

October 8, 2019 Regular Meeting

T-453

On Tuesday, October 8, 2019, at 3:00 p.m., Chairperson Patti Peretto called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Courthouse. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Chairperson Patti Peretto, Commissioners Tim Aho, Ray Coates, Sharon Leonoff and Mike Stafford.

Also present: Undersheriff Ryan Boehmke, Prosecutor Melissa Powell, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Administrative Assistant Lynette Lorenz, Chamber Alliance Executive Director Paul Schuytema, Emergency Manager/911 Director Vernon Jones, MSU Extension Program Coordinator Deb Divoky, Equalization Director Amy Marinoff, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Lindsay Arcand, District Court Clerk Christine Valesano, Juvenile Register Stephanie Nichols, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti and Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Coates, to approve the September 10, 2019, Regular Meeting minutes, with a correction to Aho's Commissioner Report that the Health Department roof in Iron River is complete, and to approve the September 26, 2019, Special Meeting minutes. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Leonoff, to approve the agenda with the deletion under New Business h (i) Opt Out of PA 152; and, with the addition under New Business k (Construction Code budget amendment). Voice vote, motion carried.

Public Comment:

Chairperson Peretto called for Public Comment.

Rich Rossway spoke on behalf of State Representative Greg Markkanen. He gave an update on budget appropriations. He asked the board to send a Resolution to the Governor in support of the return of the approximately \$970,000 to the budget that was originally in it for our six county Manpower pension issue. Civil Counsel Tinti will draft the Resolution. Moved by Aho, supported by Stafford, to authorize a Resolution in support. Voice vote, motion carried.

Adam Holroyd, owner of Contrast Coffee, spoke in support of the ICECA.

Lisa Koon-Bloomberg said the board needs to do what's best for Iron County and not to compare us to other counties. She had various questions about the budget process.

Stafford said we are in limbo until we see what the Governor is going to do.

Peretto called for public comment two more times, no more comments voiced.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Leonoff, to approve the monthly payables in the amount of \$644,178.42, and payroll in the amount of \$258,948.49. Roll call vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Coates, to approve journal entries in the amount of \$5,683,730.37, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps and administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$88,950.00. Roll call vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Aho: no report at this time.

Coates: no report at this time.

Leonoff: no report at this time.

Stafford: there will be a Budget meeting on October 22, 2019, at 8:00 a.m.

Peretto: no report at this time.

Department Head Reports:

Clerk/Register Kezerle wanted to remind people of the November 5, 2019, election. There will be an election in the City of Iron River, City of Caspian and City of Gaastra.

Paul Schuytema gave a regular update on the ICECA and upcoming events and also stated that the 5th Annual Harvest Fest that was held on September 28, 2019, was the best yet.

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

Old Business:

After lengthy discussion and the various options the board could do to make up for the budget deficit, it was moved by Stafford, supported by Coates, to approve lay-off notices. Roll call vote: Ayes: Peretto and Stafford. Nays: Coates, Leonoff and Aho. Motion failed.

New Business:

Steve Currie, Executive Director of the Michigan Association of Counties, was here to speak about the line items already cut by the Governor and the various bills that will be introduced to the Legislature.

Joe Menze from 906 Technologies handed out quotes regarding the phone system, JIS Server and the low voltage cabling at the courthouse. Stafford said he would like more time to look at the options. Menze said he didn't expect a decision today and will be available for questions.

Equalization Director Amy Marinoff gave a report on the 2019 Apportionment Report. Moved by Stafford, supported by Leonoff, to adopt the Resolution for the 2019 Apportionment Plan. Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, for the Prosecutor's request for courthouse lawn display for Domestic Violence Awareness month. Voice vote, motion carried.

Mark Bromley, a Crystal Falls Township resident and ICECA board member spoke on behalf of the ICEA request for funding. The ICECA would propose a revised request of \$35,451 for 2020 which he said is a 55% decrease from the last three years. Aho clarified the \$43,000 for the three year contract was left over from the EDC and not tax dollars. Bromley said if the request for \$35,451.00 is granted, it would keep ICECA functional and focused and they then would have time to do research on a millage. Tinti explained the millage process and the costs of election. Aho read the rejection letter from ICECA regarding his challenge to the Chamber members and community members with his \$175.00 check. Bromley said it was a very generous offer but there were misconceptions in Aho's letter. Peretto and Stafford also had issues with the conditions of Aho's offer. Leonoff said she believes it should go on the ballot. Tinti said that 2019 is funded according to the three year contract, but that contract ends at the end of this year. Coates said we need to take care of our employees and the county. Coates said the ICECA should have looked at this sooner. Peretto said we need to go through the budget process. No action was taken.

No action was taken regarding the request for millage to support by contract for economic development services.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Stafford, to appoint Esther Hooper and Pam Kritz, to the Iron County Board of Canvassers for four year terms, November 1, 2019, through October 31, 2020. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates, to reappoint Joe Shubat to the Department of Health and Human Services Board for Iron County.

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Moved by Leonoff, supported by Aho, to pay 80% employer and 20% employee total annual cost of medical benefit plans. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Leonoff, to move the vision provider to EyeMed, Option #2. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Stafford, to support 44 North's proposal for Health Insurance Package Renewal. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Stafford, for exception for flat HRA payment. Voice vote, motion carried.

There was a request from POAM to begin negotiations to amend the current collective bargaining agreement between Iron County and the Iron County Dispatchers Association. The board directed the administrative staff to start the process.

Moved by Coates, supported by Aho, to approve the Construction Code's request for a budget amendment to increase the Construction Code Fund Balance (increase 549-000-697.000 by \$47,000.00 and increase 549-000-980.000 by \$47,000.00). Roll call vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Peretto asked for public comment.

Dave Frailing had questions about the budget amendments and questions about millages. He was speaking in support of the ICECA.

Treasurer Camps stood up to say she feels bad for our board and doesn't envy their decisions. We are in a deficit and need to fund our mandated services.

Peretto asked for public comments two more times. No more comments voiced.

Announcements:

The courthouse will be closed on Monday, October 14, 2019, in observance of Columbus Day.

There will be a special meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2019, at 8:00 a.m., followed by a budget meeting.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the board will be Tuesday, November 12, 2019.

Moved by Coates, supported by Aho, to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Chairperson Patti Peretto

Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle