

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Session  
September 16, 2021

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Thursday, September 16, 2021, in the 91st District Courtroom.

Chairman Jim Martin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with a quorum present. The meeting was also available via Zoom. Commissioner Savoie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Commissioners Erik Baron, Ted Postula, Robert Savoie, and Chairman Jim Martin.  
Commissioner Scott Shackleton, arrived at 5:44 p.m.

ALSO, PRESENT: Don McLean, Karen Senkus, Erin Daines, Administrator Kelly Church, and Cathy Maleport, Clerk. *Present via Zoom: None*

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 Postula, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve the August 6, 2021, Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

*Erin Daines* appeared before the Commission on behalf of MSU Extension to update the Board on what they are doing with Extension here in Chippewa County.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

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

NEW BUSINESS

**(A) Canvas Board Appointments (One from each party)**

**Republican Party Nominees:**

Scott Nason, *currently serving*, Anthony Stackpoole, Richard Crawford, and Jeff LaHuis

**Democratic Party Nominees:**

Allison Youngs, *currently serving*, Ruth Marlene Murphy, and Phil Belfy

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, seconded by Commissioner Savoie to cast a unanimous ballot to re-appoint Allison Youngs and Scott Nason to the Board of Canvassers for a term to expire 10/31/2025.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Yeas: Commissioners Baron, Postula, Savoie, Shackleton and Chairman Martin

Nays: None

Both Allison Youngs and Scott Nason were re-appointed to the Board of Canvassers for a term to expire 10/31/2025.

**(B) Resolution 2021-17 Special Recognition of Kimberly Spencer**

It was moved by Commissioner Postula, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve Resolution 2021-17 as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-17

**RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF  
KIMBERLY SPENCER**

**WHEREAS, *Kimberly Spencer*** began her career with Chippewa County in August 2007; and was named Chief Deputy Register of Deeds October 2020 and will be retiring effective August 19, 2021; and

**WHEREAS, *Kimberly Spencer*** will retire from service with Chippewa County after serving over fourteen (14) plus years of exceptional service to the citizens of Chippewa County; and

**WHEREAS, *Kimberly Spencer*** has worked diligently and tirelessly examining, documenting and recording all manner of documents affecting real estate of Chippewa County residents; she will be leaving after setting a high professional standard for the Chippewa County Register of Deeds Office; and

**WHEREAS, *Kimberly Spencer's*** work ethic, reliability, and attention to detail have earned her the highest regard by her supervisor, co-workers, peers, and citizens of the county; and

**WHEREAS, *Kimberly Spencer***, during her career with Chippewa County's Register of Deeds, has assisted 1000's of residents with questions and helped countless vendors in searching for the information they sought.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as follows:

1. The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners respectfully dedicates this document to honor and thank ***Kimberly Spencer*** for her many years of public service with the County of Chippewa.

2. The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners extends their best wishes to *Kimberly Spencer* for many years of enjoyment in her retirement.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Commissioners Baron, Postula, Savoie, Shackleton and Chairman Martin

NAYS: None

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

(C) **Resolution 2021-18 Special Recognition of MSP Sgt. Anthony VanLuchene**

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to adopt Resolution 2021-18 as presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-18**

**RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

**OF SERGEANT ANTHONY J. VAN LUCHENE**

**WHEREAS, *Sgt. Anthony J. VanLuchene*** began his career with the Michigan State Police in 1998, after serving four years in the United State Marine Corp; and

**WHEREAS, *Sgt. Anthony J. VanLuchene*** will retire from service with the Michigan State Police, effective August 2021 after serving 23 years with the Michigan State Police, at the Sault Ste. Marie Post; he was promoted to Sergeant in 2018, and

**WHEREAS, *Sgt. Anthony J. VanLuchene*** has worked diligently and tirelessly at upholding and exemplifying the highly professional image of the Michigan State Police; through his work ethic, integrity and his attention to detail *Sgt. Anthony J. VanLuchene* has earned him to be held in the highest regard of his supervisors, his peers and citizens he has served; and

**WHEREAS, *Sgt. Anthony J. VanLuchene*** during his career received many accolades and obtained many accomplishments including: Drive Track Instructor for the Michigan State Police Precision Driving Unit, Evidence Technician, and Field Training Officer.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:**

1. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners respectfully dedicates this document to honor and thank *Sgt. Anthony J. VanLuchene* for his many years of public service with the State of Michigan and especially for his work in Chippewa County.
2. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners extends their best wishes to *Sgt. Anthony J. VanLuchene* for many years of enjoyment in his retirement.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Commissioners Baron, Postula, Savoie, Shackleton and Chairman Martin

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**(D) Resolution 2021-19 Opposition to Legislative Proposals on Behavioral Health System Redesign**

It was moved by Commissioner Baron, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to adopt Resolution 2021-19 as follows:

Resolution 2021-19

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Opposition to Legislative Proposals on  
Behavioral Health System Redesign**

**Whereas**, local Community Mental Health Agencies have served for more than 20 years as the public mental health and intellectual/developmental disabilities service providers for each of the counties in the Upper Peninsula; and

**Whereas**, local Mental Health Agencies were created by each respective U.P. County Board of Commissioners as duly authorized under the Community Mental Health Act of 1963; and

**Whereas**, every year, thousands of individuals and their families in these communities depend on the public behavioral health system for daily (and in some cases, life-long) supports and services; and

**Whereas**, the Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners opposes any behavioral health redesign that harms the state and county partnership for community mental health and related Medicaid safety net services and/or seeks to privatize Medicaid behavioral health services. Additionally, we believe that any behavioral health redesign must maintain the efficacy, responsiveness, and integrity of the community-based behavioral health system; and

**Whereas**, recent proposals in the House and Senate fundamentally change the public behavioral health system and will harm those served by the system. The Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners opposes these proposals because:

- Beneficiaries would stand to lose access to services, supports, and input into the design and operation of their services and supports system. Many Michiganders would be left out of the redesign proposals completely.
- Public oversight, governance, operations, and accountability would be ended.
- Current proposals for redesign are not based on performance metrics related to positive outcomes, effectiveness, and efficiency measures associated with the current public system. Also, there is no clear statement about the problems that the Senate or House are attempting to address or solve.
- The Senate proposal specifically incentivizes and prioritizes profits to private companies at the expense of the public and the beneficiaries served by the public behavioral health system.

**Therefore be it resolved** that we request that the Michigan Legislative support improvements in the delivery of publicly governed, publicly accountable, publicly operated regional and community-based systems, invest in and expand initiatives that are proven to improve citizen access, beneficiary policy-making representatives support, improve and strengthen the public behavioral health safety net system,

and that engagement, individuals and population health, behavioral well-being, resiliency, quality of life and community betterment such as those mentioned above. These are among the daily, weekly, and yearly accomplishments of the public system that would be destroyed by posing these new legislative proposals.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Commissioners Baron, Postula, Savoie, Shackleton and Chairman Martin

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**(E) Resolution 2021-20 Special Recognition Marni Lamb**

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to adopt Resolution 2021-20 as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-20

RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION  
OF MARNI LAMB

**WHEREAS, *Marni Lamb*** began her career with Chippewa County in February 2009 as part-time Dispatcher; she became full-time August 9, 2011, and will be retiring effective August 9, 2021; and

**WHEREAS, *Marni Lamb*** will retire from service with Chippewa County after serving over twelve (12) plus years of exceptional service to the citizens of Chippewa County; and

**WHEREAS, *Marni Lamb*** has worked diligently and tirelessly helping those in need of emergency services; she has assisted in making sure the emergency response personnel receive all the necessary information for sometimes multiple incidents at the same time; she will be leaving after setting a high professional standard for Chippewa County Central Dispatch; and

**WHEREAS, *Marni Lamb's*** work ethic, reliability, and attention to even the smallest detail have earned her the highest regard by her supervisors, co-workers, peers, and citizens of the county; brought knowledge and wisdom to new employees; and

**WHEREAS, *Marni Lamb***, during her career with Chippewa County's Central Dispatch, has assisted thousands of Chippewa County, Mackinac County, and Luce County residents and visitors in their time of distress with compassion and selflessness.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as follows:

1. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners respectfully dedicates this document to honor and thank ***Marni Lamb*** for her many years of public service with the County of Chippewa.

2. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners extends their best wishes to

*Marni Lamb* for many years of enjoyment in her retirement.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Commissioners Baron, Postula, Savoie, Shackleton and Chairman Martin

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**(F) Resolution 2021-21 Special Recognition Rachel Rambo**

It was moved by Commissioner Postula, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to adopt Resolution 2021-21 as presented.

RESOLUTON NO. 2021-21

RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION  
OF RACHEL RAMBO

**WHEREAS, *Rachel Rambo*** began her career with Chippewa County in November 2008 as part-time Dispatcher; she became full-time June 14, 2010 and will be retiring effective August 19, 2021; and

**WHEREAS, *Rachel Rambo*** will retire from service with Chippewa County after serving over thirteen (13) plus years of exceptional service to the citizens of Chippewa County; and

**WHEREAS, *Rachel Rambo*** has worked diligently and tirelessly helping those in need of emergency services; she has assisted in making sure the emergency response personnel receive all the necessary information for sometimes multiple incidents at the same time; she will be leaving after setting a high professional standard for Chippewa County Central Dispatch; and

**WHEREAS, *Rachel Rambo's*** work ethic, reliability, and attention to even the smallest detail have earned her the highest regard by her supervisors, co-workers, peers, and citizens of the county; brought knowledge and wisdom to new employees; and

**WHEREAS, *Rachel Rambo***, during her career with Chippewa County's Central Dispatch, has assisted thousands of Chippewa County, Mackinac County, and Luce County residents and visitors in their time of distress with compassion and selflessness.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as follows:

1. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners respectfully dedicates this document to honor and thank ***Rachel Rambo*** for her many years of public service with the County of Chippewa.
2. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners extends their best wishes to ***Rachel Rambo*** for many years of enjoyment in her retirement.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Commissioners Baron, Postula, Savoie, Shackleton and Chairman Martin

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**(G) Resolution 2021-22 In Support of American Rescue Plan State Match Programs**

It was moved by Commissioner Postula, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to adopt Resolution 2021-22 as presented.

**Resolution 2021-22  
CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
In Support of American Rescue Plan  
State Match Programs**

**Whereas** the state of Michigan has faced tremendous challenges as it dealt with a deadly pandemic for nearly a year and a half and is now presented with an opportunity to strategically invest in our residents, entrepreneurs, businesses, and communities; and

**Whereas** Michigan will receive more than \$10 billion in fiscal recovery aid with 83 counties Slated to get \$1.9 billion directly in American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds; and

**Whereas** cities and larger townships will receive a total of \$1.8 billion and non-entitlement Communities (smaller units) approximately \$644 million, with the state of Michigan itself receiving more than 46.5 billion; and

**Whereas** eligible expenditures include revenue reimbursements, savings, and growing interest on the funds, broadband infrastructure, economic development, and individual assistance programs; and

**Whereas** county leaders are already under pressure to announce spending decisions and elected officials at all levels of government will have to make decisions on where and how they will use the dollars within federal guidelines; and

**Whereas** the Michigan Association of Counties is working on a match program to earmark Close to \$4 billion in state ARP fund to leverage all levels of government to strategically invest The one-time dollars in areas of greatest need for improvement; and

**Whereas** the Michigan Association of Counties has received positive feedback on the ideas put forth for match programs within the state; and

**Whereas** Michigan has a chance to amplify investments with the influx of federal funding and collaborative effort by all levels of government that will allow the dollars to be stretched to invest in common goals; and

**Whereas** our future success is inextricably linked and strategic investment of our available resources needs to support and strengthen these connections;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that **CHIPPEWA COUNTY** support American Rescue Plan State Match Programs.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Commissioners Baron, Postula, Savoie, Shackleton and Chairman Martin

