

**CHEBOYGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FINANCE/BUSINESS MEETING  
December 10, 2013**

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 Bruce Gauthier, Pete Redmond, Cal Gouine, John Wallace, Linda Socha, Sue Allor, and Tony Matelski

**Absent:** None

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

**Public Hearing for the 2014 Cheboygan County Budget**

The Public Hearing on the 2014 County Budget was opened by Chairperson Socha. She asked for public comment on the budget. No comments were received. Finance Director Kari Kortz briefly summarized the budget. Ms. Kortz noted that the proposed 2014 Cheboygan County budget totals \$20,611,082 excluding the Road Commission. There is a 3% increase in this budget over the current amended 2013 budget. County Treasurer Linda Cronan noted that the County will not need to take out a \$500,000 loan for 2014, and will instead borrow money from the Tax Revolving Fund. The public hearing was closed at 9:46 a.m.

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

**Motion** by Commissioner Matelski, seconded by Commissioner Gouine, to approve the presented consent agenda as follows:

- A. Approve Monthly Finance Claims (Finance = \$22,706.51 Prepaid = \$769,155.03)
- B. Budget Adjustments
- C. Public Official Board
- D. FY 2014 Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Contract Drug Court – Amendment 1
- E. Correspondence
  - 1. NEMCOG Program Highlights for October 1, 2012 – September 30, 2013
  - 2. CCE 9-1-1 Project Update
- G. Minutes:
  - 1. Finance/Business Meeting of November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013
  - 2. Health Board – 10/15/2013
  - 3. NEMCSA – 11/1/2013
  - 4. NEMCOG – 10/17/2013
  - 5. North Country Community Mental Health – 10/17/2013
  - 6. NLEA November-December Newsletter & Board Minutes of 9/19/2013
  - 7. Cheboygan County Fair Board – 11/4/2013
  - 8. Board Appointments & Procedures Committee – 11/20/2013
  - 9. Cheboygan County Road Commission – 10/24/2013
  - 10. Cheboygan City Council – 10/22/2013 & 11/12/2013
  - 11. Planning Commission Meeting – 10/16/2013 & 11/6/2013
  - 12. ZBA – 10/23/2013

A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS** – None

**SCHEDULED VISITORS** – None

**FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Finance Director Kari Kortz presented the revenue and expenditures report for the General Fund for the month ending October 31, 2013. She reported total year-to-date revenue of \$9,536,656.31 or 89.60% of budget compared to \$9,143,185.69, or 82.22% of budget, last year as of the end of October. Ms. Kortz reported expenditures year-to-date of \$8,417,072.45 or 79.08% of budget, compared to \$8,378,108.83, or 75.04% of budget, last year as of the end of October.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Jeff Lawson reported updates on several projects. The Marina Dredging project has been temporarily suspended because of icy conditions. The Fairgrounds Midway restroom is still progressing. The Humane Society has had some base gravel and grading work at the facility in preparation for pavement. The County Building stairs are at a standstill because the temperature is too cold for concrete to cure. There was a job offer made to an individual to fill the vacancy in the IT department and background checks are being completed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Redmond presented several Board Appointments and Procedures Committee recommendations. The Board consensus was to vote on recommendations individually for the various appointments and re-appointments.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Wallace to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee to reappoint the following to the Cheboygan County Planning Commission for terms beginning December 16, 2013 and ending December 15, 2016: Mike Kavanaugh, Sharon Lyon, Steven Churchill and Patty Croft. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Matelski, seconded by Commissioner Allor to reappoint John Jazdyk to the Cheboygan County Planning Commission for a term beginning December 16, 2013 and ending December 15, 2016. Discussion was held. A roll call vote was held. Motion failed with 3 yes (Commissioner Socha, Commissioner Matelski, Commissioner Allor), 4 no (Commissioner Redmond, Commissioner Wallace, Commissioner Gauthier and Commissioner Gouine) and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Gouine to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee to not reappoint John Jazdyk to the Cheboygan County Planning Commission at this point pending further discussion with Mr. Jazdyk and the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee regarding his lack of attendance at the meetings. Discussion was held. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Gouine to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments & Procedures Committee to reappoint Ron Ramsey and George Pike to the Cheboygan County Waterways Commission for three-year terms commencing January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Gauthier to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee to reappoint Ralph Hemmer and John Moore to the Cheboygan County Zoning Board of Appeals for three-year terms commencing January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Gouine to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee to reappoint Dennis Despain, Louis Vassilakos,

