

March 12, 2019 Regular Meeting

T-417

***Correction**

On Tuesday, March 12, 2019, at 4:00 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 Ray Coates, Sharon Leonoff and Mike Stafford. Absent: Commissioner Tim Aho.

Also present: Administrator Gene Smith, Sheriff Mark Valesano, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Friend of the Court Heidi VanSlooten and Caseworker/Enforcement Officer Leah Antilla, Administrative Assistants Mary Dalpra and Lynette Lorenz, Executive Director of Iron County Alliance Paul Schuytema, MSU Extension Program Coordinator Deb Divoky and Deputy Clerk Julie Kezerle.

***The Board conducted a Public Hearing on the closeout of the Community Development Block Grant for Ottawa Forest Products, Inc. Chuck Hearst of Northern Initiatives stated the 2017 loan to Ottawa Forest Products created eleven jobs. This loan will be closed out on August 31, 2019. Chairperson Peretto called for public comment three times. No comments voiced.**

Moved by Stafford, supported by Coates to approve the February 19, 2019, Regular Meeting minutes. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates to approve the agenda (adding the WUPPDR appointment to the agenda). Voice vote, motion carried.

Chairperson Peretto called for Public Comment three times. No comments voiced.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Coates to approve \$737,690.03 in payables, and \$252,038.38 in payroll. Roll call vote: Ayes 4, Nays 0. Aho absent. Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Leonoff to approve journal entries. Roll call vote: Ayes 4. Nays 0. Aho absent. Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Coates to approve administratively authorized budget amendments. Roll call vote: Ayes 4, Nays 0. Aho absent. Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Aho: Absent.

Coates: Attended a Fair Board meeting. The main topic of discussion at the meeting was capital improvements. Also discussed at the meeting was the demo derby and the rodeo.

Leonoff: Attended the Crystal Falls City Council meeting last night and the new City Manager Gerard Valesano was named.

Stafford: Talked about MERS regarding the appropriation increase and met with Tara at MERS.

Peretto: Noted comments from the public that the Iron County Road Commission is doing an amazing job this winter and agrees.

Department Head Reports:

Friend of the Court: Heidi VanSlooten gave a report on the Friend of the Court office for 2018, and how they have modified office procedures and proper enforcement and are committed to seeing continued improvement for 2019.

Iron County Economic Chamber Alliance: Director Paul Schuytema gave a report regarding Cook's Run, i.e., clean up, best possible use for the property, etc. He also announced there will be a Live, Work, Play show on April 13, 2019. He stated they are wrapping up the 2019 playbook and will share more at the next meeting.

Sheriff: Sheriff Mark Valesano attended a UP911 committee meeting last week and talked about House Bill 4249.

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MSU Extension: Deb Divoky spoke about Exploration Days and that they have 16 Iron County youth going this year. She also wanted to invite everyone to the Forest Park Career Fair on March 27, 2019, and how they will be talking about careers in Iron County.

Treasurer Melanie Camps talked about the pending foreclosures. She also gave an update on the pending litigation.

Administrator Gene Smith talked about the "Standard Operating Policy & Procedure (SOPP)" regarding building closure. The only issue is if people will get paid or not. This issue will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting and put to a vote.

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

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

DNR proposed land sale was discussed. No action needed.

Moved by Coates, supported by Stafford to accept the supplemental award for the ORV Grant of \$1,000.00. Roll call vote: Ayes 4, Nays 0. Aho absent. Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Coates to approve the salary of \$44,000.00 for the new Chief Juvenile Officer, Lindsay Arcand. Roll call vote: Ayes 4, Nays 0. Aho absent. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Leonoff, to approve the salary of \$54,444.00 for the new Jail Administrator, Brent Steinbrecher. Roll call vote: Ayes, 4, Nays 0. Aho absent. Motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Stafford to approve back pay from July 1, 2018 to January 11, 2019, for the compensation of non-represented employees. Roll call vote: Leonoff, Aye; Stafford, Aye; Coates, Nay; Peretto, Nay. Aho absent. Motion failed.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Coates to accept the annual \$500.00 contribution received from the Donald Aeschleman Trust. Roll call vote: Ayes 4, Nays 0. Aho absent. Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Leonoff, to approve the salary and camp rates for 2019 Batawagama season. Roll call vote: Ayes 4, Nays 0. Aho absent. Motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates to approve the MSU Extension Agreement for 2019. Roll call vote: Ayes 4, Nays 0. Aho absent. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Stafford to appoint Paul Schuytema to the WUPPDR board to attend meetings and pay his mileage. Roll call vote: Ayes 4, Nays 0. Aho absent. Motion carried.

Commissioner Stafford will now be the alternate for Chairperson Peretto on the WUPPDR board. No action needed.

Public Comment:

Peretto called for public comment.

Northpointe Board Member Gerald McCole spoke about issues and the history of Northpointe.

Peretto called for public comment two more times. No further comments voiced.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Board is April 9, 2019.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Coates to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Chairperson Patti Peretto

Deputy Clerk Julie Kezerle