

On Monday, September 11, 2018, at 4:00 p.m., Chairman Tim Aho called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Courthouse. Aho asked for a moment of silence for 9-11. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Chairman Tim Aho, Commissioners Sharon Leonoff, Patti Peretto, Jim Brennan and Ray Coates.

Also present: Administrator Gene Smith, Administrative Assistants Mary Dalpra and Lynette Lorenz, Sheriff Mark Valesano, Emergency Manager Vernon Jones, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Fair Board representative David Frailing, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, Iron County Medical Care Facility (ICMC) representative Robin Caroen, Jen Ricker and Mike Zukowski of Soil Conservation, Veterans Service Officer Jerry Williams and Clerk/Register Joetta Greig.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Leonoff to approve Minutes of August 13, 2018 regular meeting. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Brennan to approve the agenda to include discussion of adjusting Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS) changes as defined, agenda item "m". Voice vote, motion carried.

Chairman Aho called for Public Comment three times. No comments voiced.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates to approve \$592,885.02 in Payables and \$426,541.73 in Payroll. Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Leonoff to approve Journal Entries and Budget Amendments. Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports

Coates mentioned he and Chairman Tim Aho attended a fair board meeting. Aho reported 2018 was a very successful year for the fair board. Maintenance of the building and other issues have been worked out.

Department Head Reports

Tinti gave a report on Michigan Education Risk Management Authority. He reported on litigation regarding Mitchell -v- Iron County Treasurer and Melanie Camps. Iron County and Camps are being represented by Attorney Sean M. Fosmire.

Emergency Manager Vernon Jones gave a report on the floods in the Houghton area. Federal Emergency Management Agency checked Hazard Mitigation Plan and they are authorized to move forward.

Sheriff Mark Valesano reported problems with recruiting part time jailers. The starting wage is \$14.24 per hour with no benefits. Valesano, personally, would like to set wages for part time employees in his department, using monies unspent in the budget. Since he has been in office, he has always ended the year with money in his budget.

Jennifer Ricker gave a report on Soil Conservation.

Treasurer Melanie Camps gave a report on the Public Auction held, August 25. Twenty six properties were available at the auction and seven sold.

Jerry Williams, Iron County Veteran's Service Officer gave a report on changes made. Committee chairman resigned, Gary Lopez is the new chairman. The veteran's service is located in the Iron River City Hall. There was a flood in the city hall, requiring all new equipment.

Moved by Coates, supported by Leonoff to accept Department Head Reports. Voice vote, motion carried.

New Business

Moved by Brennan, supported by Peretto to amend the budget for the Indigent Defense Fund. Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Leonoff to amend the budget for legal fees. Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates to amend the Drain Commission budget. Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Peretto to transfer wage funds within General Fund. Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion Carried.

There was discussion regarding Iron County Medical Care Facility (ICMCF) bonding for pension liability. Robin Caroen from the ICMCF gave an extensive presentation on the bonding issue. It was decided no action would be taken until after the special meeting with a phone conference scheduled at 3:00 p.m. September 18, 2018 in the Iron County Commissioner Room.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Leonoff to approve the County Administrator Job Description: Voice Vote, motion carried.

Administrator Smith gave a report on the proposed 2019 budget review. Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates to put the proposed 2019 budget for public review for 30 days. Voice vote, motion carried

Authorization for Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region to prepare Iron County Hazard Mitigation Plan was discussed.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Peretto to move the October Regular Meeting from Tuesday October 9, to Tuesday October 16, 2018. Voice vote, motion carried.

There was discussion regarding property on County Road 424 and a citizen request for land purchase. No action taken.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Leonoff to write a letter of support for the Iron Baraga Soil Conservation for grant funding. Voice vote, motion carried.

A settlement and release agreement for Road Commission land transfer was discussed. No action taken.

Paul Cleath, representing the Iron County Communities that Care Coalition (CTC) and the Iron County Drug Task Force, discussed their status and upcoming events. CTC requested financial support from the county for Substance Abuse / Prevention funding. Valesano encouraged the county to offer support for West Iron County and Forest Park Schools. Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates to support the CTC request to up to a point. The county will distribute the money when requested. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Leonoff to go into closed session to discuss Correctional Officers Union Bargaining Agreement. Voice vote, motion carried

Upon returning from closed session moved by Aho, supported by Leonoff, to resume meeting at 4:58 p.m. The following members present: Chairman Tim Aho, Commissioners Sharon Leonoff, Patti Peretto, Jim Brennan and Ray Coates.

Also present: Administrator Gene Smith, Administrative Assistants Mary Dalpra and Lynette Lorenz, Sheriff Mark Valesano, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Fair Board representative David Frailing, Civil Counsel Steven Tinti, Iron County Medical Care Facility (ICMC) representative Robin Caroen and Clerk/Register Joetta Greig.

Moved by Coates, supported by Brennan to ratify Correction Officers Union Bargaining Agreement. Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Peretto to approve the Resolution entered into under the provisions of 1996 PA 220 and MERS of Michigan plan document on behalf of County of Iron / Iron County Medical Care Facility as each may be amended: Defined Contribution Plan in accordance with Plan Section 4, for eligible employees and MERS 457 Employer Contribution Addendum, modifying the Participation Agreement by providing for employer matching and/or nonmatching contributions to the program.

Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Chairman Aho called for public comment. Adam Polley voiced concerns regarding the county. Aho called for public comment 3 more times. No comments voiced.

Announcements

The courthouse will be closed on Monday, October 8th in observance of Columbus Day.

Adjournment

Moved by Brennan, supported by Peretto to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Chairman Tim Aho

Clerk/Register Joetta Greig

Reports submitted:

Register of Deeds Monthly Report
Clerk Monthly Report
Construction Code Monthly Report
Iron County Sheriff's Department Monthly Activity Report
Iron County Veteran's Service Office, monthly August 2018
Northpointe Healthcare Meeting Minutes of July 26 and August 9, 2018
MSU Extension Report: August 2018