

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Session
February 17, 2022

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Thursday, February 17, 2022, in the 91st District Courtroom.

Chairman Jim Martin called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with a quorum present. The meeting was also available via Zoom. Commissioner Shackleton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Commissioners Erik Baron, Ted Postula, Robert Savoie, Scott Shackleton and Chairman Jim Martin.

ALSO, PRESENT: Marta LaLonde, Cynthia Post-Byron, Lee R. Myers, Jr., Carolyn Person Mary M. June, Calvin Carter, Brandon Denby, Brandon Barefield, Stewart Sanders, Gigi Ferro, Cady Person, Karen Senkus, Dave Thomas, Tim Moher, Sheriff Mike Bitnar, Administrator Kelly Church and Cathy Maleport, Clerk.
Present via Zoom: Gage, Heidi Witucki, Center for Change, Jim German, B Wiesner, K Jackson

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to accept the agenda as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the January 3, 2022 Organizational meeting minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to acknowledge the correspondence received in the clerk's office and forward as appropriate. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Cynthia Post-Byron, a Registered Nurse and Clinical Director for AdvisaCare of Northern Michigan, appeared before the Board to ask the Commission to contact our State Representatives to support a fix regarding the lost auto insurance reform. She explained that this new law cut reimbursement to homecare companies that provide services to catastrophic injured Michiganders by 45%.

Lee Meyers, a resident of Sault Sainte Marie, stated that Cyndi was the head nurse for his wife as she was injured in a car accident in Florida in March of 2019. The catastrophic funds have covered and taken care of her, and without those funds, she would not be here today.

The following spoke against and addressed their concerns with the Register of Deeds being combined with the Clerk's Office.

- **Brandon Denby**, *Livingston County Register of Deeds*
- **Brandon Bairfield**, *Livingston County Register of Deeds Chief Deputy*
- **Stewart Sanders**, *Newago County Register of Deeds*
- **Catherine Person**, *Chippewa County Deputy Register*
- **Carolyn Person**, *a resident of Bruce Township*
- **Mary June**, *Board Member of the Chippewa County Historical Society*

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Kelly Church - provided for informational purposes only - *no action items.*

OLD BUSINESS

(A) War Memorial Hospital Board Appointment (*resignation vacancy*)

1) Accept new applications (*Rudy Johnson & David Thomas*)

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to accept the applications for the War Memorial Hospital Board that are listed on the tally sheet and consider them all eligible for appointment. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

2) Nominate applicant to the WMH Nominating Committee

Applicants: Thomas Farnquist, Jeremy Gagnon, Jim German, Amy Goetz, Raymond Johnson, Andrew LeBlanc Jr., Jeffrey Middlestead, Joseph R. Nolan, Ted Postula and David Thomas

On a roll call vote:

- Commissioner Baron – *Jim German*
- Commissioner Postula – *Amy Goetz*
- Commissioner Savoie – *Jim German*
- Commissioner Shackleton – *Amy Goetz*
- Chairman Martin – *Amy Goetz*

Having received a majority vote, Amy Goetz was appointed to the War Memorial Nominating Committee for a term to expire on 12/31/2024.

(B) Department of Health & Human Services – *no new applicants*

No action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Appointment to Allocation Board

1) Mark Savoie

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, seconded by Commissioner Savoie to appoint Mark Savoie to the Allocation Board. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

B) Resolution 2022-01 – Special Recognition MSP K9 Trooper Steven Mills

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to accept Resolution 2022-01 as presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01
RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION
OF K9 TROOPER STEVEN MILLS**

WHEREAS, K9 Trooper Steven Mills was accepted and graduated from the Michigan State Police 108TH Trooper Recruit School; **Trooper Mills** had assignments at the Manistee Post from 1993 to 2000; the Jackson Post Canine Handler from 2000 to 2009 and from 2009 until retirement as the Canine Handler of the Sault Ste. Marie Post; and

WHEREAS, K9 Trooper Steven Mills has worked exhaustively and diligently at upholding and representing the highly professional image of the Michigan State Police; **K9 Trooper Steven Mills'** work ethic, his integrity, and his attention to detail have earned him the uppermost regard by all his fellow Troopers, his peers and his supervisors; and

