhardt and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to adopt Resolution #17-17 Supporting House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 as introduced and opposing any amendments to HB 4651 and Senate Bill 400 which include any additional State of Michigan taxes on telephone service customers under the guise of 9-1-1 surcharge. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Undersheriff Miedzianowski introduced Marlana Terrian, 9-1-1 Director. Director Terrian explained that prepaid phones are not charged the 9-1-1 surcharge and there are no regulations in place to confirm the amount the phone companies are turning over is what was actually collected. This would give the State the authority to put checks and balances in place for that issue and to begin to collect the 9-1-1 surcharge on prepaid phones. Roll call vote taken.

Roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Resolution adopted

**Contract with Lincoln Township**

Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Pitchford to allow the Sheriff's Department to enter into a contract with Lincoln Township for Additional Law Enforcement Services. For the year inclusive of September 1, 2017 thru August 31, 2018 the monthly rate shall not exceed \$9,000.00 per month. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

**Health and Human Services Committee - None**

**Physical Resources and Economic Development Committee - None**

**Finance and Administration Committee**

**Statutory Finance Committee**

It was moved by Commissioner Pitchford and seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of July 18, 2017 in the amount of \$127,501.84 and August 1, 2017 in the amount of \$34,279.13. Motion carried.

**Monthly Expenditures**

Moved by Commissioner Bristol and seconded by Commissioner Strouse to approve the expenditures for the month of July 2017 in the amount of \$1,729,148.07 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$717,845.09. Motion carried.

**Budget Adjustments**

Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve Budget Adjustment #17- 166, 17-169, 17-170, 17-171, 17-172, 17-173 & \*17-179 in the amount of \$1,701.98, \$36,000.00, \$400.00, \$1,200.00, \$350.00, \$2,530.00 & \*\$9,000.00 to be distributed. Motion carried.

**CLERK/REGISTER OF DEED'S REPORT**

Clerk/Register of Deeds Lori Martin reported on the continued process of implementing the new election equipment and the upcoming trainings. Clerk/Register Martin also confirmed the only election for November 2017 will be for the City of Clare.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzinger spoke about the land auction coming up, she is still working on local board of review adjustments, and the penal fine monies held in escrow. Treasurer Beemer-Fritzinger is working on the adjustments for the 2017 budget.

**CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

Chairperson Lipovsky attended her meetings. She had a question from Frost Township regarding using gypsy moth money to try and help with the oak wilt problem. Chairperson Lipovsky asked Clerk Martin to check into it.

**VICE CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

Vice Chairperson Kleinhardt spoke about the budget coming up and CMCMH.

**COMMISSIONER REPORT**

Commissioner Majewski attended all his meetings. Commissioner Majewski spoke about scammer phone calls that have a caller ID of Lincoln Township Fire Department. Beware when you get calls like that even if you recognize the phone number. There seems to be a trend with the townships suspending blight and zoning ordinances because the cost of enforcement of these ordinances.

Commissioner Bristol has been attending her township meetings. Franklin Township is discussing roads. Hamilton Township has an injection well situation. Sheridan Township is still having a problem with the Amish Store. Arthur Township was thrilled to get 3 complements on the road commission and the road work there.

Commissioner Pitchford has been attending her meetings. Attorney Todd Levitt out of Mt. Pleasant is the one pushing for medical marijuana. Rod Williams is advising the Surrey Township and the Village of Farwell to just wait until the rules and regulations come down before making any decisions.

Commissioner Gelios has been attending his meetings. Harrison Street Fair is next weekend. Hayes Township is rewriting codes and how they are going to enforce blight. We need to consider the reduction coming down from State of 2 billion dollars in just over 4 years. He did some research on Colorado after hearing Lisa Ashley from Michigan State Health Network and found these statistics: Colorado has more marijuana factories than Starbucks and McDonalds combined, there has been an increase from 2007 – 2015 of over 40 organized crime offences, and from 2006-2012 the medical marijuana card holders increased from 1,000 to over 108,000.

Commissioner Strouse has been attending his meetings except Sheridan. Grant Township is discussing the truck route issues. Clare store is still having a parking issue, but hopefully the parallel parking signs will help.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**

**UNFINISHED BUSINES**

There has been a man going around to houses looking around in Franklin and Hamilton Townships driving around in a black truck with magnets signs on it saying something about being from the Township and he checks the place out to come back and rob it.

**NEW BUSINESS - None**

Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to go into closed session for Union negotiations at 11:48 a.m. Motion carried.

*AW*  
August 16, 2017

Regular meeting back in session at 12:10 p.m.

Chairperson Lipovsky stated the Undersheriff Miedzianowski has ordered the transport vans that were approved at prior meetings. Commissioner Gelios and Commissioner Kleinhardt talked about the commissary funds and what that money is required to be used for. Commissioner Strouse would like to see the actual figures of the money being made on rental beds for federal prisoners. Commissioner Kleinhardt suggested hiring Maximus to analyze the different departments and how the budgeted funds are spent and what areas the funds that are taken in come from. Chairperson Lipovsky stated Administrator Byard would find out how much such a study would cost. Commissioner Majewski asked for a breakdown of the figures taken in from rental inmates and costs going out for rentals years ago and was never provided to the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

*Lori Martin*  
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Lori Martin, Clerk  
Clare County Board of Commissioners

*Karen Lipovsky*  
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Karen Lipovsky, Chairperson  
Clare County Board of Commissioners