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.**

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2021

*Chairman – Commissioner Savoie*

AGENDA ITEMS

**Health Department – 2021-2022 Budget & Contracts**

The Committee reviewed the proposed CCHD 2021-2022 budget, with a budgeted \$4,569 surplus that includes \$847,000 in COVID funds, \$19,500 in equipment, \$28,550 in travel (approximately 70% reimbursable) with Home Health and Hospice showing a deficit of \$139,733 but carrying \$438,062 in overhead. The Health Department allocation from the County would remain the same as the prior-year at \$204,000.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve the 2021-2022 CCHD budget as presented; including authorizing the Health Officer's signature on the various maintenance and support contracts, as shown. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Health Department – CCHD Organization Chart**

The Committee reviewed the updated organization chart, which only updated names.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve the Chippewa County Health Department Organizational Chart as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Health Department – Engagement Letter – FosterSwift (legal)**

The Committee reviewed an engagement letter from FosterSwift to provide legal services to CCHD at an hourly rate of \$255 per hour through December 31, 2021, after which the rates may increase by 5%. The Committee discussed setting a limit on the costs.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve and authorize the engagement letter for legal services between the Health Department and FosterSwift; as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Health Department – Release RFO - HD Vehicle for M.O.M program w/trade**



The Committee reviewed the request to release the RFQ including the trade-in of the 2018 Dodge Promaster Cargo Van.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to authorize the release of the RFQ for a Health Department vehicle for the M.O.M program including a trade-in. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Health Department – Contract tracing and case investigation position (COVID funding)**

The Committee reviewed the request to fill temporary support staff positions for contact tracing and case investigators with COVID funding. Positions include five (5) contact tracers/case investigators for the general community and K-12 cases and (3) health resource advocates working directly in schools assisting with testing and case investigation.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve filling the temporary support staff for COVID tracing and investigation and paid via COVID funds. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Information Systems – Purchase eight (8) budgeted Computers – Dell \$7,741.36**

**The Committee reviewed the low quote from Dell to purchase (8) eight OptiPlex 7090 SFF computers at the price of \$967.67 each.**

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve the purchase of (8) OptiPlex 7090 SFF at \$967.67 each or a total price of \$7,741.36. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Information Systems – Custom Technology - \$700.00**

The Committee was updated on the Circuit Courtroom speed fiber upgrade that was previously approved at the price of \$10,959.16 and the need to increase the approval to \$11,659.16 because of a more expensive switch used because of shortages in the supply chain.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to authorize the additional \$700.00 expenditure to Custom Technology due to the higher priced switch. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**MIDC/Public Defender contracts – Legal Services Agreement (Conflict Attorney) and Investigators**

- **Legal Services Agreements 10-1-2021 to 9-30-2022**  
*Fred Feleppa, Chad Peltier, Glenn Sarka, Brian Bloch, Michael Brown and Craig Elhart*
- **Investigators 10-1-2021 to 9-30-2022**  
*Hill Investigations, Bill Anderson*

Upon review, the Committee approved the contracts as presented.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to approve and authorize the new Legal Services contracts and Investigator contracts starting October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**50<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court-Drug Court contracts 10-01-2021 to 9-30-2022**

The Committee reviewed contracts for the 50<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court Drug Court from ML Consultant, Great Lakes Recovery Centers, Inc. and Premier Biotech for approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve and authorize the 50<sup>th</sup> Circuit Drug Court contracts for 2021-2022 for ML Consultants (\$45,000); Great Lakes Recovery Centers, Inc. (\$8,200); and Premier Biotech (prices as quoted) as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Sheriff's Department – Equipment Purchases – Replace Correctional Facility Dishwasher - \$16,467.83 Letter of Understanding Sheriff & Chippewa County EDC – Building 429 - \$5,040.00.**

The Committee was updated on a prior emergency approval for \$16,467.83 to replace the Correctional Facility's dishwasher; Hobarts does have the old washer running with a used motor and an additional invoice of approximately \$850.00.

The Committee reviewed a renewal Letter of Understanding between the Sheriff and Chippewa County EDC for the exclusive use of building #429, at the cost of **\$420.00 per month plus utilities**. It is an increase of **\$20.00/month**.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve the Stafford-Smith, Inc. quote to replace the Correctional Facility's dishwasher at the price of \$16,467.83 and to authorize the Letter of Understanding between the Sheriff and the Chippewa County EDC for the exclusive use of building #429 at the expense of \$420.00 per month plus utilities. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Administration – Release Snowplowing and Removal RFQ's**

The Committee reviewed the annual snowplowing and removal RFQ's for the County Building lot, Bingham Street parking, Animal Control, Central Dispatch, and Building 429.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to release the RFQ's for snow plowing and removal and to add the Health Department walkway. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Administration – Guidehouse Statement of Work – ARPA firm**

The Committee was given a brief update on the services that will be provided by Guidehouse and the reasons Guidehouse was chosen. The services will provide financial consulting services for administration, oversight and reporting of the Federal and State grant monies related to ARPA.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to authorize the Statement of Work with Guidehouse to provide financial consulting to Chippewa County for the ARPA funds. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Administration – NorthCare 2022 County Liquor Tax Funding Request**

- Sobriety Court - \$31,000.00
- Health Department - \$30,300.00
- 50<sup>th</sup> Circuit Drug Court - \$28,000.00
- Public Defender's Office - \$5,000.00

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to accept and forward FY22 Liquor Tax Funds requests as presented to NorthCare Network – substance use disorders:

- Sobriety Court - \$31,000.00
- Health Department - \$30,300.00
- 50<sup>th</sup> Circuit Drug Court - \$28,000.00
- Public Defender's Office - \$5,000.00

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Administration – Clock Arm Restoration**

The Committee reviewed the Clock Arm Restoration project, previously the clock arms were replaced, but it was determined the arms were too heavy for the mechanisms to operate. The project requires a 120-foot lift and additional insurance. The Committee discussed the viability of the project, as there is no guarantee the cypress wood will be light enough for the clock operations. The historical aspect of the building as discussed and the project price of \$12,200 (7,700 for the lift and \$4,500 in labor), along with the \$3,500 liability insurance that runs out on November 1, 2021.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Baron, to pass on the Clock Arm Restoration project at this time. A brief discussion followed. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Administration - 44North-Health Care Renewal**

The Committee reviewed the health care renewal from 44North for FY2022 and reviewed the line of business, including ARORx prescriptions, with an overall increase of 4.99% from the FY21 rates. 44North is still looking into some future savings from the Blues.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve and authorize the FY2022 health care renewal with 44North, with an overall 4.99% increase from FY21, and to adopt the line of business as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Finance – Claims and Accounts**

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to recommend the approval of July County bills and payroll as follows: general claims \$415,576.07; other fund claims of \$2,876,268.86; payroll of \$599,044.53; and Health Department claims of \$290,615.02 and payroll of \$189,748.22; with total claims of \$4,371,252.70. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

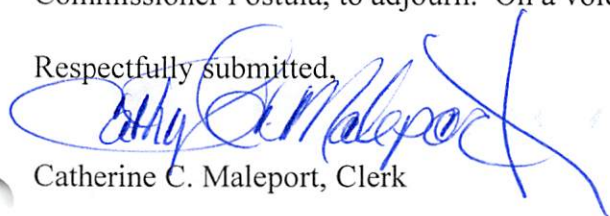
It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton to accept the Finance Claims and Accounts minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

COMMISSIONER REPORT ON MEETINGS AS BOARD  
REPRESENTATIVE AND GENERAL COMMENTS

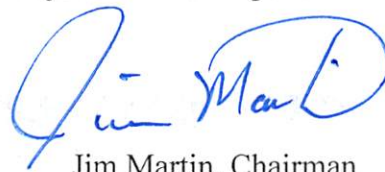
No comments were offered.

Having completed the agenda items, it was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to adjourn. On a voice vote, the Board adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine C. Maleport, Clerk



Jim Martin, Chairman