

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

July 22, 2020

County Courthouse

Bessemer, MI 49911

5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Chairman Siirila. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: (0) None

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

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Byrns to approve the minutes as presented.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Lorenson, supported by Peterson to approve the agenda as presented along two additions to Other Matters: Hazard Pay for Sheriff Department and to award the roofing bid for the Natural Resource Center storage garage building.

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.

COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORTS:

1. Finance, Budgeting & Auditing Committee ---06/24/2020
2. Personnel & Negotiations Committee -----07/08/2020

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Orlich to receive and place on file reports one and two.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

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3. Ambulance Committee -----07/16/2020

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Peterson to approve the Right of First Refusal Agreement, and authorize the Chairman to sign the document.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Mike Harma, Airport Manager
(RE: MDOT Contracts)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to authorize the Chairman's signature on the MDOT contracts and adopt the resolution as presented.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

2. Mike Harma, Airport Manager
(RE: 4th Quarter Appropriation request)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Orlich to release the fourth quarter appropriations to the Airport.

Roll Call:

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

No: (1) Siirila

Motion carried.

3. Juliane Giackino, County Administrator
(RE: Service Agreement for SESC program)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to authorize the Chairman's signature on the SESC Enforcement Agreement with John Pekkala.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

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TRIAL BALANCE/CASH BALANCE:

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

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE CONTROL:

A motion was made by Orlich, supported by Peterson to approve the reports as presented.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:

A motion was made by Lorensen, supported by Laabs to pay the claims as presented along with pre-paids and to authorize payment of the credit card, Holiday Fleet Gas bill and the Walmart bill as prepaids.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS:

Separate Tax Limitation Advisory Committee recommendation of Ballot Language for November 3, 2020 General election.

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Byrns to approve the placement of the ballot language as recommended by the Tax Limitation Advisory Committee for placement on the November 3, 2020 ballot.

PROPOSAL FOR RENEWAL OF SEPARATE TAX LIMITATIONS

SHALL SEPARATE TAX LIMITATIONS BE RENEWED OR CONTINUED FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR (4) YEARS (2021-2024 INCLUSIVE) FOR THE COUNTY OF GOGEBIC AND THE TOWNSHIPS AND THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT WITHIN THE COUNTY, THE AGGREGATE OF WHICH SHALL NOT EXCEED NINE (9) MILLS FOR

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THE COUNTY, THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND A TOWNSHIP AS
FOLLOWS:

GOGEBIC COUNTY	- 6.68 MILLS
GOGEBIC-ONTONAGON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT	- 0.32 MILLS
TOWNSHIPS:	
<i>Bessemer Township</i>	- 1.63 MILLS
<i>Erwin Township</i>	- 1.00 MILLS
<i>Marenisco Township</i>	- 2.00 MILLS
<i>Wakefield Township</i>	- 1.63 MILLS
<i>Watersmeet Township</i>	- 1.77 MILLS
<i>Ironwood Township</i>	Chartered

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried

Agenda Additions:

Hazard Pay for Sheriff Department Employees

A motion was made by Laabs, supported by Peterson for the County to move ahead with the First Responder Hazard Pay Premiums Program (FRHPPP) through the State Treasury.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

Roof Bid for the Natural Resource Center storage garage building. **A motion** was made by Lorensen, supported by Bonovetz to accept the bid from Erickson Roofing for a metal roof for \$10,600 and add snow stops to the building.

Roll Call:

YES: (6) Laabs, Byrns, Lorensen, Bonovetz,
Peterson, Siirila

No: (1) Orlich

Motion carried

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PUBLIC COMMENT (5-minute limit)

Frank Egeler representative for State Senator Ed McBroom appeared via phone to give a brief update on the State budget talks for this fiscal year amid COVID-19 and the next State budget year.

Commissioner Lorenson thanked the Sheriff Department and the Search and Rescue team for their time during the incident at the Rainbow Falls on the weekend of July 11.

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to send a letter of thanks to Jake's Tree Service for removal of a tree on the westside of the jail complex that was impeding on the building and putting the roof warranty in jeopardy. Jake donated his time and equipment for the removal of the tree.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Orlich, supported by Byrns to adjourn to the call of the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried

Dan Siirila, Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk