

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met on Monday, November 13, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Chippewa County Courthouse, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Present: Commissioners: Ted Postula, Don Cooper, Scott Shackleton, Richard Timmer, Bernard LaJoie, Jim Moore and Earl Kay

Also Present: Debbie Sirk, Jeff Moran, Sheriff, Jesse Knoll, Derek Myerscough, Marvin Willis, Will Karr, Don and Chris McLean, Kelly Beaune, Acting Controller and Diane Cork, County Clerk

It was moved by Commissioner LaJoie, supported by Commissioner Postula, to acknowledge the correspondence received in the Clerk's Office and if necessary, forward to the appropriate committee. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner LaJoie, supported by Commissioner Timmer, to approve the Truth and Taxation Public Hearing minutes of October 9, 2006, Public Hearing minutes on the CDBG Project Summary of October 9, 2006 and the County Board minutes of October 9, 2006. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jesse Knoll, Sugar Island resident, addressed the Board concerning the upcoming appointment to the Transportation Authority Board. He presented 300 petition signatures requesting that Mr. Knoll be appointed to this particular board.

John Willis, Sugar Island resident, requested the County Board not to reappoint a certain board member for an upcoming vacancy and that a person should only be appointed to one board. He also commented on a FOIA request that he had submitted to the Transportation Authority Board.

Marvin Willis, Sugar Island Township Trustee, had concerns with the reappointment of Mr. Sasso to the Transportation Authority Board. Mr. Willis commented that Sugar Island has no representation on this board and that the County Board keeps appointing the same people to the same boards. He felt that new blood and new ideas are needed.

Louise Willis, resident and editor of Quacker on Sugar Island, requesting that Jesse Knoll be appointed to the Transportation Authority Board.

Chris McLean talked about HBH employee wage increases and attorney fee increases.

Don McLean read a statement concerning HBH's feasibility study, the building project in Manistique and representation on the HBH Board.

Derek Myerscough asked how per diem worked for County Commissioners and Mr. Kay commented that he would get back to him on that issue.

CONTROLLER'S REPORT: Kelly Beaune, Acting Controller – Informational purposes only. No action items.

OLD BUSINESS:

It was moved by Commissioner LaJoie, supported by Commissioner Timmer, to accept the nominee applications for the various boards, agencies and committees as advertised in the Evening News. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

CHIPPEWA COUNTY BUILDING AUTHORITY

Term 1/1/07 – 12/31/07

3 appointments

Paul Freedman, Marilyn McDonald, Michael Krzycki

Applicants: Paul Freedman, Marilyn McDonald, Ron Meister

BOARD OF HEALTH

Term 1/1/07 – 12/31/11

1 appointment

Richard Jennings

Applicants: Donald McLean, Patrick Shannon, Gregory Zimmerman

BUILDING CODE OF APPEALS

Term 1/1/07 – 12/31/08

3 appointments

Ray Bauer, Harold Lawson, Samuel White

Applicants: Samuel White

E 9-1-1 CENTRAL DISPATCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term 1/1/07 – 12/31/08

1 appointment

James German

Applicants: Jim German, Michael Langendorf, Don McLean, Derek Myerscough

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Term 1/1/07 – 12/31/08

1 appointment

Frank Sasso

MTA appointment

REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Term 1/1/07 – 12/31/08

2 private citizen appointments, 1 education appointment

Richard Conboy, William Ferguson, Pete Everson

Applicants: Gregory Zimmerman (citizen); Peter Everson (education)

ROAD COMMISSION

Term 1/1/07 – 12/31/12

1 appointment

Louis MacDonald

Applicants: Martin Gaylor, Louis MacDonald, John McCormick, Robert Schallip Jr.
Gerald Smith

TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Term 1/1/07 – 12/31/09

1 appointment

Frank Sasso

Applicants: Jesse Knoll, Frank Sasso, Robert Schallip Jr., Gerald Smith, Allan Swanson

WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, INC.

Term 1/1/07 – 12/31/10

1 appointment

Rita Dale

Applicants: Rita Dale, Patrick Shannon

Commissioner Cooper had concerns with the attendance of the Bay Mills representation on the E 9-1-1 Board.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel – Bernard LaJoie – 10-30-06

The Committee received notification of the full-time hire of Walter Wiater, to replace Lyle Norduft whose position ended on October 20, 2006.

It was moved by Commissioner LaJoie, supported by Commissioner Moore, to accept the recommendation of Sheriff Moran to hire Walter Waiter full time effective October 23, 2006. On a voice vote, the motion carried with Commissioner Cooper voting no.

Director Tim McKee updated the Committee regarding his current staff, including medical leaves, the Senior Dispatcher opening, and a resignation effective some time in December and part time staff vacancies.

It was moved by Commissioner LaJoie, supported by Commissioner Timmer, to advertise the part time dispatchers' positions. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The completion of the report was for information purposes only or will be acted upon in the Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee report.

It was moved by Commissioner LaJoie, supported by Commissioner Moore, to accept the report of the Personnel Committee as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Equalization – Jim Moore – No meeting

Health & Social Services – Ted Postula – No meeting

Building, Grounds & Jail – Earl Kay – 11-6-06

The Committee received a copy of the proposed Courthouse Building Emergency Action Plan for review and discussion. (Copies of the Plan to be provided to the full Board) Discussion included limiting the access to the Courthouse to the use of the South end doors and the handicapped entrance; holding a security briefing with the department heads; as well as; the staff, having different drills (fire, lock down, use of fire extinguishers). Discussion included installation of a security camera at the handicapped entrance, the need for different security items and how to inform all the Departments of a security risk. Security issues were also discussed when Committee, as well as, the Regular Board meetings are being held. The Committee also visited with Probate/Family Court Judge Ulrich to assess potential security issues in the Probate Courtroom. Department Heads will be contacted and receive a copy of the Plan for review.

It was moved by Commissioner Moore, supported by Commissioner Timmer, to distribute and review the Courthouse Building Emergency Action Plan, and to ask for its approval, upon its review, and to limit the access of the County Courthouse to the south end door and the handicapped entrance. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Having completed the report, it was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner LaJoie, to accept the report as given. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Transportation – Ted Postula – No meeting

Legislative & Natural Resources – Richard Timmer – 10-18-06

A proposed amendment of Rules 6.610, 6.625, and 7.103 was forwarded to the Committee for review by Public Defender Elizabeth Church. If this proposed amendment were to pass, independent counsel would be required, as an attorney cannot file the appellant work on a case she or he worked on. This would be an additional cost to the County.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to oppose the proposed amendments of Supreme Court Rules 6.610, 6.625, and 7.103, without additional funding for the Counties. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve the Committee report as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Legislative and Natural Resources – Richard Timmer – 11-2-06

Discussion began with the legal opinion received from Prosecuting Attorney Brian Pepler, which states that “there is no conflict or violation of the constitution or statute.” The Michigan Sheriff’s Association also researched the question on behalf of Sheriff Moran, Terry Jungek, Executive Director, found nothing on wrecker ownership/operation. The Committee felt that legally due diligence had been completed by the County, with the opinion that was sought and reviewed. The Committee was then addressed by Jeff Moran, who owns and operates Superior towing; he told the Committee that all County policies and the laws from the Michigan Public Service Commission will be followed by his business. Director Tim McKee presented the Committee with the latest revised copy of the proposed draft Wrecker Services Policy and Procedure for follow-up and discussion. Director Tim McKee requested authorization to work with the agencies and the wrecker services in Chippewa County.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Postula, to authorize Tim McKee to meet with law enforcement and the wrecker services to prepare the Wrecker Services Policy and Procedure to be approved at the December 2006 meeting. Discussion followed on certification of wrecker services and policies being combined into one document. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Having completed the report, it was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner LaJoie, to approve the Committee report as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Computer – Don Cooper – No meeting

Finance, Claims and Accounts – Richard Timmer – 11-9-06

Ken Drenth represented the North Huron Scenic Pathway Project, which is a plan to develop a non-motorized pathway along M-134 and Lake Huron between St. Ignace and Drummond Island which will provide opportunities for recreation, access to natural and cultural resources; which would be a community asset as well as an economic stimulus. The North Huron Scenic Pathway group was seeking \$10,000 from Chippewa County to help pay from a pre-engineering study.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Cooper, to consider up to a \$10,000 commitment during the FY07 Budget process to the North Huron Scenic Pathway for a pre-engineering study. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Committee received the draft 2007 Borrowing Resolution as presented by the County Treasurer. The Resolution would permit the Treasurer to borrow sufficient monies to adequately fund the Revolving Fund if necessary.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Postula, to recommend approve of the 2007 Borrowing Resolution number 06-13. On a roll call vote, Commissioners Postula, Shackleton, Timmer, LaJoie, Moore and Kay voted yes. Commissioner Cooper voted no. The motion carried 6-1.

