

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
March 10, 2021
County Courthouse
Bessemer, MI 49911
5:00 P.M.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (February 24, 2021 regular meeting minutes)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNTY BOARD ON AGENDA ITEMS
(5-minute limit)

COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT:

1. Economic Development & Capital Improvement Committee,
3/3/21

APPEARANCES:

1. Greg Ryskey, Forestry and Parks (Re: Lake Gogebic
Playground Renovation Grant)

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Jim Lorenson, Chairman-Gogebic County Board of
Commissioners (Fair Board per diems)

OTHER MATTERS:

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES:

PUBLIC COMMENT (5-minute limit)

ADJOURNMENT

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2021

County Courthouse

Bessemer, MI 49911

5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Lorenson. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken.

ROLL CALL:

**Present: (7) Orlich, Peterson, Siirila, Laabs, Byrns
Bonovetz, Lorenson**

Absent: (0) None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (February 10, 2021 meeting minutes)

A motion was made by Mr. Orlich, supported by Mr. Bonovetz, and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Siirila, supported by Mr. Byrns, and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda with additions as presented by Chairman Lorenson.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNTY BOARD ON AGENDA ITEMS

(5-minute limit)

There were none.

COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORTS:

1. **Personnel & Negotiations Committee/Committee of the Whole
1/27/21**
A motion was made by Mr. Bonovetz, supported by Mr. Siirila and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve report and placed on file
2. **Finance, Budgeting & Auditing Committee, 1/27/21**
A motion was made by Mr. Bonovetz, supported by Mr. Siirila carried by unanimous voice vote to receive the report and place it on file
3. **Dr. Steven Fortunato Dal Pra & Colleen Dal Pra Educational
Award Committee, 2/21/21**
A motion was made by Mr. Bonovetz, supported by Mr. Siirila to support the educational scholarships as presented. A unanimous voice vote confirmed the motion.
4. **Process for Filling Vacancies on Gogebic County Related
Organizations for which the Board of Commissioners has
Appointing Authority** - A new process was considered and adjusted to supercede all previous appointment policies.
A motion was made by Mr. Bonovetz, supported by Mr. Laabs

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and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the policy with revisions that will be noted in the final draft

- 4b Non-precedented sick leave payout for Ramona Collins -**
A motion was made by Mr. Peterson, supported by Mr. Bonovetz and roll call was taken

ROLL CALL:

Yes: (6) Peterson, Laabs, Byrns, Bonovetz, Orlich, Lorenson
Bonovetz, Lorenson
No: (1) Siirila

Motion carried

- 4c Re-organization of Staff/Reallocation of Resources within the Courts**
A motion was made by Peterson, supported by Siirila and carried by a unanimous vote to approve the courts' reorganization plan

- 5. Lisa Hewitt - Gogebic County Treasurer - Proposed Cash Management Policy and Unclaimed Property Escheatment**
A motion was made by Mr. Peterson and supported by Mr. Siirila to approve the policy as presented. Roll was taken.

ROLL CALL:

Yes: (7) Laabs, Byrns, Bonovetz, Orlich, Peterson, Siirila
Lorenson
No: (0)

Motion carried

APPEARANCES:

There were none

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1. Menominee County Resolution regarding Covid-19**
Conversation took place opposing unilateral orders by the Governor. It was agreed that Chairman Lorenson will draft a letter of opposition with direct regard to border counties.
A motion was made by Mr. Laabs, supported by Mr. Siirila and agreed by unanimous vote to receive the communication and place it on file

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TRIAL BALANCE/CASH BALANCE:

A motion was made by Mr. Bonovetz, supported by Mr. Siirila, and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the report as presented.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE CONTROL:

A motion was made by Mr. Bonovetz, supported by Mr. Siirila, and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the report as presented.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:

A motion was made by Mr. Siirila, supported by Mr. Laabs to pay the claims as presented along with the pre-paids and make them a part of the minutes.

Roll Call:

YES: (7) Siirila, Laabs, Byrns, Bonovetz, Orlich, Peterson, Lorensen

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS:

Chairman Lorensen noted that he has spoken with the Western UP Health Department and they acknowledged that distribution of the Covid-19 vaccine has improved.

Mr. Bonovetz added that MAC is also supporting rural regional openings regarding Covid-19.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5-minute limit)

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Bonovetz, supported by Mr. Siirila, and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to the call of the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

James A. Lorensen, Chairman

Ramona L. Collins, Clerk

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SUMMARY RERPORT

- 1. Economic Development & Capital Improvement Committee, 3/03/21**
 - a. A motion to proceed with the elevator repair per proposal.**
 - b. A motion to seek a cost estimate for a study that identifies the major maintenance repairs and associated estimated costs for County-owned facilities.**

A meeting of the or Gogebic County Economic Development and Capital Improvements Committee was held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at 1:00 PM, Courthouse, Bessemer, MI

Present: Byrns, Lorenson, Siirila

Absent: None

Also Present: Juliane Glackino, Administrator, Greg Rigoni, Maintenance, Brandon Tauer, IT/Security

Chair Byrns called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

The first item on the agenda was the Administrator regarding the flat roof repair/maintenance. The Administrator stated that there has been some leaking on a portion of the roof periodically over the years. It has become more frequent. The IT director had photos which he showed the committee displaying where that is on the courthouse. The photos also showed the stained timbers in the attic above the Circuit Court room.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

This discussion led to the other properties owned by the County and the age of such.

Commissioner Lorenson suggested that possibly a cost be determined of what it could potentially cost over the next several years. This process would require a structural engineer to come in. The future could hold the construction of a combined complex. That consisting of the courthouse complex and the jail.

A temporary fix could be done at big cost, but the question would be the future expenses.

A brief discussion took place on tuck pointing and waterproofing of the building as well.

The committee discussed the elevator proposal presented by Otis Elevator. The Administrator stated this repair would be a new power unit consisting of a positive displacement pump, motor, integral 4 coil control valve, oil tank and muffler. The cost of the proposal was \$34,682. The committee felt this was a necessary repair, as it is the only elevator in the building. The Administrator stated that this would not modernize the cab portion of the elevator per the proposal received a couple years ago at roughly \$140,000. That repair would be pricey due to the fact that an architect would be needed, and the state elevator inspector requires additional components on that project. A local school district is currently going through this process.

A motion by commissioner Lorenson, supported by commissioner Siirila to recommend to the Board to proceed with the elevator repair and seek a cost estimate for a study that identifies the major maintenance repairs and associated estimated costs for County-owned facilities.

Discussion continued.

Vote on the motion. Yeas 3, nays 0 absent 0. Motion carried.

A brief discussion ensued on the fairgrounds.

The last item on the agenda was the repair of the alley. Commissioner Siirila stated that he talked with the Road Commission manager this morning regarding chip sealing, as the manager was preparing his paperwork for upcoming projects. By committing to the project, it would ensure the County a good price on the repair. The Road Commission staff was going to fix and/or repair the alley last fall but the snow fell early, and that project was not completed. After measuring the alley and doing some calculations, the manager indicated the cost to the County for such project was \$7500. The committee felt this was a good fix as the manager stated this would get 8 to 10 years of use out of this project. The manager would prepare a document and get it to the Administrator's office for signature and approval.

A brief discussion ensued.

There were no "Other Matters".

There were no "Public Comments".

A motion by Commissioner Lorenson, supported by Commissioner Siirila to adjourn at 2:02 PM

Jim Byrns, Chairman
Economic Development & Capital Improvements Committee

Ramona Collins

From: Amy Hamel
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:57 AM
To: Ramona Collins
Cc: Greg Ryskey
Subject: Meeting Agenda

Hi Ramona,

Can you please add the Gogebic County Forestry & Parks Commission "Lake Gogebic Playground Renovation" grant application to your agenda for next week? It needs to be an actual agenda item so the public can have input according to the grant guidelines. Greg will attend and the County Board will need to approve the resolution for the grant. I will send it over to you as soon as I get it completed.

Thank you-

*Amy Hamel, Administrative Secretary
Gogebic County Forestry & Parks Commission
500 North Moore Street
Bessemer, MI 49911
(906)663-4428
ahamel@gogebiccountymi.gov*

Ramona Collins

From: James Lorenson
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:33 AM
To: Juliane Giackino; Ramona Collins
Cc: Gogebic County Fair
Subject: Per Diem's for Late Board Members

Terttu contacted me and said there was an issue paying per diems for board members who are late to meetings; evidently because a couple of Fair Board members were late to the Fair Board's recent meeting. I understand that the Clerk's office raised the issue. Terttu indicated that it was up to me to decide whether to pay them or not.

I'm not going to decide; rather, add this to the County Board meeting agenda. The County Board can decide on a policy that governs itself and its subordinate boards/commission. I am amazed that something like this takes up so much time and effort, and that this was not an issue before (why now?).

Jim