

Public Hearing

The Public Hearing on the 2015 Iron County All Funds Budget was called to order on December 16, 2014, in the Board of Commissioners Room at 4:00 p.m. by Board Chairman, Jim Brennan. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was taken, with the following members present: Aho, Coates, Lind, Peretto, and Brennan. There was a moment of silence in memory of Dolores Kocinski, mother of Commissioner-elect, Sharon Leonoff.

Chairman Brennan called to comments from the public. Sheriff Valesano noted that he had requested funds be put in the budget for anticipated severance payout, and that those funds did not show up. Administrator Clisch indicated that there is an error, and that it will be corrected. Chairman Brennan called for comments twice more. None were forthcoming.

Moved by Coates, supported by Peretto, to close the Public Hearing. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Iron County Board of Commissioners was called to order on December 16, 2014 immediately following the Public Hearing by Board Chairman, Jim Brennan. Roll call was taken, with the following members present: Aho, Coates, Lind, Peretto, and Brennan.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 13, 2014. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Peretto, to approve the Finance Committee minutes from November 20 and December 4, 2014. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to approve the Agenda with the addition of New Business 10, Revised Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Heritage Trail; and New Business 11, Memorandum of Understanding between MI DNR and Iron County regarding ORV trail.

Public Comment

Sheriff Valesano voiced his opinion regarding New Business Item #5, Starting wages of elected officials. He noted that when a person is elected to office, that person assumes the same responsibilities of the person who vacated that office. He also felt that lowering the salaries would make the positions less attractive to the best qualified candidates. Prosecutor Powell agreed, noting that the wages would not be competitive.

Commissioner/Department Reports

Reports were given by Commissioners Brennan, Aho, Coates and Peretto on various meetings and activities. Commissioner Lind had no report. Administrator Clisch stated that she had hired Mary Dalpra as the new Executive Assistant in her office. She thanked Angela Aho for filling in and also thanked Carl Lind for his years of service on the Board.

Sheriff Valesano reported that his Deputies all have body cameras and policies have been created for their use. He said that use is not mandatory, but that the cameras are very helpful. In the absence of Joetta Greig, Register of Deeds, Laura Ness advised that she had been appointed as Deputy Register of Deeds by Ms. Greig. Other Department reports were included in the Agenda packet.

Moved by Coates, supported by Peretto, to accept the Reports as presented. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to approve the Finance Committees' 11/06/14 review of bills in the amount of \$204,678.70. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to approve the Finance Committees' 11/20/14 review of bills in the amount of \$646,482.70. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Brennan, to approve the Treasurer's Journal Entries dated 11/20/14: (7669-7703; 7705-7713; 7715-7729), and dated 11/06/14 (7567-7575; 7577-7578; 7581-7585; 7587-7624; 7626-7667; 7669). Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

New Business

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to approve the payout of accrued benefits to Deborah Kubicsko, former Deputy County Clerk, in the amount of \$13,295.10. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A request had been received from the Iron County Historical & Museum Society for an annual allocation to help cover the cost of the Museum operation. Administrator Clisch suggested that perhaps the County could pay the insurance for the museum buildings, as they are already on the County policy. The museum has been reimbursing the insurance costs.

Moved by Aho, supported by Peretto, to pay the museum's portion of the insurance which covers the museum's buildings. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Peretto, to appoint Marcia Bernhardt to the Iron County Library Board for a term expiring 12/19/2019. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Aho, to appoint Beverly Wilcox to the Iron County Authority on Aging for a term expiring 12/31/2017. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Aho, to appoint Krist Atanasoff as Airport Manager for a term expiring 12/31/2017. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Aho, to appoint Phil Westphal to the Iron County Construction Code Commission & Appeals Board for a term expiring 12/31/2016.

Moved by Coates, supported by Peretto, to allow Jeff Bal to finish the work on the five-year Iron County Recreation Plan. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Salaries of elected and appointed officials were discussed. Administrator Clisch noted that this topic has been discussed before, and that perhaps a 10% decrease could be implemented when new officials took office or have been appointed.

Moved by Peretto, supported (for discussion) by Coates, to decrease the salaries of elected and appointed officials by 10% when they are first elected or appointed. Sheriff Valesano and Prosecutor Powell reiterated their positions taken during the public comments. Commissioners Coates and Aho indicated they agreed with the Sheriff and Prosecutor. Commissioner Peretto **rescinded** her motion and requested that the matter be taken up with the Personnel Committee.

Treasurer Camps reported that Michelle Johnson has been appointed as Deputy Treasurer, and that there is now a part-time vacancy in her office that she would like to fill.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to allow Treasurer Camps to fill the part-time position Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Peretto, to approve a wage increase of 2.1% for elected and appointed officials, effective January 5, 2015. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Peretto, approve a \$3,000 per year increase in the salary of John Lortie, Courthouse Custodian, for his oversight of Pentoga Park. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Aho, to approve the Collaborative Mental Health Treatment and Assistance Program Agreement with Northpointe Behavioral Healthcare Systems, and to authorize Chairman Brennan to sign the agreement. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to authorize the Chairman to sign the revised Memo of Understanding regarding the Heritage Trail. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to authorize the Chairman to sign the Memo of Understanding between the Department of Natural Resources and Iron County concerning Scott Lake Wye to Brule River ORV Trail. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to adopt, and allow the Chairman to sign, the Resolution regarding the 2015 Iron County Budget, General Appropriations Act, and Millage. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to adopt, and allow the Clerk to sign, the Resolution in Support of SB-495-498, Curtail Unfunded Mandates. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

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

Diane Hilberg, County Clerk

December 18, 2014 - Finance

The Finance Committee meeting of the Iron County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Finance Chairman, Tim Aho, at 1:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was taken, with the following members present: Coates, Peretto and Aho.

The Committee reviewed the bills. Treasurer Camps submitted journal entries dated 12/4/14 for approval and dated 12/18/14 for review. Administrator Clisch noted that the next Finance Committee meeting would be held on December 30, due to the Courthouse being closed on January 1, 2015.

Moved by Coates, supported by Peretto, to approve the bills in the amount of \$263,933.75. Roll call: Ayes 3. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to approve the submission of journal entries from 12/4/14 to the full Board. Roll call: Ayes 3. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to adjourn. Voice vote: Ayes 3. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Diane Hilberg, County Clerk