WHEREAS, K9 Trooper Steven Mills will retire from service with the Michigan State Police, effective March 1, 2022, after 29 years of service to the Michigan State Police. He served many roles, including Field Training Officer, background Investigator, Evidence Technician, Accident Investigator, Canine Handler and Firearms Instructor with the Michigan State Police and will be greatly missed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners respectfully dedicates this document to honor and thank **K9 Trooper Steven Mills** for his many years of public service with the State of Michigan and especially for his work in Chippewa County and the Eastern Upper Peninsula.
2. The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners extends their best wishes to **K9 Trooper Steven Mills** for many years of enjoyment in his retirement.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

Yeas: Commissioners Erik Baron, Ted Postula, Robert Savoie, Scott Shackleton and Chairman Jim Martin

Nays: None

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

(C) Resolution 2021-02 – Special Tribute Honoring Kari Willis

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to adopt Resolution 2022-02 as presented.

RESOLUTION 2022-02
SPECIAL TRIBUTE HONORING
KARI A WILLIS

LET IT BE KNOWN that it is with great pride that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners join together with the residents of Chippewa County to express their appreciation and to honor ***KARI A. WILLIS*** following her death for her services to Chippewa County.

KARI A. WILLIS served hundreds of constituents, starting with Chippewa County in April of 2005, serving in the Building Department, County Clerk's Office, and as Deputy Register of Circuit Court-Family Division Office during her tenure.

KARI A. WILLIS has worked diligently for all those she served, and if you were lucky enough to be on the end of her quick wit, you were not going to forget her.

KARI A. WILLIS throughout her tenure, has shown professionalism, generosity, care, and concern for others, and a woman who has stood up for her values time and time again.

IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, therefore, upon her recent death, this document is signed and dedicated to honoring ***KARI A. WILLIS*** for her services and contribution to Chippewa County and the citizens she has served.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

Yeas: Commissioners Erik Baron, Ted Postula, Robert Savoie, Scott Shackleton and Chairman Jim Martin

Nays: None

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 15, 2022

Chairman – Commissioner Savoie

AGNEDA ITEMS

Circuit Court – Circuit Court Administrator Wage Request

The Committee reviewed a request for a pay level increase from Judge James Lambros regarding the recent retirement and hiring a new Circuit Court Administrator. Judge Lambros is asking to waive Policy 211; based on her experience level, changes in the job duties, and added tribal court experience, he would like to move Irene Semasky to the 5-year level.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve waiving policy 211, and placing Circuit Court Administrator Irene Semasky at the 5-year level of her Grade 11 position. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Health Department – MOU CCHD and NorthCare Network - \$26,300.00

The Committee received and reviewed a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Chippewa County Health Department and NorthCare Network for \$26,300 for the Needle Exchange Program known as the Safe X-Change program.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to authorize acceptance of the MOU between CCHD and NorthCare Network for \$26,300 for the Needle Exchange Program. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Health Department -Pink Ribbon Request #22-01

The Committee reviewed Pink Ribbon Request #22-01 in the amount of \$1,779.48.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve the release of \$1,779.48 of Pink Ribbon funds, request #22-01. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Office of Emergency Management-

Motorola Solutions Service Agreement - \$25,250.00

Colligo GIS – Map Maintenance Services - \$3,000.00

The Committee reviewed the Colligo 2022 Map Maintenance Services agreement and the Motorola annual maintenance agreement, both renewals.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve and authorize the Colligo GIS – 2022 Map Maintenance Services for \$3,000.00 and the Motorola Solutions Annual Maintenance for \$25,250.00 as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Public Defender’s Office – Service Agreement w/NorthCare Network - \$4,000.00

The Committee received and reviewed a copy of the Service Agreement between the Public Defender’s Office and NorthCare Network for \$4,000.00, to be used for OWI and/or drug cases for uninsured or underinsured client’s assessments fees.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to accept and authorize the Service Agreement between the Public Defender’s Office and NorthCare Network in the amount of \$4,000.00 to be utilized for assessment fees for clients who are uninsured or underinsured. On a voice vote, the motion carried

Public Defender – Legal Services Attorney Agreement Ross Hickman

The Committee reviewed a Legal Services Agreement to provide legal services for overflow and/or conflict cases out of the Public Defender’s Office for Attorney Ross Hickman.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve and authorize the Legal Services Agreement between the Public Defender’s Office and Attorney Ross Hickman. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Register of Deeds – US Imaging, Inc.

The Committee reviewed the contract for archiving digital images for the Register of Deeds.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve and authorize the renewal contract with US Imaging, Inc for archiving digital images for the Register of Deeds Office.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Sheriff's Department – Canteen Services, Inc. – Food Services Agreement

Sheriff Bitnar provided a food service agreement from Canteen Services, Inc. to start providing the inmate meals. Canteen Services, Inc. is well established and utilized by many other counties in Michigan. Canteen Service, Inc. will hire on our current staff. This change will remove the cooks' costs, provide savings of approximately **\$50,00.00 annually**, and relieve the Sheriff's Administration from dealing with the human resources side, including scheduling, employee conflicts, and grievances.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve the Canteen Services, Inc. Food Service Agreement as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Sheriff's Department – Jail/Tether Addition Re-bid

The Committee reviewed the request for the Tether Office addition, making sure the change was still sought. Discussion followed with the Committee wanting to have the job advertised differently from last year to help get some interest from the local builders, as no bids were previously received. UPEA will be contacted.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve re-releasing the bidding process for the Tether Office addition through UP Engineers & Architects; with the County asking for changes on the advertising. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Sheriff's Department – EUP Papers & Stuff LLC

The Committee reviewed the previously approved 90-day agreement between the Sheriff's Office and the contractor EUP Papers & Stuff LLC, which provides civil process services. This is a new company name with employees who have worked under the prior contractor and are familiar with the services needed by the County

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve contract EUP Papers & Stuff LLC as presented to provide civil process services from Chippewa County Sheriff and to waive policy 320. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Surveyor – FY2022 Chippewa County Survey and Remonumentation Grant

The Committee reviewed the FY2021 Completion Report and the 2022 Survey and Remonumentation Grant from the Office of Land Surveying, and Remonumentation was approved at the November 18, 2021 Commission meeting; in the amount of \$107,892 with Chippewa County contributing \$15,000 for the total FY2022 project amount of \$122,892.00. Before the Committee is the contracts for the 2022 Remonumentation Program, which include:

- \$16,292 for Patricia Weinreis, P.S., to administer the grant under the direct supervision of Robert Laitinen, P.S., Chippewa County Surveyor
- \$50,750 for Sidock Group to complete 29 corners
- \$5,100 divided among five Peer Review Surveyor agreements

Peer Review Professional Surveyors:

Jeff Davis, P.S., Sidock Group;

William L. Karr, P.S., retired

Ginger L. Michalski-Wallace, P.S., Alpine Engineering;

Larry Rogers, P.S., Rogers Land Surveying;

Lawrence Weinreis, P.S., M.D.O.T.;

All the documents need to be approved and authorized for signature by the Committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve the Completion Report for Grant year 2021, the Program Representative contract in the amount of \$16,292 for Patricia Weinreis, P.S., under the direct supervision of Robert Laitinen, P.S., Chippewa County Surveyor; to approve two (2) Monumentation contracts each contract for \$50,750 for Sidock Group and Alpine Engineering to monument 29 corners apiece; to approve five Professional Service Agreements for the Peer Review Surveyors, total not to exceed \$5,100 for the following surveyors: Jeff Davis, P.S., Sidock Group; William L. Karr, P.S., retired, Ginger L. Michalski-Wallace, P.S., Alpine Engineering; Larry Rogers, P.S., Rogers Land Surveying and Lawrence Weinreis, P.S., M.D.O.T. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Administration – MERS – Add 457 for Corrections Group and open to all

The Committee reviewed a MERS 457 Participation Agreements which would allow establishing a 457 program for the members of the Corrections contract according to the recent negotiations for employer contributions, as well as, documents to open the option of any employee to contribute their own monies to the MERS 457 Program.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to authorize and establish a MERS 457 Program for employer negotiated amounts and employee contributions. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Administration – Nationwide Indexed Principal Protection and 457 Program for Road Group

The Committee reviewed the required documents to establish a Nationwide 457 employer-funded program for the Road Patrol contract and add the Nationwide Indexed Principal Protection.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to authorize and establish a Nationwide 457 employer-funded portion program for the Road Patrol members and to add the Indexed Principal Protection to the Nationwide portfolio. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Administration – Wolverine Power Systems – Generator Maintenance

The Committee reviewed a scheduled maintenance agreement from Wolverine Power Systems for the generator located at the County building (Generac 99A06250-S) with an annual price of \$995.00 to perform two visits and provide the necessary documentation for inspections. The Committee also reviewed the load-banking option, which will cost \$460.00 to test the generator's output; the generator is approximately 20-years old with general maintenance completed regularly but never being load-bank tested.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve the Level 2 scheduled maintenance program with Wolverine Power Systems at an annual price of \$995.00 and to have the load-banking option at the cost of \$460.00 completed as well. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Administration – GASB-75-OPEB Actuarial Valuation 12/31/21 -\$4,950.00

The Committee reviewed the renewal for having the GASB 75 -OPEB Actuarial Valuation completed by Jefferson Solutions, Inc.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to authorize the GASB-75 Report – Actuarial Valuation – December 31, 2021, update to be completed by Jefferson Solutions, Inc. at the cost of \$4,950.00. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Administration – Release Request for Quotations

- Sheriff Ford Utility Police SUV
- Sheriff Dodge Charger Patrol Unit
- Sheriff Ford F-150 Police Package
- Cost Allocation Plan

The Committee reviewed the various requests for quotations.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to release the RFQ's for the Ford Utility Police SUV, Dodge Charger Patrol Unit, Ford F-150 Police package, and the Cost Allocation Plan. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Finance – Claims and Accounts

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to recommend the approval of January County bills and payroll as follows: general claims \$368,184.88, other fund claims \$910,360.31, payroll \$638,948.16, Health Department claims \$309,878.47, and payroll of \$99,076.29, total claims of \$2,326,448.11. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to accept the February 15, 2022 Finance Claims and Accounts minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

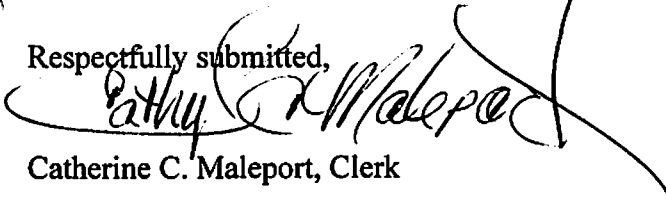
COMMISSIONER REPORTS ON MEETINGS AS BOARD
REPRESENTATIVES AND GENERAL COMMENTS

Among some of the comments were as follows:

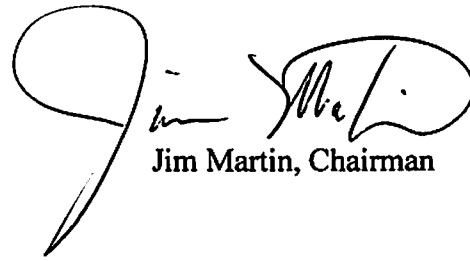
- ***Commissioner Shackleton*** expressed his heartfelt condolences to Mr. Meyers and stated that we had a really good system in the State of Michigan with catastrophic claims. He explained that when he was in Lansing, they wanted to pass it then, that he was certainly against it, and that they did not have the support because they knew what is happening today was what was going to happen.
- ***Commissioner Baron*** thanked everyone from the Register of Deeds Association for coming in today and commenting on their concerns.
- ***Commissioner Shackleton*** also thanked everyone for their comments and explained that the Board is not looking at closing the Register of Deeds or somehow discontinuing that service; those people are all important and valued. We're looking at what's the best efficient way to do it.
- ***Chairman Martin*** stated that the Board's job is to do what's best for all of the county and all of the county's departments. He thanked everyone for their testimony and will make the best decision for the most citizens of Chippewa County.

Having completed the agenda items, it was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron to adjourn. On a voice vote, the Board adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine C. Maleport, Clerk



Jim Martin, Chairman