

June 9, 2015, Regular

The Regular meeting of the Iron County Board of Commissioner was called to order to Chairman Tim Aho at 4:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was taken, with the following members present: Brennan, Coates, Leonoff, Peretto, and Aho.

Chairman Aho requested the addition of an item to the Agenda under "New Business", which was a request from Northstar/Aspirus for 0.3 mills to help operate their ambulance service.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of May 12, 2015. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Peretto, to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee meetings of May 7 and 21, 2015. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Brennan, to approve the Agenda with the addition of the request of Northstar/Aspirus. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Chairman Aho called for public comment on Agenda items only. None were forthcoming.

Reports:

Reports on various meetings and activities were given by each Commissioner and the County Administrator.

Unfinished Business:

Moved by Peretto, supported by Brennan, to approve the Finance Committee's Review of Bills from May 7, 2015 in the amount of \$1,632,721.99; and from May 21, 2015 in the amount of \$357,148.05. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Leonoff, to approve the Treasurer's Journal Entries from May 7, 2015 as follows: 8385-8392; 8398-8411; 8415-8431; 8433-8451; and May 21, 2015 as follows: 8452-8490; 8492-8494. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

New Business:

Glen Dobson and Bill Kurkley from Northstar/Aspirus gave a presentation regarding the operating costs of their ambulance service and the need to repair or replace the current Crystal Falls ambulance garage. They were asking for 0.3 mills for a period of three years to help finance the service. Chairman Aho noted that the Board would need time to research the matter.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates, to authorize the obtaining of necessary permits and contract for Driver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) of Eurasian watermilfoil in Chicaugon Lake not to exceed \$5,600, with management directed to prepare budget amendments to implement funding. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to appoint Vivian Leonoff to the Authority on Aging Board for a term expiring on 12/31/16. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates, that because of their use of the County's tax ID, the EDC be directed to submit financial records, including checkbook, to the Iron County Treasurer no later than June 30, 2015, and to obtain their own Employer Identification Number (EIN). Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Leonoff, to adopt the changes to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), effective July 1, 2015. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Peretto, to adopt the grant renewal application for plan year 2016 for funds from West Central U.P. Regional Community Program. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

June 9, 2015

Public Comment:

Walter Tuchowski informed the Board that the level of Fortune Lake is not where it should be. He noted that boats hit bottom going under the bridge, and that there is grant money available for assistance if someone does the paperwork. Tuchowski also stated that he would like to see some cooperation between the County, the Road Commission and the Township. Administrator Clisch said that the Drain Commissioner is looking at a grant, and that she will contact him.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates, to adjourn. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Diane Hilberg, County Clerk

June 17, 2015, Special

A Special Meeting of the Iron County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson, Tim Aho, at 1:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was taken, with the following members present: Coates, Leonoff, Peretto, and Aho. Absent: Brennan

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss possible litigation against the Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) for matters concerning the Heritage Trail. Chairman Aho advised that UPPCO has refused to move their utility poles from the right-of-way for the bike trail in the City of Gaastra without prior payment of approximately \$82,000.

Attorney Tinti explained that there are three entities which would be involved if litigation was pursued, being the County of Iron, City of Gaastra, and Iron County Road Commission. He also noted that there are approximately \$40,000 in non-grant funds that can be used for the litigation, and the money would not come from the County's General Fund. Administrator Clisch asked if the cost of the litigation would be more than the \$82,000 that UPPCO is asking for. Tinti responded that it would cost approximately \$8-10,000 to get to the first hearing to obtain a preliminary injunction, and that his office would move quickly. He also said that there will be two other attorneys involved on behalf of the City of Gaastra and Iron County Road Commission.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Peretto, to authorize the County of Iron to commence litigation against UPPCO on the Heritage Trail Project, with all litigation expenses and attorneys' fees to be taken from the non-grant revenue for the Heritage Trail Project. Roll call: Ayes 4. Nays 0. Absent 1 - Brennan. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Peretto, to adjourn. Voice vote: Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Diane Hilberg, County Clerk

June 18, 2015, Finance

The Finance Committee meeting of the Iron County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Finance Chairperson, Patti Peretto, at 1:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was taken, with the following members present: Leonoff, and Peretto. Absent: Brennan.

The Committee reviewed the bills.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Peretto, to approve the journal entries of June 4, 2015 for submission to the full Board. Roll call: Ayes 3. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Treasurer Camps submitted journal entries dated June 8, 2015 for review.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Peretto, to approve the bills in the amount of \$497,710.39. Roll call: Ayes 3. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Leonoff, to adjourn. Ayes 3. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Diane Hilberg, County Clerk

