

**Building Grounds and Jail, Legislative and Natural Resources and
Information Technology Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 7th, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners' Building, Grounds and Jail, Legislative and Natural Resources and Information Technology Committee was held on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at the Chippewa County Courthouse in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rudy Johnson, Don McLean

MEMBERS ABSENT: Conor Egan

OTHERS PRESENT: Craig Krepps (DNR), Sharon Kennedy, Jim German and Kelly Church.

Additions / Deletions to the Agenda

Item 2d was added to the agenda as 'General Discussion'.

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, supported by Commissioner Johnson, to approve the agenda as amended. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Public Comments

None

Agenda Items – Legislative and Natural Resources

Whitefish Township Property Sale to DNR

Craig Krepps, DNR Parks and Recreation Division, addressed the Committee regarding the DNR proposed purchase of 80 acres, known as Timberlost Camp, which includes ¼ mile of frontage on the Tahquamenon River, this parcel is one of last private parcels of land inside the Tahquamenon Falls State Park. The acquisition of this property is consistent with the Department's Managed Lands Management Strategy and would consolidate land ownership with the park and provide additional fishing, hunting, and recreational opportunities to the community and region. This purchase will not remove the property from the tax rolls, and taxes will be paid by the DNR. The proposed purchase has been previously approved by the Whitefish Township Board, and the DNR is asking for a 'letter of support' from the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, supported by Commissioner Johnson, to recognize and approve a letter of support for the DNR, to purchase the Timberlost Camp property, located in Whitefish Township (T48N, R7W, Section 15), and to forward this request to the full Board for consideration. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Road Commission

Commissioner Johnson wanted to discuss changes to the Chippewa County Road Commissioners benefits including insurance and retirement. The Committee discussed their recently updated Policy 121 – County Commissioners Benefits & Compensation which eliminates county retirement and health insurance effective January 15, 2017.

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, supported by Commissioner Johnson, to add the Chippewa County Road Commissioners to the Policy 121, to eliminate retirement and health care effective January 15, 2017, so that County Road Commissioners will not be eligible to accrue county retirement benefits or receive as a benefit hospitalization/medical insurance coverage, and to forward this to the Finance Committee. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Eligible Committees for Commissioners per Diem

The Committee reviewed and discussed the prior practice of which per Diems are paid and which ones are not.

The listing of eligible meetings, the listing of the Chair's appointments, as well as, the Policy 121 – all have certain meetings covered, but the list can never be all encompassing, based on the types of meetings that can present themselves to the individual Commissioner. Per the Policy 121 – it states based on Committee appointment or on a special agenda representing the County, it is also noted or if filling in for Chippewa County Board member who is unable to attend. Commissioner McLean did a lengthy review of his past meetings, their justifications based on his appointments and if it was related to making a better decision for the County, and the process he puts himself through monthly when determining which meetings he should be paid for and if Commissioners should be allowed to make their own decisions as to what meetings are important enough to be paid for and to live with the consequences and being able to justify with the voters. MAC appointments were also discussed, as to reimbursements. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, supported by Commissioner Johnson, to pay the per diems for attending township monthly Board meetings, at a maximum of four townships Board based meetings per month, and to forward this to the Finance Committee for consideration.

Agenda Items – Building & Grounds

Courthouse window update

The Committee was updated on the previously approved Window project, as the supplier of the windows has informed the Contractor that the pricing cannot be met; and the contractor has contacted two new potential suppliers and will be doing a walk-through on April 16th in hopes of being able to obtain the windows at the previous pricing. It was noted that this project may need to be voided in the future, if the parameters cannot be met.

Tunnel

The Committee discussed the continued water issues with the tunnel between the Courthouse and the County Building, which discussion of humidifiers, drainage and flooring updates that could eliminate the issues. Discussion followed. Information including quotes are going to be sought for waterproofing.

Radon Testing Results

The Committee reviewed the Radon testing results, which were within the limits, and notified of the long term testing that is being done via the Health Department.

General Discussion

The Committee held a general discussion on the repairs and concerns of the two buildings, with the roofing systems both being discussed.

Committee and Chairman's Comments

None

Adjourn

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. On a voice vote, the motion was CARRIED.

Chairman Johnson declared the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.


Kelly J. Church, Deputy Administrator


Rudy Johnson, Committee Chairman

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Scott Shackleton
Don McLean
Conor Egan
Rudy Johnson
Jim Martin

April 13, 2015

Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Craig Krepps, Parks and Recreation Division
E-mail: kreppsc@michigan.gov

RE: Tahquamenon Falls Acquisition Timberlost Camp
Whitefish Township, Chippewa County

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met on Monday, April 13, 2015 and passed a motion in support of the Timberlost Camp property sale to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. During a prior Committee meeting Mr. Craig Krepps of the DNR reviewed the plan for the property and explained the 80 acre parcel is consistent with the Department's Managed Land Strategy and the parcel will contribute to achieving Department and Division goals, to provide additional fishing, hunting and water access in the State of Michigan.

Should you have any questions or concerns please contact the Administrator's Office at 906 635 6330. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Shackleton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Shackleton
Chair