

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2020

County Courthouse

Bessemer, MI 49911

5:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

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 (September 23, 2020 Public Hearing and regular meeting minutes)

A motion was made by Orlich, supported by Bonovetz, and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes as presented.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Peterson, supported by Byrns, and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda as presented along with two additions to Other Matters.

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

There were none.

APPEARANCES:

1. Congressman Jack Bergman

(RE: Local stations and Direct TV Customers)

Congressman Bergman informed the Board his office is working on the loss of local channels to Direct TV subscribers. He discussed the process, which includes contacting the FCC and providing demographics and locations throughout the County to establish media markets. He will keep the Board up to date.

2. Lac View Desert Chairperson, James Williams Jr.

(RE: Land Trust/Roads in Gogebic County)

Mr. Williams was unable to appear at the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Charly Loper, Bessemer City Manager
(RE: Easement)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs, and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the easement as requested.

2. Juliane Giackino, County Administrator
(RE: USDA grant; boiler NRC building)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson, and carried by unanimous voice vote to proceed with the USDA application for a new boiler for the NRC building.

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3. Mike Harma, Airport Manager

(RE: FY2021 first and second quarter appropriation request)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs, and carried by a 6 yes and 1 no vote to release the FY21 first and second quarter appropriation as requested.

4. James Lorenson, Fair Board Chair

(RE: FY2021 appropriation request)

A motion was made by Lorenson, supported by Bonovetz, and carried by unanimous voice vote to release \$8,750.00, which is one-half on the FY21 appropriation.

5. James Lorenson, Fair Board Chair

(RE: one at large position)

A motion was made by Lorenson, supported by Laabs, and carried by unanimous voice vote to advertise for the at large position.

OTHER MATTERS:

Agenda Additions:

1. Reschedule of November 11, 2020 Board meeting

A motion was made by Peterson, supported by Bonovetz to set the meeting for Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at the regular time of 5:00 p.m.

2. DHHS Board term

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Lorenson, and carried by unanimous voice vote to advertise for the position.

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES:

Juliane Giackino updated the Board on the CRLGG grant process and the State Treasury requirements for reporting the expenses related to COIVD19 by the County.

Sheriff Matonich asked whether the County was going to put the work crew 2011 Ford Econoline Van up for bids. **A motion** was made by Peterson, supported by Bonovetz, and carried by unanimous voice vote to allow the Sheriff to seek bids on the vehicle. **A motion** was made by Lorenson, supported by Peterson, and carried by unanimous voice vote to allow the Sheriff to seek bids on the 2011 Ford Explorer that was used by the County for travel purposes.

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CLOSED SESSION:

1. Pending Litigation, consult with Counsel

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Lorensen to go into closed session to discuss litigation strategy with the County's Attorney.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Laabs, supported by Lorensen to return to open session.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lorensen, supported by Peterson, and carried by unanimous voice vote to agree to the litigation strategy and file a Third-Party Complaint in the matter of G20-152CZ, if Corporate Counsel Nick Jacobs approves.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5-minute limit)

There was none.

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 6:10 p.m.

Dan Siirila, Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk