

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2018

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, Laabs, Orlich,
Peterson, Wasley**

Absent: (2) Oliver, Siirila

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (September 26, 2018 Public Hearing minutes and September 26, 2018 regular Board 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 Bonovetz, supported by Orlich and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda as presented; to move the 2018 tax rate request up prior to appearances and to add a letter of support for WUPPDR 2019 RPI along with a discussion on the Fair Secretary to Other Matters.

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

There were none.

COMMITTEE SUMAMRY REPORTS:

1. Personnel & Negotiations Committee meeting ----10/02/2018
A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to advertise for a part time secretary up to 17.5 hours per week at \$16.00 per hour with no benefits with the applications due to the Administrator's office by October 19, 2018.

2018 Winter Tax Levy Request

Equalization Director Kathy Jo Koval discussed the 2018 winter tax rate for adoption by the Board. **A motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Wasley to authorize the Chairman and County Clerk to sign the Michigan Department of Treasury L-4029 form and to set the winter tax rate at 1.7143 mills. The 1.7143 mills are attributed to the Medical Care Facility M.O.E. of .1810 and Building and Site of .4000 plus Senior Programs of .6000, Animal Control of .2000 and County Transit of .3333.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

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APPEARANCES:

1. Western U.P. Health Department Representatives
(RE: Community Health Data)

Kate Beer, Health Officer discussed the recent U.P. Community Health Needs Assessment. Beer mentioned that 24,000 surveys were sent out to random people throughout the U.P.

She discussed the survey's objectives, key findings, district and County specific data and the next steps related to the survey.

The entire report is available on the health department's web site.

www.wupdhd.org/upchna/.

The Board thanked Kate for her presentation.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. McKenzie, Talaska & Muskett Attorneys at Law
(RE: Public Defender Contract)

Jim McKenzie discussed the Public Defender Contract with the Board. He discussed the previous contracts for service provided by his firm as the County Public Defense Contract holder. He also discussed the new Michigan Indigent Defense Commission requirements, which will impact the requirements of the Courts and Defense Attorneys. But these new requirements are not part of the contract proposal. The firm's proposal for the Public Defender Contract is as follows: \$110,000 for 2019, \$115,000 for 2020 and \$120,000 for 2021.

Judge Michael Pope was in attendance and he clarified the MIDC obligations for compliance by the County.

A motion was made by Laabs, supported by Bonovetz to approve and accept the Public Defender Contract Proposal offered by McKenzie, Talaska and Muskett, P.C.

Roll Call:

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

No: (0) None

Motion carried.

2. District/Probate Judge Massie and Circuit Judge Michael Pope
(RE: Public Defender Contract)

Having heard Judge Pope discuss the contract as part of the McKenzie, Talaska & Muskett presentation, **a motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to receive and place on file the communication.

3. Airport Manager Mike Harma
(RE: FAA Grant)

A motion was made Bonovetz, supported by Laabs and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve of the contract with the FAA and MDOT for an ARFF vehicle, 1500-gallon Fire Fighting Vehicle, to adopt the resolution associated with the contract and authorize the Chairman's signature on the contract.

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4. Jack Lillar, Chairman, County Council of Veterans Affairs
(RE: County Veterans Service Fund)

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

OTHER MATTERS:

Agenda Addition:

WUPPDR Letter of Support for 2019 RPI application.

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to have Clerk Pelissero draft a letter of support for the application by WUPPDR and he is authorized to the sign the letter.

Fair secretary position

Commissioner Wasley requested discussion on the Fair secretary position in the interim while applications are being submitted for the advertised job. The County Fair had a part time independent contractor perform the duties from June through September. The Fair needs reports and other matters completed in October. Corporate Counsel had looked at the new interim independent contract to provide the interim work, and suggested the County not sign the new contract. Discussion took place and then **a motion** was made by Bonovetz, supported by Wasley to sign the contract with Richter and Associates for this interim work.

Roll Call:

YES: (4) Wasley, Bonovetz, Orlich, Peterson

No: (1) Laabs

Motion carried.

Chairman Request:

November 14, 2018 meeting date

A motion was made by Laabs, supported Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to change the November 14, 2018 regular meeting date to Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at the regular time.

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES:

Juliane Giackino briefly updated on the ambulance committee and the how the millage information is being released to the media and the public. A media meeting was held this week and committee members will be hold a few town hall meetings this month. The I.T. Dept is working on the new website for the County and the MEDC is preparing to hold informational meetings on County economic matters soon.

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PUBLIC COMMENT (5-minute limit)

Emergency Management Services Director Jim Loeper mentioned the recent rains in October have raised the possibility of flooding within the County, but so far things are stable.

Tom Hampston of the Fair Board thanked the Board for advertising for a fair secretary and again asked about the window grant at the Fairgrounds. The Building and Grounds Committee will try to meet on this matter prior to the October 24, 2018 Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Bonovetz, supported by Wasley and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to the call of the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

George R. Peterson III, Chairman

Gerry R. Pelissero, Clerk