

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

*Sm* 9/20/17

**Harrison, Michigan 48625**

**Unapproved Minutes  
September 7, 2017**

**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:** Lisa Ashley

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lisa Ashley from Clare Gladwin Recovery Court gave a report that the grant from the Supreme Court Administration was approved in the amount of \$90,000.00, which is \$10,000.00 more than years past. This will enable them to hire a part time case manager to assist with data entry.

**NEW BUSINESS**

District Court – Employee Replacement Request

Dr. Karen Moore and the Honorable Joshua Farrell presented the annual report from the State Court Administrator, they have reached and exceeded many state and regional averages. Judge Farrell also asked the Board to support the replacement of one full time employee that transferred to his District Court in Gladwin County. Moved by Commissioner Strouse and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to allow Judge Farrell to replace the existing budgeted for employee. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

**2018 BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Administrator Byard presented a copy of the most updated balanced budget without use of fund balance. There was discussion regarding the final balanced budget amount, which differed from the agreed upon budget amount, and where the additional funds came from. Much discussion ensued regarding approving a budget that is half a million over the targeted budget amount, and possibly reviewing the budget on a quarterly basis to see if cuts need to be made. Commissioner Kleinhardt and Commissioner Gelios both expressed concern regarding looking ahead and being prepared for reductions in State funding and paying on MERS deficit. Commissioner Strouse would like to see a net figure on federal rentals. Undersheriff Miedzianowski stated that is in the 636 budget line.

Michelle Neff announced the sad news that Al Hudson passed away.

Recess: 10:06 a.m.

Back in session: 10:13 a.m.

Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Pitchford to approve the Sheriff's Department replace the vacant deputy position at an entry level scale. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

IT Director Jim Schuster reminded the Board of Commissioners they compromised last year by hiring Josh Chapman through Kelly Services and then relook at the situation later. Director Schuster requested that the Board allow him to forego his raise in an effort to bring Josh Chapman on as a full time IT employee. After a great deal of discussion it was moved by Commissioner Pitchford and Seconded by Commissioner Strouse to allow the IT Director to hire Josh Chapman as full time Clare County employee at \$15.00 per hour with full benefits effective October 1, 2017. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing nothing further motion carried.

  
September 7, 2017

**2018 BUDGET DISCUSSION - continued**

Prosecuting Attorney Michelle Ambrozaitis reported she will be receiving an unexpected increase of an additional \$100,000.00 over the term of the contract with DHHS for child neglect and abuse cases. Unfortunately the increase is to support the rise in these types of cases.

Prosecutor Ambrozaitis also announced that her Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney has taken a position elsewhere and would appreciate the Board of Commissioners approve her to hire Elishia Swartz to fill that position. Moved by Commissioner Gelios and Seconded by Commissioner Strouse to approve the Prosecutor to fill the Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney position. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS - continued**

Resolution #17-19

Moved by Commissioner Strouse and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to oppose the passage and enactment of Senate Bill 386 of 2017 by resolution. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none roll call vote:

Roll call vote revealed:

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

Nays: (0)

Absent: (0)

Resolution adopted

**Scanning Solution Program**

Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to approve and amend the contract with MOS to include a scanning solution program that securely stores documents, this will allow Community Services and the Clerk's office to go paperless. To be paid from existing funds (can add other departments as needed). Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Administrator Byard read and email from Community Services Director Lori Ware. Motion carried.

**Budget Adjustments**

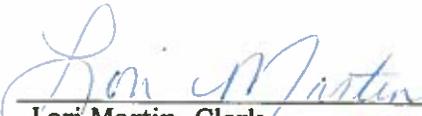
Moved by Commissioner Bristol and Seconded by Commissioner Majewski to approve Budget Adjustment #17-183, #17-186, #17-190, #17-191, #17-192 in the amount of \$6,666.16, \$8,000.00, \$58,317.00, \$25,971.00 & \$23,400.00 respectively.. Chairperson Lipovsky asked for discussion. Hearing none motion carried.

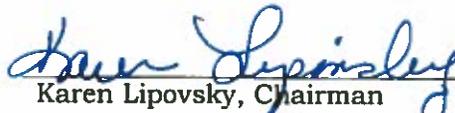
Moved by Commissioner Majewski and Seconded by Commissioner Bristol to go into closed session for union negotiations and attorney-client privilege at 10:43 a.m. Motion carried.

Regular meeting back in session at 11:32 a.m.

Commissioner Gelios announced that Waste Management is having a customer appreciation day for lunch on 9-8-17 from 10:00 - 3:00.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

  
Lori Martin, Clerk  
Clare County Board of Commissioners

  
Karen Lipovsky, Chairman  
Clare County Board of Commissioners