

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Special Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2020

County Courthouse

Bessemer, MI 49911

Immediately following the 3:30 p.m. Personnel Committee meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Siirila.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: (0) None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

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

There were none.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Georgia Weber, Administrator, Gogebic Medical Care Facility
(RE: Building and Site renewal of ballot proposal)

A motion was made by Lorenson, supported by Bonovetz to approve the ballot language for placement on the August 4, 2020 Primary Election ballot.

PROPOSITION TO LEVY 0.4 MILLS FOR BUILDING AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS AT THE
GOGEBIC COUNTY MEDICAL CARE FACILITY, FOR A PERIOD OF

FIVE (5) YEARS: 2021-2025, INCLUSIVE:

Shall the limitation on the total amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in the County of Gogebic be increased 0.4 mills (\$0.4 per \$1,000 of State Taxable Valuation) for a period of five (5) years, 2021-2025 inclusive, the taxes so raised to be used exclusively for Building and Site Improvements at the Gogebic County Medical Care Facility, and shall the County of Gogebic levy such increase in millage for such purposes during such period, which will raise in the first year of such levy an estimated \$204,699.00 (This is the same millage rate that has been in effect since 2011-2020 and represents a renewal rather than an increase.)

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Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

2. Steven R. Pallin, Director, Gogebic County Transit
(Re: Transit Operating renewal ballot of proposal)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Byrns to approve the ballot language for placement on the August 4, 2020 Primary Election ballot.

PROPOSAL TO RENEW OR CONTINUE THE PREVIOUS ONE-THIRD MILL, (1/3) FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOGEBIC COUNTY TRANSIT FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR (4) YEARS FROM 2021-2024 INCLUSIVE:

Shall the limitation on the total amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in the County of Gogebic be renewed at one-third (1/3) mill (\$.33-1/3 per \$1,000 of State Taxable Valuation) for a period of four (4) years, 2021-2024 inclusive, the taxes so raised to be used exclusively for the continued operation of the Gogebic County Transit System and shall the County of Gogebic levy such increase in millage for such purposes during such period, which will raise in the first year of such levy an estimated \$170,412.00 (This is the millage rate that has been in effect from 1985 through 2020 and represents a renewal of that millage, rather than an increase).

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried

3. Kerri Duff, Executive Director, GOCAA
(RE: Senior Programs renewal of ballot proposal)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to approve the ballot language for placement on the August 4, 2020 Primary Election ballot.

PROPOSITION TO LEVY SIX-TENTHS (0.60) MILL FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOGEBIC-ONTONAGON COMMUNITY ACTION-AGENCY SENIOR CITIZENS PROGRAMS IN GOGEBIC COUNTY FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR (4) YEARS FROM 2020-2023 YEARS, INCLUSIVE.

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Shall the ad valorem taxes collected on all property within the County of Gogebic be renewed for said county by 0.60 mill (\$0.60 per \$1,000.00 of state taxable value) for a period of four years, 2020 through 2023 inclusive, the taxes so raised to be used exclusively for the operation of the Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency Senior Citizens Programs in Gogebic County; and shall the County of Gogebic levy such renewal in millage for such purposes during such period, which renewal will raise in the first year of such levy an estimated \$307,049.00 (This is the millage rate that has been in effect from 2000-2019 and represents a renewal of that millage rather than an increase.)

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried

4. John Frello, Veterans Service Officer
(RE: County Veteran Service Fund Grant)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson to authorize the proper signatures on the grant application.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried

OTHER MATTERS:

Discussion on Employee pay extension due to COVID-19
(Currently approved thru April 29, 2020)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson to extend pay through the next pay period, which is May 15, 2020.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried

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A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson to send an email to all department heads that all employees are requested to report back to work on Thursday, April 30. This is not a directive but a request to have all offices fully staffed.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT (5-minute limit)

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Orlich, supported by Bonovetz to adjourn to the call of the Chair.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried

Dan Siirila, Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk