

FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 14, 2017

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners' Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee was held on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at the Chippewa County Building in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. with a quorum present, meeting started after the Personnel/EQ/Legislative and Health and Social Services Committee meeting concluded.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Martin, Scott Shackleton, Don McLean, Conor Egan and Bobby Savoie

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Lana Forrest, Karen Senkus, Tim Smith (Smith & Johnson), Jim German and Kelly Church

Approval of the Agenda

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

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Correspondence and Informational Items

The Committee received the Treasurer's Investment report, the monthly travel report, the monthly Visa billing statement, reports from the Health Departments billing system.

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 increase the County member loss fund deposit to \$50,000. Total premium for the year is proposed at \$256,244.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported 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 Egan, supported by Commissioner McLean, 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

Monica Lubiartz-Quigley; Charles J. Palmer and James Bias

The Committee reviewed and budgeted legal services agreements between County of Chippewa and individually with attorneys Monica Lubiartz-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 McLean, supported by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the Legal Services Agreements between Chippewa County and individually with attorneys Monica Lubiartz-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, addition 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 Savoie, supported by Commissioner Egan, 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 a special counsel to represent the interests of Chippewa County in litigation concerning the opioid epidemic. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

It was further moved by Commissioner Egan, supported 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 McLean, supported by Commissioner Egan, 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 Savoie, supported by Commissioner McLean, 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 Egan, supported by Commissioner Mclean, 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 Savoie, supported 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 McLean, supported 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. (4-1 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.

In was moved by Commissioner McLean, supported 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 Egan, supported by Commissioner McLean, to recommend the approval of November bills and payroll as follow: the general claims totaling \$265,820.76, other fund claims \$423,044.54, payroll \$464,864.56, Health Department claims \$234,751.28 and Health Department payroll \$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 Savoie, supported by Commissioner Egan, to approve the year-end budget amendments as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, supported by Commissioner Savoie, at 6:18 p.m. to move into closed session to discuss Union bargaining and contract negotiations. On a roll call vote 5-0, the motion CARRIED

Chairman Martin declared the closed session ending at 6:40 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Savoie, to reconvene the Finance Committee meeting at 6:40 p.m. On a roll call vote 5-0, the motion CARRIED.

Committee/Chairperson Comments

No additional comments were offered.

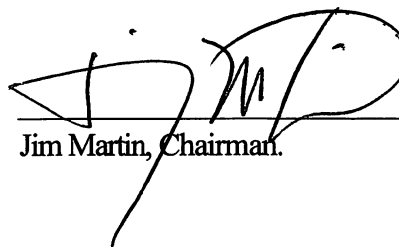
Adjourn

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Shackleton to adjourn.

Chairman Martin declared the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.



Kelly J. Church, Recorder



Jim Martin, Chairman.