

October 14, 2014

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

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 9/9/14; the Finance Committee meetings of 9/11/14 and 9/25/14, and the Special Meeting of 9/25/14 with the following addition to the latter: Julie Melchiori, Acting EDC Director, gave a two-week notice of the termination of her employment as Acting EDC Director. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Lind, to approve the Agenda as presented. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

James Dellies, a candidate for the appointment to the Human Services Board, remarked that whoever is chosen by the County Board should be looking into the spending that is being done at the Medical Care Facility.

Sheriff Valesano voiced his support for the millage proposal being voted on in the November 4, 2014 election for replacing the radio system for Central Dispatch (911). He noted that the system is 14 years old and has become obsolete.

Reports:

Reports were given by the following Commissioners: Aho, Coates and Brennan. Commissioners Peretto and Lind had no reports. Reports were also given by the County Administrator and various Department Heads.

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

Unfinished Business:

Moved by Aho, supported by Peretto, to approve the Finance Committee's 8/28/14 Review of Bills in the amount of \$197,400.69; the Finance Committee's 9/11/14 Review of Bills in the amount of \$355,625.80; the Finance Committee's 9/25/14 Review of bills in the amount of \$999,431.63; the Treasurer's Journal Entries of 9/11/14 (#7354, 7356-7358, 7360, 7361, 7408-7421, 7424-7466), and the Treasurer's Journal Entries of 9/25/14 (#7467-7479, 7482-7501). Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of a new Equalization Director to replace Joan Mussatto who is retiring on Friday, October 17, 2014. Chairperson Brennan noted that Mussatto has served the County well. He felt that the salary should be lower for a new person filling the position, possibly around \$40,000 per year, and that goals should be put in place, with increases coming when these goals are met.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Aho (for discussion), to lower the salary of the Equalization Director to \$40,000, with increases coming in steps when certain goals are met. Coates stated that the Board should take a closer look at this. Peretto felt the matter should be brought to Finance or Personnel. Lind indicated that this should have been discussed a lot earlier. Aho questioned whether the County could be without an Equalization Director. Roll call: Ayes 1. Nays 4. Motion DENIED.

Moved by Lind, supported by Coates, to accept the retirement of Joan Mussatto. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Lind, to refer the matter of appointing an Equalization Director to the Personnel Committee. Attorney Tinti noted that without an Equalization Director, the present Deputy, Amy Marinoff, ceases to be the Deputy. Coates rescinded his motion, and Lind rescinded his second to the motion. Tinti suggested appointing Ms. Marinoff as Acting Director.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to appoint Amy Marinoff as Acting Equalization Director, with a compensation package to be determined at a future date upon a recommendation of the Personnel Committee. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

The Personnel Committee will meet on Monday, October 20, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the position of

Equalization Director.

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Don Diller, Iron County Veterans Committee, reported that Joy DiNicola retired from the Veterans office in Iron River and Katie Gable has assumed the position of Veterans Counselor. He noted that the office is running smoothly and is open on Wednesday and Thursday each week. Special appointments can be made if necessary.

Joan Mussatto briefly explained the 2014 Apportionment Report. She reported that there was a decrease in taxable value, which therefore results in a decrease in property taxes collected.

Moved by Lind, supported by Coates, to accept the 2014 Apportionment Report as presented. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Chairman Brennan called for nominations for one appointment to the Department of Human Services Board. Letters of application had been received from the following persons: Ben Smith; John Archocosky; Ray Kudwa; Ginger Davis; Katie Clark; Michael Masuga; Jim Dellies; Debra Divoky; and Patrick Ward. Aho nominated Katie Clark; Coates nominated Jim Dellies; and Peretto nominated John Archocosky. Ballots were submitted to the Clerk for tabulation, with the following results: Clark - 2; Dellies - 2; Archocosky - 1.

A roll call was then taken for the two top vote-getters, with the following results: Clark - Peretto and Aho; Dellies - Coates, Lind, and Brennan. Jim Dellies is appointed to the Department of Human Services Board to fill an appointment which expires on October 31, 2014.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the restructuring of Pentoga Park. Coates remarked that it would be very hard to find someone who knows the Park better than the present Manager. Peretto felt that the proposed plan would work well. Lind was concerned with what the proposal would cost, and asked if there was a cost figure. Peretto and Aho felt that the cost of operations would be less than what they are at the present time.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Aho, to adopt the following timeline regarding Pentoga Park:

- 1) Properly close park property for the winter. This will be the responsibility of Pat Hingos, with support from John Lortie and the Sheriff's work van, by Nov 1, 2014.
- 2) Layoff notice issued by Sue Clisch on November 1, 2014, and budget provided for two months of 2014 and into 2015.
- 3) Notice to Quit given to Park Manager to vacate Park house. (Tinti)
- 4) Security of Park for the winter will be John Lortie/Sheriff.
- 5) Amend Park Ordinance to assign control functions to John Lortie.
- 6) All park mail to Courthouse (Clisch).
- 7) Park website to be reviewed by the Parks & Rec Committee and recommendation provided to the BOC.

2015 Park Operation

Request the Parks & Rec Committee to draft:

- 1) Position description.
- 2) Recommend 2015 timetable.
- 3) Develop marketing plan (website, printed material, etc.).
- 4) Finance Committee recommend insurance, bonding, and system of checks and balances for Park revenues and expenses.

Roll call: Ayes 3 - Aho, Peretto, Brennan. Nays 2 - Coates, Lind. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Aho, to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution conveying a small undivided interest in a parcel of property to the Iron County Historical and Museum Society for the ongoing care and retention of County historical records. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Peretto, to designate Melissa Powell, Prosecuting Attorney, as the "Authorized Official" to submit/sign documents in the Michigan Electronic Grants Administration & Management System (E-grams). Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Lind, to table the request from the Iron County Museum's request for financial assistance. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Lind, supported by Aho, to appoint Sue Clisch, County Administrator, as the FOIA Coordinator. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

County Treasurer, Melanie Camps, explained her reasons for requesting that Iron County become an opt-in County for property auctions and foreclosures, which included the fees that would no longer be paid to the State of Michigan and more accurate posting of properties. Aho questioned the costs that may be involved. Camps indicated that there would be costs and that she may possibly need extra help.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Coates, to follow the recommendation of the County Treasurer to become an opt-in County for property auctions and foreclosures, under the rules of the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund. Roll call: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Aho, to approve the appointment of Lisa M. Powell to the position of Finance Director/Clerk of the Iron County Road Commission. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Lind, supported by Aho, to authorize the Chairman to sign Amendment No. 3 of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Project Agreement regarding the Iron County Heritage Trail. Voice vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

The next Regular meeting of the Iron County Board of Commissioners will be held on November 6, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. The Courthouse will be closed for the Veterans Holiday on November 11, 2014 and for the Thanksgiving Holiday on November 27 and 28, 2014.

Moved by Lind, supported by Aho, to adjourn.

Diane Hilberg, County Clerk

**October 20, 2014
Personnel Committee**

The Personnel Committee meeting of the Iron County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Committee Chairperson, Patti Peretto. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited, and roll call was taken, with the following members present: Brennan, Lind, Peretto.

The appointment and salary structure of the position of Equalization Director was discussed. Peretto and Brennan still felt that a new person starting out should not receive the same amount of salary as the person who has been in the position for a number of years. Lind felt that if a change in the policy was going to occur, it should not be at this time, indicating that a policy could be put in place for the future.

Administrator Clisch referenced material supplied by Joan Mussatto, indicating that the Equalization Department activities are overseen by the State Tax Commission.

Moved by Lind, supported by Brennan, to recommend to the full Board that Amy Marinoff be appointed Equalization Director with the salary continuing at \$48,338 per year, and that a policy be adopted by January 1, 2015 regarding salaries. Roll call: Ayes 3. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Lind, supported by Brennan, to adjourn.

Diane Hilberg, County Clerk

