

# FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 15, 2022

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners' Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee was held on Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at the Chippewa County Building in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Chairman Savoie called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with a quorum present. The meeting was also available via Zoom.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Martin, Robert Savoie, Scott Shackleton, Erik Baron and Ted Postula

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Karen Senkus, Michelle Robbins, Bev Eavou, Marta LaLonde, Diane Possmai and Kelly Church (all in person). Via Zoom Calvin Carter, Greg Grant and Andy's iPhone4.

## Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Baron, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve the agenda as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

## Public Comment

Bev Eavou spoke regarding a comment made about County's deficit spending and question the plan to correct it.

## Correspondence and Informational Items

The Committee reviewed the Treasurer's Investment reports, the VISA billing, travel requests, the Health Department's Healthcare First summary and the DTRF and monies to MERS quarterly report. No action is necessary.

## AGENDA ITEMS

### Health Department – Environmental Health & Personal and Family Health Fee Schedule

The Committee received the updates fee schedule for Environmental Health Services and for Personal and Family Health Services these rate increases are based on insurance reimbursement rates and have all been reviewed by the Health Officer, to make sure recover the most possible from the insurance carriers.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Baron, to authorize the Environmental Health and Personal and Family Health fee schedules as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

### Health Department – 2022 MMOOG Grant - \$8,361

The Committee reviewed the Michigan Medical Marijuana Operation and Oversight Grant (MMOOG) that was sought and received by the Health Department in the amount of \$8,361 that will be used to increase education and outreach to the community.

It was moved by Commissioner Baron, supported to Commissioner Postula, to authorize acceptance of Grant No. 2022 MMOOG Chippewa County Health Department for \$8,361 to increase education and outreach to the community. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

### District Court – Service Agreement between NorthCare Network and Sobriety Court

The Committee received and reviewed a copy of the Service Agreement between Chippewa County 91<sup>st</sup> District Sobriety Court and NorthCare Network for \$31,000 to be used to further the integration of criminal justice and substance use disorder treatment programming.

**It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported to Commissioner Martin, to authorize acceptance of the Service Agreement between 91<sup>st</sup> District Court Sobriety Court and NorthCare Network for \$31,000 for further the substance use disorder treatment programming. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

**Recycling – Recycling Program Proposition Millage Renewal Request**

The Committee reviewed the millage renewal language as presented for the August 2022 election for the Recycling Program

**It was moved by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Baron, to approve the Recycling Program Proposition Millage Renewal for the August 2022 election as follows:**

**Recycling Program Proposition  
Millage Request**

**(This proposal will permit the County to renew and continue the millage which was previously approved by the electors in 2018 to fund the recycling program in Chippewa County)**

**Shall the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on all taxable real and tangible personal property in Chippewa County Michigan be increased by an amount not to exceed .50 mill (\$0.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for 4 years, being 2022, 2023, 2024 and 225, inclusive, to provide funds for the development and continued operations of the Chippewa County Recycling Program, and shall the County levy such millage for said purpose? The estimate of revenue the County will collect if this millage is approved and levied in 2022 is \$630,000. (This is a renewal of the millage that expired with the 2021 tax levy)?**

YES     \_\_\_  
NO       \_\_\_

**On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

**Office of Emergency Services– Deployable Security Kits – Bid Summary**

The Committee reviewed the bid summary for a Region 8 Homeland Security project to purchase deployable security kits, which will be distributed to the Upper Peninsula counties (two kits for each county). The kits include flashlights, metal detectors and vests; which can be used for screening at court, polling locations on election days and used for large events open to the public. Three bids were received and met specifications. This project will be fully reimbursed by Region 8 Homeland Security.

**It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Postula, to approve and authorize the low bid of \$16,533.66 from Uline to provide 60 rechargeable flashlights, 60 handheld metal detectors and 60 vests for deployable security kits a fully reimbursed Region 8 Homeland Security project, with two kits going to each of the Upper Peninsula counties. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

**Office of Emergency Services – Fire/Ambulance Millage Increase**

The Committee received and reviewed a proposed Fire/Ambulance Millage Increase Request, to provide additional funds to the County and Townships to provide increased administration, training and communications from the County’s 35% and 65% distributed to the Townships and City of Sault Ste. Marie for the purpose of supplemental funding for existing Ambulance and Fire protection services. The Committee was provided with varying millage increases showing the additional monies that would be provided to each of the townships and the City of Sault Ste. Marie. The Committee member all spoke regarding the cost to the constituents, the amounts to the townships and City of Sault Ste. Marie, inflation and people already struggling with the cost of living. Another main topic was that of the lack of volunteers for fire/ambulance and how the townships have needed to change to full-time employees or have gone to a pay-per-call. The lack of services can be a major issue if a transport to an out-of-county hospital is needed. Township responsibility was also spoke about regarding the need for new equipment.

**It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Baron, to table the Fire/Ambulance Millage Increase Proposal until feedback is sought directly from the Townships and City Officials. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

#### **Administration – DSTech**

##### **Updated Master Services Agreement (MSA)**

##### **Updated Statement of Work (SOW)**

The Committee reviewed an updated Master Services Agreement (MSA) and Statement of Work (SOW) from DSTech who provide a variety of information technology services to Chippewa County. Administration and the I.T. reviewed and no changes are needed at this time, all services from DSTech are month-to-month.

**It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Martin, to authorize signature for the updated DSTech Master Services Agreement and the Statement of Work, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

#### **Administration – Wolverine Power Systems – Generator Maintenance**

The Committee received a quote for the repairs and maintenance needed from Wolverine Power Systems in the amount of \$6,380.11.

**It was moved by Commissioner Postula, supported by Commissioner Baron, to approve the quote for repairs from Wolverine Power Systems in the amount of \$6,380.11 for the County Building generator. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

#### **Administration – Bid Summaries**

- **Sheriff Ford Utility Police SUV**
- **Sheriff Dodge Charger Patrol Unit**
- **Sheriff Ford F-150 Police Package**

The Committee was advised the 2022 vehicles are not available at this time and orders are out through the end of the year. The Sheriff's Office has requested that a Dodge Charger without the police package be ordered to be used by the tether office, a cage will need to be added. After discussion, it was noted that Administration will release a RFQ for a Dodge Charger non police package and to approve added the cage after purchase.

- **Cost Allocation Plan – Bid Summary**

The Committee reviewed the bid summary for the County Cost Allocation Plan, two bids were received, with both meeting bid specifications to complete the Cost Allocation Plan for FY21, FY22 and FY23, Maximus is the current contract holder.

**It was moved by Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Martin, to approve the low bid from Maximus Consulting Service, Inc. to complete the Cost Allocation Plan for FY21, FY22 and FY23 at \$5,000 per year. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

#### **Finance - Claims and Accounts**

**It was moved by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Baron, to recommend the approval of February County bills and payroll: general claims \$219,738.33 other fund claims \$1,112,508.91, payroll \$673,114.40, and Health Department claims \$265,635.34 and payroll \$197,337.22 total claims \$2,468,334.20. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

#### **Committee Comments**

Commissioner Shackleton requested the comments be made now incase members of the audience were not going to wait as he wanted to address the deficient spending question. He gave brief explanation regarding how

the County budgeting works, and the actions the Board takes and how we need to operate with a balanced budget, even when it means using monies from our fund balance. He also noted that the County has worked very hard at funding our OPEB liability, which most other counties have not done.

**Chairman Comments**

Chairman Savoie spoke regarding the same budget topic; stating that it has been a very usual couple of years with COVID and working on retaining and recruiting employees has been hard and the Board takes their responsibilities very seriously.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**a. County’s attorney trial and/or settlement strategy, *Kozal v. Chippewa County*, Case No. 2:21-ev-00031-PLM-MV, pursuant 15.268(e).**

**b. Collective Bargaining Negotiations/ratification, pursuant 15.268 (c)**

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, move to enter into closed session to discuss with the County’s attorney mediation and/or settlement strategy in the pending lawsuit of *Kozal v. Chippewa County*, Case No. 2:21-ev-00031-PLM-MV, pursuant to MCL 15.268 (e) as a discussion on the open record would be detrimental to our position, and also to discuss material exempt from disclosure under the attorney-client privilege, MCL 15.243 (1)(g) and MCL 15.268 (h) and to discuss collective bargaining negotiations, pursuant to MCL 15.268 (c).

Roll call vote 5-0. Closed session began at 5:21 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Baron, to exit closed session wherein we discussed with the County’s attorney mediation and/or settlement strategy in the pending lawsuit of *Kozal v. Chippewa County*, Case No. 2:21-ev-00031-PLM-MV, pursuant to MCL 15.268 (e) as a discussion on the open record would be detrimental to our position, and also to discuss material exempt from disclosure under the attorney-client privilege, MCL 15.243 (1)(g) and MCL 15.268 (h) and to discuss collective bargaining negotiations, pursuant to MCL 15.268 (c).

Roll call vote 5-0. Return to open session at 6:11 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Baron, to accept the advice of counsel regarding settlement discussion of the case of *Kozal v Chippewa County*, No. 2:21-ev-00031-PLM-MV, within the certain parameters discussed during the closed session as part of the County’s mediation and/or settlement strategy. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

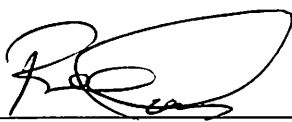
It was moved Commissioner Baron, supported by Commissioner Postula, to approve and authorize the collective bargaining agreement between Chippewa County and General Teamsters Local Union No. 406 – County Health Department Unit as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

**Adjourn**

It was moved by Commissioner Baron, supported by Commissioner Martin to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

  
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Kelly J. Church, Recorder

  
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Robert Savoie, Chairman.