The Committee reviewed the Eastern UP Community Corrections three-year grant request running October 1, 2006 through September 2009.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Postula, to approve the EUP Community Corrections Advisory Board request approving the three-year grant and authorize the necessary signatures. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Committee reviewed the annual resolution to allow a two percent increase in the retirement allowance for County retirees.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Cooper, to recommend approval of Resolution number 06-12, the Uniform Resolution for Adopting Benefit Program "E" Increase to be effective on adjustment date January 1, 2007. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Committee reviewed the \$5,000, 2% funding request from the Community Foundation, these funds have not been dispersed due to lack of documentation.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Moore, to contact the Community Foundation Executive Director and seek documentation that shows the Services (benefits) Chippewa County citizens will receive for this pass-through; and have the information for the Regular Board meeting (11-13-06). Discussion followed on the proper documentation. After discussion and receipt of the information, Commissioner Timmer withdrew his motion and Commissioner Moore withdrew his support.

It was moved by Commissioner Moore, supported by Commissioner Postula, to recommend the County Board release the \$5000, 2% monies to the Community Foundation for their operating expenses. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Committee reviewed the notice of receiving bids on three used Sheriff vehicles.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Moore, to approve the sale and disbursement of the vehicles to the highest bidder(s). On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Bid summary for the previously submitted RFQ for snow plowing and removal services was received by the Committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Postula, to approve the low bid of \$4,750.00 for snow plowing and removal services to Burton Excavating, Inc. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Committee reviewed the bids for the bid summary for the purchase of 7, 10 and 12 desktop computers.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Moore, to approve the local bid from Charm Computers to purchase 12 Desktop computers per the bid specifications at a cost not to exceed \$10,140.00. Discussion followed on the number of computers needed, the warranty, local bids and policy procedures. On a show of hands, the motion failed 7-0.

It was moved by Commissioner LaJoie, supported by Commissioner Moore, to recommend approval of purchasing 12 computers from PC Mall Gov in the amount of \$8,816.00 (low bid). On a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

The Committee received and reviewed the request to purchase a 2006 ATV for the purpose of Off Road patrol, to be 100% funded by the DNR Grant submitted for FY2007.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner LaJoie, to approve the low bid from Northstar Motorsports, to purchase a 2006 4000 4x4, price not to exceed \$4,827.00 to be paid through the DNR Grant funds. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Personnel Committee met on October 30th and approved a motion to forward to the Finance Committee non-union wages for FY2007, upgrading Grade 13 (Clerk, Treasurer, Register of Deeds and the Undersheriff) to Grade 14 due to additional job duties and to review a budget request from Information Systems to make the pay of the two positions more comparable in wages.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Cooper, to approve a 3% wage increase for non-union employees, excluding the Prosecutor, Chief Assistant Prosecutor and the Assistant Prosecutor positions. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Moore, to approve a grade increase to the Clerk, Treasurer, Register of Deeds and the Undersheriff from Grade 13 to Grade 14. Discussion was held. On a voice vote, the motion carried with Commissioner Cooper voting no.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Moore, to approve a grade increase for the PC Specialist from Grade 9 to Grade 10. Discussion was held on the percent of raise for the ensuing year, step raises that have already been received and job descriptions.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Cooper, to table the PC Specialist upgrade for further review. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

From the Legislative and Natural Resources Committee which met on November 2nd, a request to approve a resolution regarding the U.S. Coast Guard Safety Zone Project which understands the training needs but opposes the lack of assurances to protect the Natural Resources and the citizens health and safety for those living and visiting these proposed areas.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner LaJoie, to approve Resolution number 06-11, Resolution in Opposition to Certain Aspects of the U.S. Coast Guard Safety Zone Project as follows:

**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO
CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD
SAFETY ZONE PROJECT**

WHEREAS, under Homeland Security, the U.S. Coast Guard Safety Zone Project proposes to establish 34 permanent live fire training zones on all of the Great Lakes; which includes Whitefish Bay on Lake Superior; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners understands the U.S. Coast Guard training needs, but also the responsibility to protect the citizens health and safety of those living and visiting not only Lake Superior but all of the Great Lakes and the welfare of the County's tourism-dependent economy in the lake Superior watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners wishes to assure the quality of the Natural Resources within the County including fish, wildlife and birds of the region which are dependent for their health and sustenance upon the quality of water in the Great Lakes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners acknowledges the need for training by the U.S. Coast Guard to maintain security in the Great Lake, and;
2. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests that the U.S. Coast Guard provides assurances of safety and conduct the training in a manner that will protect the public, wildlife and waters and watershed of all the Great Lakes, in particular Lake Superior and Whitefish Bay, and;
3. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Departments of State and Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Department of Transportation.

On a roll call vote, Commissioners Postula, Cooper, Shackleton, Timmer, LaJoie, Moore and Kay voted yes. The motion carried 7-0.

Chuck Leonhardt updated the Committee on previous budget adjustments, and received a current Fund analysis. The Committee was also requested to approve the following budget adjustments:

Date	Fund	Activity	Account	R/E	Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget	
11/13/2006	145	0	727	E	2,000.00	5,500.00	7,500.00	Probation & Parole
11/13/2006	145	0	978	E	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
11/13/2006	145	0	998.101	E	10,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00	
11/13/2006	166	0	843	E	4,500.00	100.00	4,600.00	Family Services
11/13/2006	211	0	979.1	E	600,000.00	100,000.00	700,000.00	OES
11/13/2006	225	0	920	E	60,000.00	10,000.00	70,000.00	Correctional Facilit
11/13/2006	229	0	998	E	0.00	37,000.00	37,000.00	Superior Twp
11/13/2006	259	0	704	E	0.00	300.00	300.00	Salvage Vehicle
11/13/2006	259	0	715	E	0.00	50.00	50.00	
11/13/2006	291	0	941	E	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	Child Care
11/13/2006	294	0	845	E	2,860.00	2,140.00	5,000.00	Veteran's Trust
11/13/2006	295	0	999.101	E	0.00	632,054.00	632,054.00	Revenue Sharing
11/13/2006	232	0	704	E	88,132.00	-10,000.00	78,132.00	Community Correc
11/13/2006	101	231	861	E	0.00	600.00	600.00	Victim Advocate
							1,582,236.00	
11/13/2006	145	0	605.145	R	12,000.00	3,000.00	15,000.00	Probation Parole
11/13/2006	225	0	699.101	R	0.00	403,630.00	403,630.00	Correctional Facilit
11/13/2006	229	0	584	R	0.00	9,500.00	9,500.00	Superior Twp
11/13/2006	101	0	699.295	R	0.00	632,054.00	632,054.00	Revenue Sharing
11/13/2006	101	0	574	R	611,863.00	-611,863.00	0.00	Revenue Sharing
11/13/2006	295	0	402	R	0.00	1,590,615.00	1,590,615.00	Revenue Sharing
11/13/2006	101	0	572	R	44,302.32	600.00	44,902.32	Victim Advocate
							2,695,701.32	

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Postula, to approve the budget amendments as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The monthly claims and accounts reports were presented. The Committee also received both revenue and expenditure budget summary reports.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner LaJoie, to recommend the approval of general fund claims totaling \$155,627.25, other fund claims of \$135,255.57, payroll of \$371,440.16 and health department claims of \$557,359.48, total claims of \$1,219,682.46, vouchers 41829 through 42110 and J-1 through J-182. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Moore, to approve labor agreement changes with the Chippewa County Sheriff's Department Correction Officers and Road Officers as presented during the closed session of the Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee meeting. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Having completed his report, it was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Moore, to accept the report as given. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

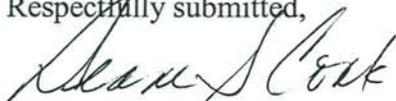
Commissioner Postula commented about some statements made during public comments. He felt that it was the duty of the elected officials to put good people on boards that run the agencies and authorities. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Timmer brought up the concept of Drug Court. He would like Kelly Beaune, Acting Controller, to talk with Marquette, Escanaba and Mackinac Counties. These are Counties that currently have Drug Courts in effect. Commissioner Timmer feels that it would alleviate and address some of the issues Chippewa County has with mental and substance abuse problems.

There is funding available to help start the program through grants. He feels the County needs a Judge to be a champion to push this idea.

Having no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Timmer, supported by Commissioner Moore, to adjourn. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously. Thereupon the Board did adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Diane S. Cork, Clerk


Earl Kay, Chairman