

**COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PERSONNEL, EQUALIZATION AND APPORTIONMENT/TRANSPORTATION/HEALTH AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

March 11, 2021

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners Personnel/Equalization and Apportionment/Transportation/Health and Social Services Committee was held on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at the Chippewa County Courthouse in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Chairman Ted Postula called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ted Postula, Scott Shackleton and Robert Savoie

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim German, Karen Senkus (Zoom), Lana Steinhaus (Zoom), Michelle Robbins (Zoom), Joyce Karr (Zoom), Suzanne Lieurance (Zoom) and Kelly Church

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

No changes offered.

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

Public Comment

No public comments were offered.

Personnel – Health Department Personnel Issues – No Action

Administrator German, Health Officer Karen Senkus and Deputy Health Officer Lana Steinhaus updated the Committee regarding the Medical Director and Medical Examiners return to work status; effective March 12, 2021. The Committee was notified that current contracts will be given 30-day notices.

Public Defender – Attorney Hire – Legal Secretary Position

The Committee was addressed by Public Defender Jim Robinson, who gave an overview of the working of the Office; Mr. Robinson is seeking to continue to restructure the office and its staff; currently he has openings for Administrative Assistant and both Public Defender and Assistant Public Defender attorney positions. Through the MIDC contract and the County; Jim will be seeking to: change the job description of the Administrative Assistant to a Support Manager position, paying Grade 7 through 2021; and changing to Grade 8 for 2022. For the attorney positions he is asking for Grade 12 to 13 and 11 to 12; to be more in line with the Prosecuting Attorney's staff. He is asking that a Grade 11 position be established for a law school graduate; who would be waiting to take the bar exam.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the restructuring of the Public Defender's Office; adding a Grade 11 position; changing the attorney positions from 12 to 13 and 11 to 12 grades of pay and changing the job description of the current Grade 7 Administrative Assistant to a Grade 8 effective in the 2022. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Sheriff's Department - Corrections

The Committee was addressed by the Sheriff's Department Administration regarding the current staff shortages and issues with lack of retention. The Sheriff outlined the necessary training and equipping each new officer; is

required to have. Only to have them resign and move on to different jobs, in the past year twenty officers have left the County. Between training and schooling each new officer costs is approximately \$15,000.00. The Committee discussed options to help retain employees including wages and fringe benefits; moving staff from part-time to full-time and the expenses of overtime costs. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve, authorize and increase the 79-hour jail position pay scale to \$18.95 per hour effective March 21, 2021

Committee Comments

None offered

Chairman's Comments

None offered

Adjourn

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

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.



Kelly J. Church, Recorder



Ted Postula, Chairperson