

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes (the meeting was also live streamed on Facebook Live)

March 25, 2020

County Courthouse

Bessemer, MI 49911

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m. by Chairman Siirila. The Public Hearing for MDNRTF Grant wasn't held due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was held prior to the opening of the meeting.

ROLL CALL:

Present: (7) Bonovetz, Byrns, Laabs, Lorenson (delayed arrival) Siirila (Orlich, Peterson appeared via phone)

Absent: (0) None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (March 11, 2020 meeting minutes)

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

Roll Call:

Yes: (6) Peterson, Laabs, Byrns, Bonovetz, Orlich, Siirila

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Bonovetz supported by Byrns to approve the agenda as presented with two additions to other matters.

Roll Call:

Yes: (6) Laabs, Byrns, 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 present or via live streaming email notification.

COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORTS:

1. Finance, Budgeting & Auditing Committee-----02/26/2020

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to receive the report and place it on file.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2020

Page Two

COMMUNICATIONS: No communications were received.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant
No action taken as the Public Hearing was not held.

2. Jonathan Mead, UPACC Secretary, (2)
Great Lakes Shoreline and Emergency Management Safe Schools

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to adopt a similar resolution from Gogebic County seeking assistance for disaster to Great Lakes Shorelines.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Byrns to adopt a similar resolution from Gogebic County regarding the Emergency Management and Safe Schools.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Laabs, supported by Lorenson to send a letter to our State Senator Ed McBroom to oppose Senate Bill 431.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2020

Page Three

GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE CONTROL:

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

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson to pay the claims as presented along with the pre-paids and make them a part of the minutes.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS

Agenda Additions:

1. Employee pay during Covid-19 related to the Governor's Executive Order 2020-21

A motion was made by Laabs, supported by Bonovetz to pay employees their regular pay up to April 10th whether they are working from home, or working from the courthouse a full day or rotating days within departments.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

Because access is limited to the Courthouse, Administrator Juliane Giackino asked the Board if each office within the Courthouse should be open during the usual working hours with minimal staff; most agreed.

Chairman Siirila asked the Board if a special or emergency meeting should be held to keep the Board informed on the ever changing COVID-19 issues. The Board decided to meet when and if it was necessary.

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2020

Page Four

PUBLIC COMMENT (5-minute limit)

County Treasurer Lisa Hewitt discussed with the Board her office telework plan and office hours for her staff. The staff is receiving all calls into the office via call forwards and each staff member has a work assignment for their days working from home.

No Public comment was sent via the live stream.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Orlich, supported by Byrns and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to the call of the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Dan Siirila, Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk