

**GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**February 12, 2020**

**County Courthouse**

**Bessemer, MI 49911**

**5:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Siirila at 5:00 p.m. 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** (January 22, 2020 meeting minutes)

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**A motion** was made by Orlich, supported by Byrns 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. Ambulance Committee -----02/05/2020

**A motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Peterson to extend the ambulance service agreement between the County and Aspirus Wausau Hospital for a two year period with the only change to include a 11% increase, new cost will be \$63,825 in the first year and no increase the second year and to request the County Board come up with a policy to fund a shortage of millage money, should it be necessary.

**Roll Call:**

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

**No: (0) None**

**Motion carried.**

**A motion** was made by Lorenson, supported by Peterson and carried by unanimous voice vote to accept the language in policy regarding providing financial assistance to non-ambulance emergency first responders.

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**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Sheriff Pete Matonich  
(RE: 2019 yearly report)

**A motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson and carried by unanimous voice vote to accept the report as presented.

2. Treasurer Lisa Hewitt  
(RE: Strike of Delinquent Personal Property taxes)

**A motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve \$2,587.39 to be stricken from the 2014 personal property tax rolls and authorize the Chairman to sign the Waiver and Consent Form.

3. Circuit Court Judge Michael Pope  
(RE: SJI grant confirmation)

**A motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs and carried by unanimous voice vote to amend the County FY20 General Fund budget to show the revenues and expenditures for this grant.

4. Greg Ryskey, County Forestry and Parks Director  
(RE: potential land acquisition)

Mr. Ryskey was present at the meeting and discussed the process for the Flannery Forestlands land purchase through the Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund. Members of the Flannery family were present and shared their desire to work with the County through the purchase process.

**A motion** was made by Lorenson, supported by Laabs and carried by unanimous voice vote to authorize the Forestry and Parks Commission move forward with Grant application and thank the Flannery Family for their willingness to help the County.

**OTHER MATTERS:**

1. Joint Resolution (Western Upper Peninsula Manpower Consortium)

**A motion** by Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson and carried by unanimous voice vote to authorize the Chairman's signature on the resolution.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

1. Transit Board, one at-large position  
(One applicant: David Pawlak)

**A motion** was made by Peterson, supported by Orlich and carried by unanimous voice vote to appoint David Pawlak to the Transit Board.

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**ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES:**

County Administrator Juliane Giackino updated the Board on the Medical Examiner issue. Dr. Christanelli has accepted a job in Wisconsin but is still willing to provide his services to the County. New legislation was introduced by Senator McBroom which could change the Mine Inspector requirements and which counties would be required to have a Mine Inspector. Eric Guenard of the MEDC work group contacted her about a potential work session with Board on the EDC funds and staffing.

Commissioner Bonovetz presented a House of Representatives Resolution commemorating the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Michigan Counties Workers' Compensation Fund. Gogebic County is one out of the 10 charter members.

Commissioner Lorenson would like a possible Personnel and Negotiations Committee meeting setup to discuss the use of Comp time by County employees.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (5-minute limit)**

There was none.

**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 5:35 p.m.

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Dan Siirila, Chairman

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Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk