

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 11, 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 (September 27, 2017 regular meeting and Public Hearing minutes from 9/27/17)

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Siirila, 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.

APPEARANCES:

1. Stephan Currie, Executive Director, MAC
Mr. Currie gave an update on the priorities and goals MAC has for this legislative year. Currie discussed the 15 page handout, which included the 2017 legislative priorities; reforming Michigan's financing to local governments, Michigan Tax Tribunal changes, and improving the performance of the Child Care Fund. Currie mentioned MAC takes a position on pending legislation if it will have a direct impact on counties in Michigan. MAC has improved their social media presence with their web page, Facebook account and Twitter feeds. Currie did answer a few questions from the Board and mentioned he will be in the U. P. for a few days.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Mike Harma, Airport Manager
(RE: FY 2018 1st quarter appropriation release)

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to release the 1st and 2nd quarter appropriations to the Airport and place the communication on file.

2. 32nd Circuit Court Judge Michael Pope
(RE: Friend of the Court position)

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

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2017

Page Two

3. Jack Bergman, 1st District U.S. Congressman
(RE: Great Lakes Restoration Initiative resolution)

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

4. Tom Novascone
(RE: rescinding of Contractual Agreement resignation)

A motion was made by Siirila, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to accept Mr. Novascone's offer to rescind his resignation of his contract with the County.

OTHER MATTERS:

Commissioner Siirila asked if the County has heard anything new on the Manpower pension liability issue. This matter is still not resolved and possible funds from the State for FY2018 that could be appropriated to the County have yet to be approved at the legislative level. The County will continue to work on the matter with Senator Casperson's office.

Commissioner Bonovetz mentioned there are 36 apprenticeships available in the U. P. through the Upward Talent Council for trade jobs.

Commissioner Laabs asked about setting a negotiations meeting prior to the first negotiations sessions with the deputy association. A meeting of the Personnel and Negotiations Committee was set for October 25, 2017 immediately following the regular board meeting, which starts at 5:00 p.m.

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES:

Administrator Juliane Giackino began by asking if the County Board still wanted to meet with the representative of MERS. The majority felt the meeting should be cancelled. Giackino will let the MERS people know that at this time the Board is not interested in a presentation.

Giackino mentioned she and Clerk Gerry Pelissero had a teleconference with Gabrige and Company to discuss the concerns the Board had regarding the FY2016 audit plus future work that may be done by the firm if they are awarded the audit bid.

She also discussed the safety committee has future projects that could be done this year and would still be at or below the original \$20,000.00 approved by the Board for safety and equipment upgrades as discussed with safety committee. The Board advised Giackino to move forward with the projects she discussed.

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2017

Page Three

Brandon Tauer informed the Board that the panic button system and fire alarm systems are up and running. Tauer also informed the Board the Gogebic County Health Coalition provided the County with AED machine for emergency situations within the building and he provided each office with training on how to use the AED machine. A future CRP class may also be provided to employees.

Laabs asked Sheriff Matonich if the backup generator is up and running and Matonich said yes it is and one additional item needs to be installed. A monitor will be installed within the command center, which will allow the personnel to view the performance of the generator from that location rather than going to the unit itself.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 minute limit)

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Siirila supported by Laabs and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to the call of the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

George Peterson, III, Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk