

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Session
December 18, 2017

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 18, 2017 in the 91st District Courtroom of the Chippewa County Building.

Chairman Shackleton called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

Present: Commissioners Conor Egan, Jim Martin, Don McLean, Robert Savoie and
Chairman Shackleton

Absent: None

Also Present: Nick Nolan, Karen Senkus, James Traynor, Maria Brown, Deputy Administrator Kelly Church, Administrator Jim German and Cathy Maleport, Clerk.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Egan, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to approve the agenda as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve the following minutes:

- Regular Board – November 14, 2017
- Public Hearing – November 14, 2017

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT– Jim German asked the Board for a few moments of their time to share brief synopses of this year's accomplishments and listed the following:

- We started the year with a big victory with the Dark Stores issue.
- We put on a new Courthouse roof, heated sidewalks and guard rails, all under budget and on time.
- We secured two points of entry and more security for both the county building and the courthouse.
- The Commission graciously approved two new Corrections Officers beginning next year.
- Today we had our \$800,000 put into the bank by the MEDC, the withdrawal agreement has been signed and the check will be mailed out this week to MERS for Michigan Works.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Resolution 17-32 Special Recognition Kathy Moran

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve Resolution 17-32 as follows:

Resolution No. 17-32

**Resolution In Appreciation And Special Recognition
Of KATHY MORAN**

The appreciation of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners, and the residents of Chippewa County, is extended to KATHY MORAN, for:

Her dedicated service at the Chippewa County Correctional Facility, for over twenty years of service.

Her untiring efforts for the safety and well-being of the citizens of Chippewa County.

Her constant and consistent work at the Chippewa County Correctional Facility for which she knew was the best for Chippewa County.

Her deep personal commitment, not only to her work on behalf of the Chippewa County Correctional Facility, but also her family, friends and co-workers.

It is altogether fitting and proper that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners should honor KATHY MORAN, for her years of service and dedication to Chippewa County.

Upon her retirement from Chippewa County, our wish for KATHY MORAN : as she has dedicated over twenty years to Chippewa County, a gracious thank you for a job well done, and wish her enjoyable retirement in which she so richly deserves.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Commissioners Egan, Martin, McLean, Savoie and Chairman Shackleton

NAYES: None

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED

B) Resolution 17-33 Approve Outside Counsel for Opioid Litigation

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Egan, to approve Resolution 17-33 as follows:

**RESOLUTION #17-33
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE OUTSIDE COUNSEL FOR OPIOID LITIGATION**

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) desires legal representation in national litigation that is being waged against manufacturers and distributors of opioids and other culpable parties; and

WHEREAS, the participation in such national litigation requires specialized expertise; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the qualifications of Weitz & Luxenberg PC, the Sam Bernstein law Firm PLLC and Smith & Johnson Attorneys, PC and qualifications to represent the County’s interests as it relates to the opioid epidemic.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the firms of Weitz & Luxenberg PC, the Sam Bernstein Law Firm PLLC and Smith & Johnson Attorneys, PC as special counsel to represent the interests of Chippewa County in litigation concerning the opioid epidemic.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKENS AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Commissioners Egan, Martin, McLean, Savoie and Chairman Shackleton

NAYS: None

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

C) Schedule Organizational meeting for January 2018

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to schedule the Organizational meeting for Thursday, January 4, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the 91st District Court.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel/Equalization/Transportation and Health & social Services
Chairman Commissioner Egan– December 14, 2018

AGENDA ITEMS

CCHD Accounting Position

A discussion took place on a replacement of the CFO at the Health Department. Mr. Leonhardt explained the process he was using. The new position would most likely be classified as an accountant. County Administration would choose the final selection and set a pay grade of between 30-60k and new job description. Time permitting a Personnel Committee meeting would be called to approve the final selection. The title of CFO would be changed to the Health Officer.

It was moved by Commissioner Egan, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to have administration advertise and potentially hire a replacement for the CCHD CFO and set a pay grade and job description and report their findings to the Personnel Committee, if time permits. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Chippewa County Health Department WIC Position Wage Increase

CCHD asked the Commission to raise the salary of the part-time WIC employee. CCHD claimed at the current wage scale there was a higher turnover rate. The increase in wages would be covered under the grant. Administrator German noted that the increase for a part time position should probably match the County Policy for part-timers, as far as, wages.

It was moved by Commissioner Egan, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to increase the part time WIC position at the health department to the same wage scale as the County part time wage scale. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CCHD Clerical Pay Grade Increase

Health Department Officer Karen Senkus asked for a step increase for two clerical positions which are performing additional duties in billing. She noted the position had been put into the budget, but had to come back for personnel approval. A discussion took place on employees adding additional duties to their job, as well as, the finances at CCHD.

It was moved by Commissioner Egan, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to table the motion to a future date. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Egan, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to accept the Personsonnell/Equalization and Apportionment/Transportation/Health and Social Services Committee meeting minutes of December 14, 2017 as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Commissioner Martin – December 14, 2017

AGENDA ITEMS

Administration – MMRMA 2018 Renewal (Net Asset Distribution/Renewal/Contribution)

The Committee reviewed the net asset distribution of \$41,310 and the proposed contribution for renewal of FY2018 for the County's Property and Liability Insurance including the Chippewa County Health Department. Due to the County's outstanding reserves within our Self-Insured Retention, the under writers have increased the County member loss fund deposit to \$50,000. Total premium for the year is proposed at \$256,244.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the net asset distribution of \$41,310 be returned for the County's loss fund and approve the renewal and contribution breakdown as presented in the amount of \$256,244 to MMRMA for the County's FY2018 Property and Liability Insurance. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Administration – Co-op Extension Services Agreement FY2018

The Committee reviewed a request for Extension Services annual Agreement for services; which is a 0.5 FTE 4-H Program Coordinator with a FY2018 contribution of \$47,193.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Egan, to approve the Agreement for Extension Services as presented with an annual cost of \$47,193, for a 0.5 FTE 4-H Program Coordinator. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Administration – Probate Court and 50th Circuit Court – Family Division – Legal Services – FY2018
Monical Lubiarz-Quigley; Charles J. Palmer and James Bias

The Committee reviewed the budgeted legal services agreements between County of Chippewa and individually with attorneys Monica Lubiarz-Quigley, Charles J. Palmer and James Bias each agreement in the amount of \$39,847.00 annually; to provide representation through final disposition for indigent respondents on all assigned cases generated by the Courts.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the Legal Services Agreements between Chippewa County and individually with attorneys Monica Lubiarz-Quigley, Charles J. Palmer and James Bias each agreement in the amount of \$39,847.00 annually; to provide representation through final disposition for indigent respondents on all assigned cases generated by the Courts. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Administration – Smith & Johnson, Attorney – Liability for a “Frivolous” Lawsuit – Opioid Epidemic

The Committee reviewed documentation provided from Smith & Johnson, Attorneys and presented by Tim Smith, regarding the opioid epidemic that is creating an unprecedented financial burden on counties across Michigan and the country. The cost of opioid pain medication addiction has taxed county resources to their limit; the cost of first responders, additional services, rehabilitation, incarceration, healthcare and lost productivity. Chippewa County is being asked to join a number of municipalities in Michigan and the United States to take action via lawsuit against the pharmaceutical companies and distributors that have caused this opioid epidemic. The County would have local, state and national counsel to prosecute and adjust for Chippewa County's claim for damages caused by the culpable conduct of any and all pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors of opioid analgesics and/or other culpable parties. The fee for services will be paid only if there is a recovery, and is thirty (30) percent of the net sum recovered, which will be deducted after the reimbursement of the litigation expenses, including but not limited to, filing fees, costs associated with conducting discovery, hearings, conferences, meetings, trials, expert consultation and testimony, and investigation costs.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the letter of agreement with Smith & Johnson, Attorneys, which reiterates the attorneys' obligation under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure – Rule 11 (signature, representation to the court, sanctions) and confirms Smith & Johnson, Attorney to pay any sanctions arising out of a final order; to authorize the Retainer Agreement and approve the firms of Weitz & Luxenberg PC, the Sam Bernstein Law Firm PLLC and Smith & Johnson Attorneys, PC as special counsel to represent the interest of Chippewa County in litigation concerning the opioid epidemic. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was further moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to authorize immediate action of the prior motion, so to be included in the lawsuit being filed on Monday, December 18, 2017. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Sheriff Department – Release RFQ on Vehicles for FY2018

The Committee received the RFQ's for two vehicle purchases to be released to receive quotes for purchasing including trade-ins.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the release of RFQ's for a Dodge Charger Police Package and a Ford SUV Patrol vehicle including trade-ins. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Central Dispatch – EMT Basic Course for Chippewa County EMS (approve)

Director Michelle Robbins requested the approval to approve EMT training courses in Chippewa County. The cost of the course is \$15,190, sponsored by the Consolidated Community School services, student cost would be \$235 per student and the balance being paid by Chippewa County OES monies. Based on a 30 student enrollment the estimated cost to Chippewa County would be \$8,140; pending approval from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. This expense is budgeted.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Egan, to approve the EMT Basic Course for Chippewa County. The estimated total cost of the course is \$15,190, with per student cost of \$235 and the balance being paid through the Office of Emergency Services (Fund 211). On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Health Department – Pink Ribbon Expenditure (approve)

The Committee reviewed a Pink Ribbon expenditure, which is all donated funds for those clients diagnosed with breast and/or cervical cancer requiring assistance with travel and lodging related to treatment may apply for assistance, following policy 1.99.013.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the Pink Ribbon expenditure 17-05 in the amount of \$226.16, as presented following policy 1.99-013. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Health Department – Out-of –State Travel – Healthy Families of America

The Committee reviewed an out-of-state mandatory training for the Healthy Families of America employee; funding will be shared with LMAS and the Health Department, this training and travel was not previously budgeted for, but is mandatory.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Egan, to approve the out-of-state mandatory training for Ana-Marie Nicolescu, the Health Departments Healthy Families of America employee to attend training in Sacramento, CA – February 11-16, 2018. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Health Department – NorthCare Network – MOU for Needle Exchange

The Committee reviewed a Memorandum of Understanding between NorthCare Network and the Chippewa County Health Department regarding implementing a Needle Exchange Program in Chippewa County. The memorandum outlines the funding approved up to \$40,000 effective October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018; to be utilized for support staff (part-time RN, to administer program), costs for program development for this pilot program.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Egan, to approve the Memorandum of

Understanding with NorthCare network and Chippewa County Health Department to implement a Needle Exchange Program in Chippewa County, with funding up to \$40,000 effective October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018. On a voice vote, the motion carried, with Commissioner Savoie voting nay.

Health Department – NorthCare Network – FY2018 Prevention contract

The Committee reviewed the agreement between NorthCare Network and Chippewa County Health Department for Substance Abuse Prevention Services for FY2018, NorthCare Network will provide funding not to exceed \$129,707 via SAPT Block Grant (CFDA#93.959) \$29,707 and County Liquor tax of \$100,000.00. This program will continue prevention in the Upper Peninsula and Chippewa County..

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Egan, to approve the Agreement between NorthCare Network and Chippewa County Health Department for Substance Abuse Prevention Services for FY2018, to provide funding in the amount of \$129,707 (\$29,707 SAPT Block Grant CFDA#93.959 and \$100,000 from County Liquor Tax) to continue the prevention care in Chippewa County. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

FINANCE – Claims and Accounts

The Committee reviewed the bills and payroll presented for approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to recommend the approval of November bills and payroll as follows: the general claims totaling \$265,820.76; other fund claims of \$423,044.54; payroll of \$464,864.56; Health Department claims of \$234,751.28 and Health Department payroll of \$206,468.76; total claims \$1,594,949.90 and vouchers H-1 through H-317. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Budget Amendments

The Committee reviewed the year end budget amendments.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the year-end budget amendments as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

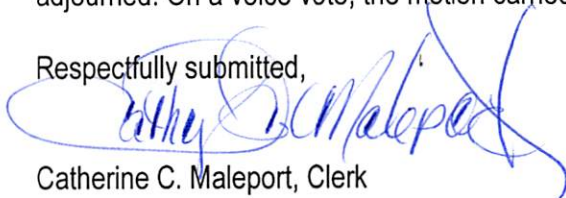
It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Savoie to accept the Finance Claims and Accounts minutes of December 14, 2017 as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT ON MEETINGS AS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE AND GENERAL COMMENTS

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Commissioners together wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Motion by Commissioner Egan, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, that the meeting be adjourned. On a voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine C. Maleport, Clerk

Scott Shackleton, Chairman