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Del Reynolds, and Don Balbaugh to the Cheboygan County Airport Authority for three-year terms commencing January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Wallace to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee to reappoint Garfield Geyer to the Cheboygan County Department of Public Works for a three-year term commencing January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Gauthier to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee to reappoint James Muschell, William Thompson and Bobbie Christensen to the Cheboygan County Construction Code Board of Appeals for two-year terms commencing January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Gauthier to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee to reappoint Matthew Friday to the Cheboygan County Economic Development Corporation/Brownfield Authority for a term commencing October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2019. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Wallace to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee to appoint Karen Mary Daniel to the Cheboygan County Department of Human Services Board for a three-year term commencing November 1, 2013 through October 31, 2016. Discussion was held. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Gouine to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee and the Cheboygan County Agricultural Society to reappoint Ron Fenlon, Daryl Taylor, and Nathan Howell, to the Cheboygan County Fair Board for terms beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Wallace to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee and the Cheboygan County Agricultural Society to appoint Don Spray and John Brown, Jr. to the Cheboygan County Fair Board for terms beginning January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Wallace to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee and the Cheboygan County Agricultural Society to appoint Steve Stanford to the remaining vacant term on the Cheboygan County Fair Board for a term commencing January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Commissioner Redmond noted that the Cheboygan County Fair Board has been operating with only 13 Board members for several years, this action will see them operating with 14 directors as stated in their bylaws.

Commissioner Redmond attended a District No. 4 Health Board meeting, Board Appointments and Procedures Committee, Fair Board meetings, Benton Township Board meeting, and a MAC Workman's Compensation Board meeting in Lansing. Commissioner Redmond stated it was his understanding that the Worker's Compensation refund checks were being sent to the counties and should be received shortly.

Commissioner Gauthier attended Board Appointments and Procedures Committee meetings and a NEMCSA meeting. He noted that the CEO of NEMCSA, John Swise, is scheduled to be present at the Committee of the Whole Board meeting in January. Kathy Morrow will confirm the CEO's attendance.

Commissioner Wallace attended a MSU-E Clean Water Tip of the Mitt presentation. He noted that C.C.E. 9-1-1 is currently trying to remedy the lack of radio coverage in the Charlevoix area due to narrow

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banding. Commissioner Wallace reported updates from the Michigan Works/Northeast Consortium Board of which he serves on.

Commissioner Allor attended four Planning Commission meetings, the Walker Township, Ellis Township, Wilmot Township, Village of Wolverine and Tuscarora Township meetings, a District No. 4 Health Department meeting, a North Country Community Mental Health meeting, and a Michigan Northern Counties Association meeting. Commissioner Allor noted that there was a presentation at the Michigan Northern Counties Association meeting by Kurt Schindler with MSU-E regarding the implementation of self-sufficient prosperity regions.

Commissioner Gouine attended an Inverness Township meeting, a Michigan Townships Association meeting and a Cheboygan County Airport Authority meeting.

Commissioner Matelski attended two Road Commission meetings, two Planning Commission meetings, two township board meetings, a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, and the Humane Society Christmas Dinner.

Commissioner Socha participated in an emergency incident involving a propane tanker that overturned in Forest Township. Commissioner Socha noted Emergency Manager Greg Williams and Megan performed very competently in this action. Commissioner Socha also attended a special meeting of SANE regarding cash flow and financial issues. The SANE Special Prosecutor position was being suspended at this time due to finances, although Commissioner Socha stated she voted no. She noted that better information should be available in January regarding the financial situation of SANE. Commissioner Socha stated that cuts to the Byrne Grant have hurt enforcement and that Cheboygan County has participated in SANE since the 1980's and that SANE provides a law enforcement officer to Cheboygan County. She noted that many of the programs and areas that this county funds, impacts the public health and safety of our citizens, and that many other counties do not fund programs the same way Cheboygan does.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Administrator Lawson presented the 2014 Attorney Contract for Delinquency and Child Protection Proceedings for Probate Court.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Gauthier to approve the Circuit Court Family Court 2014 Attorney Contract for Delinquency and Child Protection Proceedings for a total amount of \$82,000. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Administrator Lawson presented the North Country Community Mental Health Reid Building Lease Revision.

**Motion** by Commissioner Matelski, seconded by Commissioner Redmond to approve the revised one-year lease agreement between the County of Cheboygan and North Country Community Mental Health effective November 1, 2013 and authorize the Chairperson to sign the agreement. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Administrator Lawson presented the Cheboygan Area Schools Recycling Agreement.

**Motion** by Commissioner Allor, seconded by Commissioner Matelski to approve the agreement for recycling services between Cheboygan County and Cheboygan Area Schools effective December 11, 2013 and authorize the Chairperson to sign the agreement. Discussion was held regarding recycling revenues/expenditures. Commissioner Socha requested for a recycling report should be presented to the Board. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Administrator Lawson presented the Straits Regional Ride/Cheboygan Airport Lease Agreement.

**Motion** by Commission Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Matelski to approve the lease agreement between the Cheboygan County Airport Authority and Cheboygan County on behalf of Straits Regional Ride effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 and authorize the Chairperson to sign the agreement. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Administrator Lawson presented building safety staff. There is a request to increase the hours that Matt Cronk is authorized to work, from 35 to 40 hours, due to the absence of Al Hoard.

**Motion** by Commissioner Matelski, seconded by Commissioner Gouine to authorize the additional hours of work for Matt Cronk of the Building Safety Department in the absence of Al Hoard and authorize the necessary related budget adjustments. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Administrator Lawson presented the 2014 Fee Resolution 13-26. He noted rate changes in the fee resolution specifically those rates for Building Safety. Commissioner Wallace expressed concern with raising the commercial building rates at a time when the county is trying to encourage business to come into the county. Commissioner Socha responded that builders have found that Cheboygan County building inspection rates are low comparatively. Discussion held regarding these rates for neighboring counties.

**Motion** by Commissioner Matelski, seconded by Commissioner Gauthier to adopt Cheboygan County Resolution 13-26; the 2014 Fee Resolution effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 and authorize the Chairperson to sign the agreement. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 6 yes, 1 no (Commissioner Wallace), 0 absent.

Finance Director Kari Kortz presented the 2014 Wage and Salary Resolution 13-27. The General Non-Union Employee Wage and Salary Resolution is presented with a 0% increase as union negotiations are still on going. This resolution will be amended in 2014 when the union contracts have been settled.

**Motion** by Commissioner Allor, seconded by Commissioner Wallace to adopt the Cheboygan County 2014 Wage and Salary Resolution General Non-Union Employees 13-27 effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 and authorize the Chairperson to sign the agreement. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Finance Director Kari Kortz presented the 2014 Wage and Salary Resolution 13-28. The Elected Officials Wage and Salary Resolution was presented with a 0% increase, but will be reviewed again at the same time as the General Non-Union Employees are also reviewed.

**Motion** by Commissioner Matelski, seconded by Commissioner Redmond to adopt the Cheboygan County 2014 Wage and Salary Resolution Elected Officials 13-28 effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 and authorize the Chairperson to sign the agreement. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Finance Director Kari Kortz presented the 2014 Cheboygan County Budget adoption. Ms. Kortz stated that the budget as presented today totals \$28,803,946. The General Fund budget is \$11,236,932, with all remaining funds being \$17,567,014.

**Motion** by Commissioner Wallace, seconded by Commissioner Gauthier to adopt the Cheboygan County 2014 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$11,236,932 and all other funds budgets combined with a combined total of \$17,567,014 resulting in a total Cheboygan County budget in the amount of \$28,803,946. Commissioner Socha thanked Administrator Jeff Lawson and Finance Director Kari Kortz for their efforts in developing and compiling the budget. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

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**Motion** by Commissioner Matelski, seconded by Commissioner Allor to cancel the Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS** - None

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Socha reminded the Board members that any per diem or mileage sheets remaining for 2013 need to be submitted.

Commissioner Socha reminded the Board members that the Cheboygan County Building employee Christmas Party is on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in the Commissioner's Room; a party completely funded by the employees of the County Building, and is at no cost to the Cheboygan County tax payers.

Commissioner Allor noted that there is a Senate Bill regarding the elimination of land phone lines. It has passed the Senate, and is currently in the House for decision. Commissioner Socha believes that there are protections for those areas that do not have very good cell phone reception.

Commissioner Matelski commented that at the last Koehler Township Board meeting, the Township Assessor was present and she said there are 8-9 veterans applying for exemption from their property taxes. The Assessor had to work with the Cheboygan County Veteran's Director and she said he was very helpful to work with. Discussion was held regarding the veterans' property tax exemption laws.

Commissioner Wallace commented that the regions being proposed by the Governor do not agree with other regions that are already in existence. He also stated that he read that Otsego County saves \$700,000 annually by having the State Police do dispatch.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Matelski to go into closed session at the request of the County Administrator on behalf of the county, a party to a collective bargaining agreement with all unions actively engaged in contract negotiations with those unions pursuant to Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act, being MCL 15.268(c). A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 12:00 P.M.**

**RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION AT 12:28 P.M.**

Commissioner Socha advised that all appointments will be the same providing no one has an issue. A Board Vice-Chair will be elected at the January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Finance/Business meeting.

**Motion** by Commissioner Wallace, seconded by Commissioner Allor, to adjourn to the call of the Chair. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

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Mary Ellen Tryban  
Cheboygan County Clerk

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Linda Socha  
Chairperson