

**CHEBOYGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
June 22, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners was called to order in the Commissioners Room by Chairperson Linda Socha at 9:30 a.m.

Roll called and a quorum present.

PRESENT: Commissioners Socha, Makima, Redmond, Mushlock, Page, Wallace and Bolinger

ABSENT: None

Commissioner Bolinger gave the invocation and Commissioner Wallace led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Commissioner Wallace, seconded by Commissioner Makima, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

CITIZENS COMMENTS – None

SCHEDULED VISITORS/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

MSUE Regional Director Patrick Knudney addressed the Board and presented a PowerPoint on the redesigning of MSU Extension. This redesign creates thirteen districts throughout the State. Cheboygan County will be part of District 3, which also includes Emmet, Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie and Manistee counties; and Mr Knudney will be District 3 Director. The new structure will be effective July 1, 2010. The restructuring includes District Councils, and the boards of commissioners, if desired, may make an appointment the District Council. Local councils will no longer be required, but if the county desires to continue the local council that is an option. Mr. Knudney said that for 2011 it appears there will be a 3% decrease in funding. Chairperson Socha said representatives from Cheboygan County will attend tomorrow's meeting in Gaylord regarding this topic. She thanked Mr. Knudney for his time and services and cited the importance of the services provided by MSUE.

NLEA President Andy Hayes addressed the Board. He reviewed the 2009 Annual Activities Report and the June 2010 President's Report. He said the NLEA staff enjoys working in Cheboygan County and thanked the Board for its participation. He noted the five Cheboygan County members, new member Tom Morrish, Linda Socha, Mike Overton, Steve Schnell and Jim Conboy. He drew attention to the Economic Outlook report which was distributed. Mr. Hayes said they are creating a network of business resources in nine area libraries and now have business counseling available, on a rotating base, at the libraries and also have ongoing seminars. Chairperson Socha thanked Mr. Hayes for his report.

Housing Director Shar Grawey presented the 2009 Annual Housing Report for the Cheboygan County Housing Commission. She said that last year through the Cheboygan County Housing Rehabilitation Program six projects were completed, and two projects were in process but not completed. In 2009, the average income for households assisted was \$17,771 and average household size was 2 family members. She said at this time they have 26 applicants awaiting assistance for home repairs. Ms. Grawey reported of the eight projects completed three were five deferred loans and three interest bearing loans ranging from 0-1% were given. In 2009, funding spent directly on housing rehabilitation in Cheboygan County totaled \$120,447.86 broken down as follows; \$65,496.62 in MSHDA – CDBG, \$27,187.26 in CDBG Recaptured Funds, \$20,345.60 in USDA RD HPG Funds, and \$7,418.38 in Cheboygan County funds. Discussion held regarding the lack of services to those with families and the cost to the county for housing. Finance Director Kari Kortz said the annual cost of this department is approximately \$75,000 to \$80,000.

Committee of the Whole Meeting – May 25, 2010

BOARD MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Administrator Overton presented a new Inter-local Agreement for Emergency Management Services. He said the agreement replaces the existing agreement and further defines the tri-county working relationship. While most of the changes are minor clarifying language revisions, the funding formula warrants additional explanation. The old formula was based on the 911 funding methodology and closely tied to the number of phone lines in the Counties. The new formula is based on the fixed costs, the variable costs due to population and State equalized property valuations and the actual physical size of each member county. He said the idea was to develop a formula that reflected the varying degrees of potential use of emergency management services. Generally speaking, more people, more likely the need for emergency management services.

Motion by Commissioner Page, seconded by Commissioner Bolinger, to approve the C.C.E. Inter-local Agreement for Emergency Management Services between the counties of Charlevoix, Cheboygan and Emmet, and authorize the Chair to sign. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

CITIZENS COMMENTS – Tony Matelski said he attended the Oil and Gas program, which was a very good, informative program, and he urged everyone to attend the next one. Commissioner Bolinger said one thing you should watch is many oil and gas leases are split five ways.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Chairperson Socha requested Administrator Overton to respond to a letter Commissioner Redmond received from Miriam McGrath regarding broadband internet service for rural Cheboygan County. Ms. Socha said she spoke with Representative Elsenheimer regarding the State providing \$40,000 to the City of Grand Rapids for fireworks. She also noted a recent article in the Petoskey News Review regarding a program recently established by Moran Ironworks at Northern Michigan Hospital to assist patients from Cheboygan and Presque Isle counties.

Motion by Commissioner Makima, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to adjourn to the call of the Chair. Meeting adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

Mary Ellen Tryban
Cheboygan County Clerk/Register

Linda Socha
Chairperson