

**May 12, 2020, Regular Board Meeting**

**T-486**

On Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 4:00 p.m., Vice-Chair Sharon Leonoff called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Upstairs Courtroom A of the Courthouse. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Vice-Chair Sharon Leonoff, Commissioners Tim Aho and Ray Coates. Absent: Chairperson Patti Peretto and Commissioner Mike Stafford.

Also present: Prosecuting Attorney Melissa Powell, Sheriff Mark Valesano, Judge Donald S. Powell, Administrative Assistants Lynette Lorenz and Mary Dalpra, Emergency Manager/911 Director Vernon Jones, Friend of the Court Heidi VanSlooten, Pentoga Park Manager Chris West, Drain Commissioner Bill Cassagranda, Fair Board Member Dave Frailing, Fair Association Treasurer Carrie Nelson, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti and Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle.

Moved by Coates, supported by Aho, to approve the April 14, 2020, Regular Meeting minutes and the April 17, 2020, Special Meeting minutes. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Leonoff, to approve the agenda with the addition under “New Business c. Appointment to the Iron County Jury Board”. Voice vote, motion carried.

Leonoff called for Public Comment three times with no comments voiced.

Moved by Aho, supported by Leonoff, to table the approval of the monthly payables, payroll, journal entries and administratively authorized budget amendments until the June Regular Board meeting due to the absence of the Finance Chair, Mike Stafford. Voice vote, motion carried.

**Commissioner Reports:**

Aho: no report at this time.

Coates: no report at this time.

Leonoff: no report at this time.

Stafford: absent.

Peretto: absent.

**Department Reports:**

Emergency Manager/911 Director Jones said the number of Covid-19 cases are low in the U.P. but supplies are trickling in with the bulk of the supplies going downstate. He also stated that Central Dispatch is looking at the same medical dispatch system for the CAD as Marquette County has and that they have a mini-grant through Enbridge they will use toward that system.

Dave Frailing stated that there is a Fair Board meeting on May 28, 2020, and they will decide then if there is going to be a fair this year. They will still have the raffle and the cattle and hog auction, even if there is no fair.

Prosecutor Powell stated she is calling Kathleen Gill and Sara Starr back to work. They were both on lay-off.

Tinti reported on the status of the manpower pension liability lawsuit and that there is a supplemental pretrial conference scheduled for October 1, 2020. He also said that we shouldn't count on any Lansing money to solve local issues.

VanSlooten gave a report on the money collected for recipients for child support.

Sheriff Valesano gave an update on the orv and marine grants. He also stated that they rely on grants for patrol vehicles but because of the Covid-19 Pandemic that is on hold right now. He also said that they have been awarded a \$7,000 grant that they will use for radios, etc. He also said the National Guard is testing prison inmates and they offered to test inmates and workers in our jail. We thought it would be best to have the National Guard train our nurse to do the testing in our jail. It's a good thing to have, especially when our courts open up.

Gerald Williams from the Veteran's Service office spoke via Zoom. He gave a report on the VA expenditures and benefits. He also stated that the number of veterans in Iron County has been reduced due to the older ones passing away.

Drain Commissioner Bill Cassagranda commended Tom Clark for the shape of the dams. Mr. Cassagranda thanked the board for his position and stated that he is using his short tenure to get the dams and lake levels into good condition before turning it over to the Road Commission.

Tinti talked about the budget and the realization that we will have significant revenue shortfalls and the impact it will have on our operations due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Moved by Coates, supported by Aho, to approve the Commissioner Reports and the Department Head Reports. Voice vote, motion carried.

**Old Business:**

Moved by Aho, supported by Leonoff, to table The Rules of Order Amendments until we have the full board present. Voice vote, motion carried.

After lengthy discussion regarding the Public Defender Agreements, it was moved by Coates, supported by Aho, to table this and take a hard look at it. Voice vote, motion carried.

**New Business:**

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to approve the Iron County Youth Camp hourly rates for 2020 as presented. Voice vote, motion carried.

The Pentoga Park well upgrade was discussed. No action was needed.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to accept the resignation of Mark Selmo from the jury board, effective immediately, and appoint, based on the recommendation of Judge Powell, Anthony Clements to serve on the Iron County Jury Board for a term that expires on April 20, 2025. Voice vote, motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Vice-Chair Leonoff called for Public Comment three times. No comments voiced.

**Announcements:**

The courthouse will be closed on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day.

The 148<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, a Minnesota National Guard unit based in Duluth, MN, is planning an F-16 flyover over the Iron County Medical Care Facility in Crystal Falls between 11:10 and 11:25 a.m. to honor health care and essential workers.

Moved by Coates, supported by Aho, to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Vice-Chair Sharon Leonoff

Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle