

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2017

County Courthouse

Bessemer, MI 49911

5:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Peterson. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken.

ROLL CALL:

**Present: (6) Bonovetz, Laabs, Orlich,
Peterson, Siirila, Wasley**

Absent: (1) Oliver

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (March 22, 2017 regular meeting minutes)

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Orlich, supported by Wasley 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. Economic Development & Capital Improvement Comm. 04/05/17

A motion was made by Siirila, supported by Bonovetz to proceed with the generator project, which will be done in three phases, purchase the generator for \$19,696.83, purchase the transfer switch for \$2,085.72 and the maintenance agreement for \$1,160.85 with funds to come from the 2% monies, general fund and 9-1-1.

Roll Call:

**YES: (6) Wasley, Bonovetz, Orlich,
Siirila, Laabs, Peterson**

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

APPEARANCES:

1. Northern Michigan University Representatives
(RE: Educational Access Network)

Eric Smith and Don Salo of Northern Michigan University presented the Educational Access Network to the Board. Smith outlined the goals of reaching residents of the entire Upper Peninsula with the network. Lack of broadband internet communication connectivity throughout the U.P. is problem and is a focus of the Network. Through a grant from the Michigan EDC, NMU has received \$6.5 million in funds for the project. The EAN would serve primarily three groups; Students seeking online education to complete their degrees, community members seeking self-help programs and educational partners such as K-12 school districts, community colleges and other universities.

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2017

Page Two

NMU is seeking help in identifying where equipment needs to be installed in Gogebic County to serve as many people as possible. Communication towers are the primary location for their equipment, and 9-1-1 Coordinator Jim Loeper will provide assistance. Mapping from the County's Equalization office GIS software will be utilized to provide population concentration to NMU. During the 50 minute presentation the Board did ask questions and agreed to help out in any way possible.

2. Jim Loeper, 9-1-1 Coordinator
(RE: 9-1-1 Surcharge)

Mr. Loeper discussed the recommendation from the 9-1-1 Committee to maintain and set the monthly 9-1-1 surcharge at \$1.30 beginning on July 1, 2017. **A motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to adopt the resolution to set the monthly 9-1-1 surcharge on all communication service providers within Gogebic County at \$1.30 per device.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT MONTHLY 9-1-1 SURCHARGE WITHIN GOGEBIC COUNTY

WHEREAS, under the Emergency 9-1-1 Service Enabling Act (P.A. 379 2008, as amended) the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners approved the final 911 service plan on January 9th, 2002 to benefit the citizens of Gogebic County by providing a uniform and well known emergency telephone number; and

WHEREAS, the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners continues to believe that 911 service will benefit the citizens of Gogebic County; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan enacted Public Act 379 to further support 9-1-1 service in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Public Act 379 allows for the creation of a county-based local 9-1-1 surcharge on all communications service providers that can access 9-1-1 and provides for the collection, disbursement, use, and audit of said funds; and

WHEREAS, Gogebic County has deemed that a monthly county-based surcharge of \$1.30 be placed on all communications service providers **beginning July 1, 2017** as allowed under Public Act 379 is necessary to defray the costs of being ready to process and of actually processing 9-1-1 calls placed within Gogebic County, and;

WHEREAS, Gogebic County on November 4th, 2014 an election was held within Gogebic County (MCL 484.14701b) (1) & (b) with a vote of yes 3571 and no 1301 and

WHEREAS, Public Act 379 expires December 31st, 2020, the monthly county-based surcharge will remain in effect until that time, or is otherwise changed by county resolution and/or law; and

FURTHER, that pursuant to Public Act 379, the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners has modified the 9-1-1 Plan on July 14th, 2010 to reflect the changes in the 9-1-1 surcharges collected by Gogebic County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the county-based 9-1-1 surcharge on communications devices as permitted under P.A. 379 of 2008.

Roll Call:

**YES: (6) Wasley, Bonovetz, Orlich,
Siirila, Laabs, Peterson**

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2017

Page Three

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Sue Pertile, County Treasurer
(RE: 2016 Tax Settlement)

Sue Pertile presented the 2016 Tax Settlement to the Board. Pertile mentioned the County didn't have to borrow for this year's settlement. The grand total for 2016 was \$2,075,646.43, and the County settlement figure is \$328,165.11. **A motion** was made by Laabs, supported by Wasley to authorize the County Treasurer to release the 2016 settlement funds.

Roll Call:

**YES: (6) Bonovetz, Orlich, Siirila,
Laabs, Wasley, Peterson**

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

2. Sue Pertile, County Treasurer
(RE: scanning of tax rolls)

Pertile informed the Board that Michigan Tech University Archive department will accept her tax rolls and will pick them up later this year. By storing the tax rolls at MTU the County will save approximately \$94,000. Without the acceptance of MTU Archives the tax rolls would have been digitally scanned by a private company. No Board action was necessary.

OTHER MATTERS:

Pertile mentioned she received a letter from the State Treasury Department regarding the 2016 Audit. Reports related to Community Mental Health, which is a component unit within the county audit, need clarification. **A motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs and carried by unanimous voice vote to authorize Pertile to contact CMH representatives.

Commissioner Siirila mentioned he attended the recent Road Commission meeting and informed the Board that help will be provided by the road commission with installation of the new generator.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 minute limit)

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Siirila, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to the call of the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

George Peterson III, Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk