

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2017

County Courthouse

Bessemer, MI 49911

5:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:17 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Siirila. The meeting started late due to the Finance Committee running longer than expected.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: (1) Peterson

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (July 12, 2017 meeting minutes)

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Laabs, supported by Bonovetz and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda as presented along with three additions to the committee summary reports.

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

There were none.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS - SUMMARY REPORTS:

1. Economic Development & Capital Improv. -----06/28/17

A motion by Laabs supported by Bonovetz and carried by unanimous voice vote to offer to the Western U.P. Health Department a 3 year lease at \$1.00 increase per square foot, per year or a 5 year lease at \$.75 increase per square foot, per year to include grass cutting, snow removal, cleaning, supplies and a fire alarm system.

2. Personnel & Negotiations Committee -----06/28/17

3. Finance, Budgeting & Auditing Committee ----06/28/17

4. Health & Welfare Committee-----07/17/17

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to receive and place on file reports two, three and four.

Agenda Additions:

5. Economic Development & Capital Improv.-----07/26/17

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to accept the bid of \$43,000 for a new fire alarm system for the Courthouse and the Annex from Superiorland Electronics, Inc. the contract includes a five year warranty.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

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6. Finance, Budgeting & Auditing Committee -----07/26/17

A motion was made by Oliver, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to cancel the credit card for Tom Novascone in the Equalization Department and increase Administrator Juliane Giackino's credit card limit to \$5,000.00. The Equalization Department will use the Administrator's card for credit card purposes.

A motion was made by Oliver, supported by Bonovetz and carried by unanimous voice vote to release the PA 2 funds to the Northcare Network in the amount of \$3,666.00.

APPEARANCES:

1. Charly Loper, Bessemer City Manager
(RE: draft of proposed TIF/DDA Plan)

Ms. Loper appeared to discuss the City of Bessemer's Amended and Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan. Loper was presenting this as a State of Michigan requirement for the TIF plans because Gogebic County was a taxing jurisdiction. Loper discussed the benefits to the city with the new plan. After hearing her presentation on the plan, Gogebic County would make a recommendation for adoption of the plan to City of Bessemer. Commissioner Oliver asked why the County had to recommend the City to adopt the plan. Loper said she would research the matter further. After discussion, **a motion** was made by Oliver, supported by Laabs and carried by unanimous voice vote to table the matter, until Loper can research why the County is required to make such a recommendation.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Circuit Court Judge Mike Pope
(RE: Jury Appointment)

A motion was made by Oliver, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to table the appointment until Judge Pope can clarify this appointment process.

2. Lindsey Ringuette, Michigan DEQ
(RE: County SESC Program)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs and carried by unanimous voice vote to receive the communication and place it on file.

TRIAL BALANCE/CASH BALANCE

A motion was made by Oliver, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the reports as presented.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE CONTROL

A motion was made by Wasley, supported by Oliver and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the reports as presented.

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CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

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

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS

Commissioner Bonovetz discussed the motion from the July 12, 2017 regular meeting, in which the County Board sought an opinion from Corporate Counsel Nick Jacobs related the Airport Manager and a possible conflict of interest if he were to be hired as a part-time pilot. **A motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Laabs to direct the Prosecuting Attorney to provide an opinion as to whether or not the he feels the airport manager becoming a pilot for Air Choice One Airlines, which is a customer of the airport would constitute a conflict of interest and does the Prosecuting Attorney, our Corporate Counsel, feel that the airport manager being a pilot for Air Choice One would be a benefit to the County or would it be detrimental to County's financial responsibility to airport operations. The motion carried on a 5 yea- 1 nay voice vote.

Commissioner Oliver expressed his concerns that the County Board may at times be over stepping their bounds when discussing matters related to separate Boards and Commissions that the County Board makes appointments to.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 minute limit)

Judy Balchik had a question regarding the Fair and was directed to attend the Fair Board meeting on Monday July 31, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Wasley, supported by Laabs and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to the call of the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Dan Siirila, Vice-Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk