

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2019

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 Siirila. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: (0) None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (March 27, 2019 meeting minutes)

A motion was made by Lorenson, supported by Orlich and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes as presented.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Peterson, supported by Bonovetz and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda as presented.

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

There were none.

COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORTS:

1. Personnel & Negotiations Committee ----04/03/2019

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson to approve the POAM contract language changes as presented including a 3-year contract.

Roll Call:

**YES: (6) Bonovetz, Orlich, Peterson,
Byrns, Lorenson, Siirila**

No: (1) Laabs

Motion carried.

APPEARANCES:

1. Kathy Jo Koval, Equalization Director
(RE: 2019 Equalization Report)

Ms. Koval presented the 2019 Equalization report to the Board. The Ad Valorem Equalized Value of Gogebic County in 2019 is \$674,830,365. This amount is up 2.08% from last year, which is an increase of \$13,745,684. The projected 2019 Ad Valorem Taxable Value is \$538,083,071. This is up 3.00% from 2018. The tentative revenue increase based on the General Fund annual millage rate of 6.68 will be \$97,092.

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Peterson and carried by unanimous voice vote to authorize the Chairman and the Clerk signatures on the State L-4024 forms as presented.

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COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Jim Loeper, 9-1-1 Coordinator
(RE: Annual surcharge)

Assistant 9-1-1 Coordinator Heidi DeRosso discussed the 9-1-1 surcharge resolution as presented. The 9-1-1 Committee was recommending a .20 increase to the surcharge, which would raise the surcharge up to \$1.50 per device. Discussion took place on the need for the increase, DeRosso provided a brief explanation on what future projects are needed. The list included 10 new mobile radios for law enforcement cars, road repair to the Marenisco tower site and communication lines for dispatching, due to a future change by AT&T to do away with copper lines. After the discussion, DeRosso agreed to provide more details on the future projects. **A motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs and carried on a six yea - one nay vote voice vote to table the matter to the next meeting.

OTHER MATTERS:

Treasurer Lisa Hewitt

RE: Ironwood Township funds owed to County

Treasurer Hewitt informed the Board she will be seeking a legal opinion regarding holding back the 2019 delinquent tax settlement from Ironwood Township. She plans on holding back \$106,000 from this settlement year. In 2016, the township couldn't meet their obligation to settle with the County and other taxing units. The County was owed approximately \$335,181.00. She will keep the Board informed.

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES:

No updates available, the Administrator was out of town.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5-minute limit)

Randy Kashish spoke briefly on his disappointment that the GOISD will replace outgoing superintendent Bruce Mayle with Alan Tulppo. Kashish feels Tulppo is not experienced enough to handle this position.

Mark McDonald, attorney for Ironwood Township spoke on the 2016 tax settlement issue. He mentioned that the County and Ironwood Township should be working together on resolving the issue. McDonald mentioned that the Township is also a victim of the actions of the former township treasurer, who was convicted of 10 felonies in Gogebic County.

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Heide DeRosso mentioned that outgoing 9-1-1 Coordinator Jim Loeper was the county appointee to the U.P. 9-1-1 committee. The County needs to name a replacement. She will prepare a letter for the next the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Orlich and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to call of the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Dan Siirila, Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk