

**January 10, 2017, Finance**

On Tuesday, January 10, 2017, at 4:00 p.m., Finance Chairman Brennan called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Courthouse. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Commissioners Sharon Leonoff, Timothy Aho, Ray Coates, James Brennan. Absent: Patti Peretto.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates to approve the Minutes of the December 28, 2016, Finance Committee Meeting. Voice vote, motion carried.

Chairman Brennan called for Public Comment regarding agenda items only, three times, no comments voiced.

The Finance Committee reviewed the bills. Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$851,184.84. Roll call vote: AYES: Coates, Leonoff, Aho, Brennan. NAYS: None. Absent: Peretto. Motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates to adjourn Finance Committee meeting. Voice vote, motion carried.

**January 10, 2017, Regular**

Board of Commissioner Meeting called to order by Chairman Aho immediately following adjournment of the Finance Committee.

Roll call was taken, with the following commissioners present: James Brennan, Ray Coates, Sharon Leonoff, Timothy Aho. Absent: Patti Peretto

Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates to accept the Minutes of the Board of Commissioner Meetings dated: (a) December 13, 2016, and (b) January 3, 2017. Voice vote, motion carried.

Chairman Aho requested to amend the agenda to include item "H" Timber on Iron County Lands. Moved by Coates, supported by Brennan to approve the amended agenda. Voice vote, motion carried.

Chairman Aho calls three times for public comment regarding agenda items only. No comments voiced.

**Commissioner Reports:**

Aho reported Health Department Director Steve Markum resigned from his position. There will be a special meeting, January 11, 2017, to discuss filling the position.

Brennan reported North Care has quarterly meetings. They have not been able to come to an agreement on funding. It was decided at the December meeting there would be no vote.

Coates reported 911, the Sheriff's Department and EMT's are having a difficult time locating addresses when there are no fire numbers, or they are not posted in the recommended area.

Leonoff reported the Chamber of Commerce is reorganizing with Alliance. They have plans to schedule more events to move Iron County forward.

Peretto absent.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates to approve Commissioner Reports. Voice vote, motion carried.

**Department Head Reports:**

Administrator Gene Smith reported he attended a Hematite Township Board meeting. He plans to continue attending local town and township meetings to introduce himself and meet local people.

Clerk/Register and Treasurer, no reports at this time.

Sheriff Valesano reported a program called Med Safe is a safe way to dispose of any unused drugs. There is a drop box at the Iron River Police Department lobby and the Sheriff Department Lobby. The drugs can be taken out of the bottles, put in zip lock bags, do not have to be labelled, and can be mixed. All drugs will be destroyed.

Friend of the Court, Equalization and Prosecuting Attorney not in attendance.

Veteran's Service Office gave a report comparing changes between the years 2015 & 2016. Video conference and a mobile office will be available. The number of interviews and claims filed has increased from 2015. They feel they have been able to serve more veterans in Iron County.

Civil Counsel, no report.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Leonoff to accept Department Head Reports. Voice vote, motion carried.

**Old Business:**

Moved by Brennan, supported by Leonoff to approve the Finance Committee's review of bills submitted Dec. 1, 2016, for \$390,676.85, Dec. 15, 2016, for \$580,699.68, and Dec. 28, 2016, for \$314,352.45. Roll Call taken: AYES: Coates, Brennan, Leonoff, Aho. NAYS: none. Absent: Peretto. Motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Leonoff to approve Journal Entries for Dec 1, Dec 15 and Dec. 28, 2016. Roll Call taken: AYES: Brennan, Coates, Leonoff, Aho. NAYS: None. Absent: Peretto. Motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates to approve Department Budget Amendments: Dec. 1 – Dec. 31, 2016. Roll Call taken: AYES: Brennan, Coates, Leonoff, Aho. NAYS: None. Absent: Peretto. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

Regarding timber on Iron County lands, Brock VanOss of Van Oss Forestry Services, LLC, noted Larson Park is 320 acres and recommends it should be logged 150 feet from roadway for visual purposes, Pentoga has eight acres. Moved by Coates, supported by Brennan to approve the amendment to the 2017 budget to support a resolution creating a Forestry Fund and budget, (created timber sales will go into the created fund 213) and to advertise for bids for logging the property. Roll call taken: AYES: Brennan, Coates, Leonoff, Aho. NAYS: None. Absent: Peretto. Motion carried.

**Appointments:**

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Brennan to re-appoint Aho to the Upper Peninsula Commission for Area Progress board. Voice vote, motion carried.

Leonoff moved, supported by Brennan to re-appoint Aho to the Upper Peninsula Commission for Area Progress Energy Task Force. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Brennan, supported by Leonoff to re-appoint Aho to the UPWARD Talent Council Board (formerly MI Works). Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Brennan, to re-appoint Peretto to the Northpointe Board. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Brennan, to re-appoint Vivian Leonoff and Helen Hord to the Authority on Aging Board for a 3 year term. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates to re-appoint Alice Clement to the Housing Commission for a 5 year term. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Coates, supported by Brennan, to authorize Iron County participation in the NACo Healthy Living Program. This program provides relief to uninsured and underinsured who face high prescription, health and dental costs. The program is free for member counties and inexpensive for residents. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates, to consider a resolution adopting policy and procedures governing the accounts payable process. The resolution will authorize payments prior to their review and approval in order to avoid finance or late charges. A list of payments made prior to their review and approval must be presented at their next regular meeting. The County Administrator is directed to take any and all actions necessary for implementation of this resolution. Roll call vote: AYES: Brennan, Coates, Leonoff, Aho. NAYS: None. Absent: Peretto. Motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Coates to amend the Board of Commissioners Rules of Order, by inserting the following language, "Payment of invoices prior to their presentation to the Board of Commissioners in order to avoid finance or late charges and to pay appropriated amounts and payroll (including related payroll taxes and withholdings) can be made pursuant to the authority of the County Administrator in a manner consistent with the County's Standard Operating Procedures for Accounts Payable." Roll call vote: AYES: Brennan, Coates, Leonoff, Aho. NAYS: None. Absent: Peretto. Motion carried.

Administrator Smith stated there will not be a presentation by NMU regarding LTE/Broadband project. Northern Michigan University's (NMU) requested to have Iron County join in a partnership and allow the University use of its water tower located near the downtown area at no cost. In exchange, NMU can allow Iron County to extend county network services to mobile or fixed locations using the University's LTE network at no cost. NMU will help establish services and will provide all maintenance and support for the LTE service. An agreement is included in the packets for the Board of Commissioners to review. No action was taken.

Public Comments: Tom Lesandrini discussed the Economic Development Corporation (EDC). Treasurer Appropriation was discussed. Civil Counsel and EDC will be discussing a contract to terminate EDC and become Alliance. Quarterly Allocation on hold until next quarter. No funds will be released to EDC until further action by the board. Moved by Brennan, supported by Coates to hold payment until next quarter. Roll call vote: AYES: Brennan, Coates, Leonoff, Aho. NAYS: None. Absent: Peretto. Motion carried.

Announcements: The next Regular Monthly Board Meeting will be Tuesday Feb. 14, 2017, at 4:00 p.m.

Coates moved, supported by Brennan to adjourn. Voice vote, motion carried. Meeting adjourns at 5:35 p.m.

Reports: County Clerk  
Register of Deeds  
MSU Extension  
Veteran's Service Office (2016 Annual Report)  
Northpointe Meeting Minutes of Dec.8, 2016  
Health Department Meeting Minutes of Dec. 28, 2016