

July 9, 2019 Regular Meeting

T-435

On Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 4:00 p.m., Chairperson Patti Peretto 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: Chairperson Patti Peretto, Commissioners Tim Aho, Ray Coates, Sharon Leonoff and Mike Stafford.

Also present: Sheriff Mark Valesano, Undersheriff Ryan Boehmke, Prosecutor Melissa Powell, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Administrative Assistants Mary Dalpra and Lynette Lorenz, Friend of the Court Heidi VanSlooten, Chamber Alliance Executive Director Paul Schuytema, Gerald Williams from the Iron County Veterans Service Office, Jen Ricker Feak from Soil and Conservation, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti and Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle.

Moved by Coates, supported by Leonoff to approve the June 11, 2019, Regular Meeting minutes. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Stafford to approve the June 27, 2019, Special Meeting minutes. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Stafford to approve the agenda with the addition of the Ambulance Garage Revenue & Expenditure Budget Amendment and the addition of the Appointment to the ICECA Board and amending the agenda to reflect the Treasurer's Request to Amend Budget for Fund 200 – Equipment for 911. Voice vote, motion carried.

Chairperson Peretto called for Public Comment. Bill Fleming spoke asking for approval of the E-waste Proposal. Peretto called for public comment two more times. No more comments voiced.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Coates to approve the monthly payables in the amount of \$295,291.89, and payroll in the amount of \$324,762.16. Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Leonoff to approve journal entries in the amount of \$3,571,850.77, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps and administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$27,950.00. Roll call vote: Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Aho reported on overall improvements at Pentoga Park and specifically the tree removal and how it saved tax payer money.

Peretto stated she received a card in the mail expressing an interest for all commissioners to come to the Fairgrounds to see the improvements. Peretto also said it's that time of year again that the Western U.P. Planning & Development Region Commission (WUPPDR) awards an individual the Chiantello Award. Each county can nominate one person. The deadline to nominate is July 31st. The award will be announced on September 16, 2019, at the WUPPDR Annual Meeting.

Stafford attended a Crystal Falls Township meeting. The Crystal Falls Township meeting involved discussion regarding Aspirus and going forward with the ambulance garage.

Department Reports:

Dave Frailing from the Iron County Fair Board discussed the breakdown on what the expenses for the improvements will be. He also invited the commissioners to the fairgrounds to look around to see how the money was spent.

Jen Ricker Feak from Iron County Soil and Conservation discussed invasive species.

Chamber Alliance Executive Director Schuytema reported that the League of Michigan Bicyclists are touring the U.P. and are camping out at Forest Park. Also Schutytema stated to look at the website www.iron.org to look at videos regarding reasons to come to Iron County. He also said they are currently working on a third trade show.

Gerald Williams from the Iron County Veteran's Office wanted to introduce Mike Peterson as their new board member. Mr. Williams also discussed that Iron County has lost over 60 veterans and the financial impact because of it.

Moved by Leonoff, supported by Stafford to approve the Department Head Reports. Voice vote, motion carried.

Old Business:

After discussion regarding the request for documentation from Central Dispatch Director Steve Gagnea, the following motion was made by Aho, supported by Coates:

“After discussion with Commissioner Coates, who is the commissioner appointed to Central Dispatch, I will make this motion. Commissioner Coates and Commissioner Aho will investigate the lack of clarity in the response provided this board in reference to the motion made at the May 14, 2019 meeting. We will also investigate the recent LEIN audit violations which were recently brought to our attention that we feel were not dealt with on a timely basis.

This motion also places the Central Dispatch Director Steve Gagnea on administrative leave, with pay, while the research and investigation take place. As part of the administrative leave, Mr. Gagnea will return all of his building access, communication tools and devices allowing access to Iron County properties. This motion also directs Mary Dalpra to work with 906 Technologies to immediately remove all access Mr. Gagnea currently has to Iron County computer systems, including any and all Central Dispatch computer access.

This motion also provides that during the interim, Iron County Emergency Management Director, Vernon Jones, will provide oversight at Central Dispatch. This includes full access and authority to maintain the operations of Central Dispatch. Mr. Jones will be paid at his current rate as Emergency Management Director.”

Roll call vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0. Motion carried.

New Business:

Moved by Coates, supported by Stafford, to approve a letter of support from the Iron County Board of Commissioner for the Dickinson Iron Community Services Agency (DICSA) grant application. Voice vote: motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Stafford, to approve the Iron-Baraga Conservation District's E-Waste Proposal, with a location to be determined central to the county in conjunction with civil counsel. Voice vote: motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to approve a \$25.00 per month cell phone stipen for the Iron County Juvenile Probation Officer, once civil counsel drafts a document stating that the cell phone may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act. Voice Vote: motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Aho, to approve the Prosecuting Attorney's request to increase the budget by \$10,000, due to one employee retiring who opted out of the health insurance and a new employee taking the health insurance. Roll call vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Stafford, to approve the Treasurer's request to amend the budget for Fund 200 – Equipment for 911, increasing the revenue by \$3,500.00 and increasing the expense by \$3,500.00. Voice vote: motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Coates, to authorize Administrative Assistant Lynette Lorenz to perform budget amendments and in the absence of Lynette Lorenz, Treasurer Melanie Camps is authorized to perform budget amendments. Voice vote: motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Leonoff, to accept the resignation of Housing Commission Board Member Debra Divoky. The board tabled a new appointment at this time. Voice vote: motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, supporting the Resolution of the U.P. Area on Aging 2020-2022 Multi-Year Plan for Services to the Elderly. Voice vote: motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Aho, to increase Utilize Fund 470 by \$30,000. Roll call vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Aho, supported by Coates, to appoint Mary Dalpra as the County's liason to the Iron County Economic Chamber Alliance Board. Voice vote: motion carried.

Public Comment:

Chairperson Peretto called for Public Comment:

Diane Kut wanted to thank the Board for supporting the Iron-Baraga Conservation District's E-Waste Proposal.

Peretto asked for public comment two more times. No more comments voiced.

Announcements:

The next meeting of the county board will be the Finance Committee meeting on Thursday, July 25, 2019, at 8:00 a.m.

Moved by Coates, supported by Leonoff, to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Chairperson Patti Peretto

Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle