

A Special meeting of the Iron County Board of Commissioners was called to order by its Chairman Carl Lind, at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 19, 2013. The meeting was held in the Commissioners Room in the Courthouse at Crystal Falls, MI. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited. County Clerk Joan Luhtanen called the Roll of Officers. Present were: Patti Peretto, Tim Aho, Jim Brennan, Ray Coates and Lind. Peretto made a motion, seconded by Brennan, to approve the Agenda. On Voice Vote, the motion carried. Lind called for Public Comment, but none was voiced.

New Business:

Brennan made a motion, seconded by Coates, to rescind his motion (made on December 12, 2013, See Minute Book Page T-188), "to restructure the Parks Manager position from full time to "Seasonal" (April 14 through November 14, 2014)." Brennan said the premise that this action was necessary to balance the 2014 budget was wrong. There is not a shortfall of \$ 25,000. Peretto stated that to balance the budget was not the only reason this action was taken. She felt this was a part-time position and funding it full time could not be justified to the county taxpayers. Aho also thought the County could be held liable if the parks manager is working somewhere else during the off-season. Coates did not think contracting out building the bathrooms could save any money. Peretto stated the annual parks meeting was not held this spring because everything supposedly was going ok. Clisch brought up the need to pay benefits even if the position is seasonal. Civil Counsel Steve Tinti said it is a salaried position so that the County does not have to pay overtime. The County would not be liable for workmen's compensation unless the employee is performing tasks on behalf of the employer (Iron County) at the time. The County provides appointed officials' benefits packages based upon date of hire, and cannot discriminate on the type of benefits. Tinti reminded the Board that the current Parks Ordinance requires enforcement by the Parks Manager, and if there is a change then it would become necessary to re-work the ordinance.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Coates, Brennan, Lind

NAYS: Aho, Peretto

Motion carried, 3 to 2.

The lay off notice which management sent will be rescinded as a result of the above action.

Lind then choose Brennan and Coates as a committee to oversee the Pentoga Park Operation, and work with Parks Manager Patrick Hingos. Tinti said the County should post a notice of the meetings even though it is not a quorum of board members.

Aho made a motion, seconded by Coates, to pay out any benefits of accumulated vacation and sick leave in the event of a current employee becoming an elected office prior to January 3, 2014. This may be necessitated due to the impending retirement of the county clerk.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Brennan, Coates, Peretto, Aho, Lind

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

Announcements: The Organizational meeting will be held on January 2, 2014, at 1:00 p.m.

Brennan made a motion, seconded by Peretto, to adjourn the meeting. On Voice Vote, the motion carried. The time was 12:55 p.m.

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Chairman Carl Lind

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County Clerk Joan Luhtanen

On Thursday, December 19, 2013, at 1:00 p.m., the Iron County Finance Committee was called to order by Finance Chairman Jim Brennan and held in the Commissioners Room. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited. Roll Call was taken with the following members present: Ray Coates, Peretto and Brennan. Brennan called for any financial issues. Clerk Luhtanen suggested that the County Directory could be published every other year in order to save costs. If published in 2015, then the Directory could reflect any election changes. County Treasurer Melanie Camps had several payout items that had just come to her, but needed to be acted upon before the end of the year. It was decided to hold an additional Finance Committee meeting on Monday, December 30, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. The bills were then reviewed. Peretto made a motion, seconded by Coates, to pay the bills as presented in the amount of \$ 1,915,120.62.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Coates, Peretto, Brennan

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

Camps noted that the "Swamp Tax" revenue is only at \$ 2.00/acre this year instead of the \$3.00, so this is less than was anticipated. Brennan then declared the meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

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Finance Chairman Jim Brennan

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County Clerk Joan Luhtanen

