

The Regular meeting of the Iron County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Tim Aho at 4:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was taken, with the following members present: Brennan, Coates, Leonoff, Peretto, and Aho.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Brennan, to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of February 10, 2015. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Peretto, to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee of February 12, 2015 and February 26, 2015. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Chairman Aho requested the addition of three new items to the Agenda: #12 - Possible approval of the Courthouse Union Contract (TPOAM); #13 - Possible approval of posting the new job position for Pentoga Park; and #14 - Clarification of a deadline for employees to sign up for direct deposit.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Brennan, to approve the Agenda as amended. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

There was no Public Comment.

Reports were given by Aho, Brennan, and Leonoff regarding meetings they had attended. Coates and Peretto had no reports. The Administrator's report was included in the Agenda packet. County Treasurer Camps spoke regarding parcels which had gone for sale or were forfeited because of delinquent taxes.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates, to approve the reports. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Moved by Peretto, supported by Leonoff, to approve the Finance Committee's review of bills from February 12, 2015, in the amount of \$433,848.85 and from February 26, 2015, in the amount of \$687,522.34. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

New Business:

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to approve the release of accumulated sick leave benefits for John Lortie in the amount of \$2,289.55, because of his move from the Courthouse Union to Department Head. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates, to approve a letter of support to the City of Crystal Falls for a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application for Runkle Lake Park improvements. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A brief discussion was held regarding the energy audits performed by Johnson Controls and Honeywell. In a letter to the Board, Administrator Clisch, who was absent from this meeting, advised that the cost of improvements may be more than what could be saved over a 15 year period.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Brennan, to table a decision on energy-saving improvements to the Courthouse. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

The Board was in receipt of a letter from Prosecuting Attorney, Melissa Powell, asking that the Board formally approve the "hiring" of a canine advocate, which had been discussed at a previous meeting.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates, to "hire" a canine advocate at no cost to the taxpayers. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Leonoff, to approve the budget amendments required to cover wage increases (to be taken from Line Item 101-101-710.100). Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

The Board acknowledged receipt of letters from GEI Consultants regarding the filing of 5-Year MDNR Recreation Plans for Crystal Falls Township and Hematite Township.

Moved by Peretto, to approve a letter of support for WUPPDR to apply for funding to continue the Regional Prosperity Collaborative process. MOTION DIED DUE TO LACK OF SUPPORT.

A policy for use and a possible increase in the limit of the county credit card was discussed.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates, to table approval of a county credit card policy for further study. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Brennan, to approve the proposal from GEI for professional engineering services for Courthouse repairs, with the cost of the services not to exceed \$4,500.00. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates, to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the County of Iron and TPOAM.. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Commissioner Peretto questioned what the cost will be for the newly-created position in the Parks/Building & Grounds Department, and noted that there is no rate of pay included in the proposed job posting.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Brennan, to approve the posting of a job vacancy for a full-time position in the Parks/Building & Grounds Department, and if no responses are received within the allotted time, to advertise in the newspaper. Roll call: Ayes 4. Nays 1 - Peretto. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Brennan, to approve a deadline of April 15, 2015 for all employees to sign up for direct deposit. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Tom Lesandrini asked about the repayment of Indian Lake bonds and noted that, in reference to Pentoga Park, by law, any overtime hours would have to be paid.

Announcements:

The next Regular meeting of the Iron County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

The next Finance Committee meetings will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2015 and Thursday, March 26, 2015, both at 1:00 p.m.

The Courthouse will be closed on Friday, April 3, 2015 in observance of Good Friday.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Brennan, to adjourn. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Diane Hilberg, County Clerk