

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2020

County Courthouse

Live stream on Facebook.com/gogebiccountycourthouse

Bessemer, MI 49911

Immediately following 5:00 p.m. public hearing

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Chairman Siirila. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken.

ROLL CALL:

**Present: (6) Laabs, Byrns, Lorenson, Bonovetz, Orlich
Siirila**

Absent: (1) Peterson

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (April 8, 2020 meeting minutes)

A motion was made by Lorenson, supported by Laabs to approve the minutes as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Orlich, supported by Bonovetz to approve the agenda as presented along with one addition to summary reports. Dal Pra Educational Award Committee

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNTY BOARD ON AGENDA ITEMS

(5-minute limit)

There were none.

COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORTS:

Agenda Addition:

1. Dal Pra Educational Award Committee -----04/20/2020

A motion was made Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson to approve the list of recipients for the scholarships of \$2,500 per student.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2020

Page Two

APPEARANCES:

1. County 9-1-1 Coordinator Heidi DeRosso
(RE: 9-1-1 Operating Surcharge effective 7/1/2020)

Coordinator DeRosso explained the need to set the 9-1-1 operational surcharge at \$2.00 per device. She provided information to the Board that included a five-year projection of costs related the operations of the County 9-1-1 budgets. The 9-1-1 Committee is hopeful the surcharge can stay at \$2.00 per device for five years. She answered a few questions from the Board regarding costs and equipment purchases. **A motion** was made by Byrns, supported by Lorenson to set the 9-1-1 operational surcharge at \$2.00 per device.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. County Equalization Director Kathy Jo Koval
(RE: 2020 County Equalization report)

Director Koval presented the 2020 Equalization Report to the Board. The recommended 2020 County Equalized Value is \$684,593,840 which is an increase of 2% and the tentative Taxable Value is \$554,426,466, which is a 3% increase. Koval went through each category for the Board and answered questions related to each category's amount.

A motion was Bonovetz, supported by Orlich to adopt the Agricultural Equalized value as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to adopt the Commercial Equalized value as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Made by

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2020

Page Three

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Orlich to adopt the Industrial Equalized value as presented.

ROLL CALL:

**YES: (6) Laabs, Byrns, Lorensen, Bonovetz,
Orlich, Siirila**

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

A motion was by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to adopt the Residential Equalized value as presented.

ROLL CALL:

**YES: (6) Laabs, Byrns, Lorensen, Bonovetz,
Orlich, Siirila**

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to adopt the Timber Cut-Over Equalized value.

ROLL CALL:

**YES: (6) Laabs, Byrns, Lorensen, Bonovetz,
Orlich, Siirila**

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Orlich to adopt the Personal Property Equalized value as presented.

ROLL CALL:

**YES: (6) Laabs, Byrns, Lorensen, Bonovetz,
Orlich, Siirila**

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported Laabs to approve and authorize the proper signatures on the State L-4024 Form as required.

ROLL CALL:

**YES: (6) Laabs, Byrns, Lorensen, Bonovetz,
Orlich, Siirila**

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2020

Page Four

2. Mike Harma, Airport Manager
(RE: 3rd Quarter Appropriation Release)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to release the 3rd quarter appropriation to the Airport.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

TRIAL BALANCE/CASH BALANCE:

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to approve the reports as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE CONTROL:

A motion was made by Lorenson, supported by Bonovetz to approve the reports as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:

A motion was made Bonovetz, supported by Byrns to pay the claims as presented along with the prepaids, and to approve the VISA credit card bill and the Walmart invoices as prepaids on April 29th.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2020

Page Five

OTHER MATTERS

Discussion on Employee pay extension due to COVID-19
(Currently approved to April 24, 2020)

Discussion took place on the matter. Commissioner Bonovetz suggested Department Heads discuss offering volunteer furloughs to their employees if the Governor's shelter in place stay safe Executive Order is extended beyond April 30, 2020. Governor Whitmer may have an answer on Friday April 24 on the length of an extension of her EO. After discussion on the issue a Personnel and Negotiations Committee meeting was set for April 29, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. and a special Board meeting will immediately follow. **A motion** was made by Lorenson, supported by Bonovetz to extended employee pay through Wednesday April 29th, 2020.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

USDA RURAL Development Grant

County Administrator Juliane Giackino said the Grant application needs to be approved by the Board for submittal. **A motion** was made by Lorenson, supported by Byrns to approve the grant application and submit the necessary paperwork.

ROLL CALL:

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

NO: (0) None

Motion carried.

Bonovetz gave an update on the virtual meeting he had with the MAC Board. The Governor appeared at the meeting and discussed the COVID-19 issues affecting the State. She really never answered questions on matters that involved the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5-minute limit)

There were no in person comments or received via out online meeting email address.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Orlich, supported by Bonovetz and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to the call of the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Dan Siirila, Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk