

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

November 21, 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: (5) Bonovetz, Oliver,
Orlich, Peterson, Wasley**

Absent: (2) Laabs, Siirila

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (November 8, 2017 regular meeting)

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 Bonovetz and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda as presented along with three recommendations from the Finance meeting of earlier today.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNTY BOARD ON AGENDA ITEMS

(5 minute limit)

There were none.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS - SUMMARY REPORTS:

1. Finance, Budgeting & Auditing Committee-----10/25/2017

2. Personnel & Negotiations Committee -----10/25/2017

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

3. Finance, Budgeting & Auditing Committee ----11/21/2017

A motion was made by Oliver, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to release the 2017 County appropriation to the Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency in the amount of \$5,000.00

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Orlich and carried by unanimous voice vote to provide \$25.00 holiday gift cards to all employees from a local supermarket.

A motion was made by Oliver, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to release the 4th Quarter PA 2 funds to the Northcare Network in the amount of \$4,906.20.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Scott Erickson, Chairperson of MWGTA
(RE: Phase three Iron Belle trail)

Paul Anderson of Coleman Engineering discussed the opportunity for Gogebic County to once again be the applicant for the new phase of construction of the Iron Bell Trail. Phase Three would continue the trail east from Bessemer to Ramsay, approximately 3 miles. Gogebic County would apply as it did in 2014 through the Michigan DNR Trust Fund. The total project cost is \$1,651,162.00. The Michigan Western Gateway Trail Authority has secured \$230,034.00 in local matches with the balance provided through MDNRTF and MDOT TAP funding.

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Anderson mentioned the County would again be asked to be the fiduciary of the grant and provide funds up front during the construction of trail. It is anticipated that the construction would begin in 2020, with completion expected in 2021. The application deadline is April 1, 2018.

Anderson provided a proposed 2017 Phase Three Agreement between MWGTA and Gogebic County that needs to be reviewed by Corporate Counsel.

Scott Erickson discussed the economic benefits that the current trail has been providing the communities along the trail. Several citizens that were in attendance spoke on how they have directly benefited from the current trail and asked the County Board to once again apply for the next phase through the MDNRTF.

The County Board had a few questions of Anderson regarding the funds that are still owed to the County as part of the Phase Two project. The County is still owed approximately \$27,300.00. Anderson mentioned the County approved an amendment to the Phase Two project in October of this year to extended timelines for closing out the project. There may be a second amendment that needs to be approved, but he does anticipate the County receiving the full funding reimbursement within six months.

The Board asked if language could be added to the application or the agreement that would quicken the reimbursement process. After further discussion, **a motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Oliver to move forward with the agreement and application process if the County receives the outstanding funds by the end of the year, and the agreement is approved by Corporate Counsel.

Roll Call:

**YES: (5) Wasley, Bonovetz
Orlich, Oliver, Peterson**

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

2. Carl Lindquist, Executive Director, Superior Watershed Partnership (RE: Heat and Electric Assistance)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Oliver and carried by unanimous voice vote to table the matter until County Administrator Juliane Giackino can ask a few questions about the program.

TRIAL BALANCE/CASH BALANCE

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

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GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE CONTROL

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

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

A motion was made by Oliver, supported by Wasley to pay the claims as presented, approve the credit cards and the pre-pays of the General Fund and make them a part of the minutes.

Roll Call:

**YES: (5) Oliver, Wasley, Bonovetz,
Orlich, Peterson**

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS

There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 minute limit)

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Orlich and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to the call of the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 5:38 pm.

George Peterson III, Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk