

**CHEBOYGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PLANNING SESSION  
April 25, 2013**

The Planning Session of the Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners was called to order Audie's in Mackinaw City by Chairperson Linda Socha at 9:00 a.m.

Chairperson Socha advised that Commissioner Matelski would be late this morning as he had a prior appointment.

Roll called and a quorum present.

**Present:** Commissioners Linda Socha, Bruce Gauthier, Pete Redmond, Cal Gouine, Tony Matelski (arrived at 11:10 a.m.), John Wallace, and Sue Allor

**Absent:** None

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

**CITIZENS COMMENTS** - None

The facilitator for the session was John Armhein of MSU Extension. Mr. Amrhein gave a brief introduction and description of today's process.

The County's Vision Statements, which was developed several years ago, was reviewed and discussed.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Gauthier, to reaffirm the vision statement as written. Motion carried with 6 yes, 0 no and 1 absent.

The Mission Statement was reviewed and discussed. Commissioner Gauthier suggested a minor change to the Mission Statement.

**Motion** by Commissioner Gauthier, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to adopt the following Mission Statement: Cheboygan County Officials and Staff efficiently provide public services with pride in an open, ethical and courteous manner with responsible management of county resources. Motion carried with 6 yes, 0 no and 1 absent.

**BOARD MEMBER GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Mr. Amrhein asked the board, within the framework of their mission and vision statements what things should Cheboygan County work towards achieving in 2013-2014? He said to mentally step outside the county and look at what elements of the county could be strengthened by a focused effort by county government. He told the board to keep in mind they are setting the destination for the management team and they will use their expertise and experience to develop the specific strategies and to be sure to consider external trends and forces which will impact the county.

With much discussion, the following were identified:

**Jobs – Economic Development**

County Role

City & Township Roles Different

County Needs to Streamline Processes, are Moving in that Direction

Fast Efficient Permits & Inspections

Better, but can Improve

County in Coordinating Role

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Current General Fund Dollars in Inspection  
❖ Helping Encourage Growth  
Public Safety, Quality of Life  
❖ County Department Efficiencies all Contribute  
Being Ready when Development Opportunities Come  
Explain to People

### Social Needs

Poverty  
Recreation  
Effects of Aging Population  
Veterans  
Crime  
Family Problems  
Drug Courts Example of Things Counties Can Do  
Negative Impacts of Federal & State Changes  
Need Research – Effectiveness  
❖ Drug Courts  
❖ Dare  
❖ SAYPA  
❖ School Liaison Officer  
Communication with Agencies  
❖ Collaboration  
❖ County Role  
❖ Assist in Communications with Citizens  
❖  
What agencies Deliver & How Cheboygan Can Provide Leadership  
Regional Consolidation Pressure  
Value of Conversations Across the Region  
Blight & Dangerous up to Municipalities

### Facility Needs

Have Broad Plan  
Need more Specific Plan for Individual Properties  
Existing Plan is Working  
Signage for County Facilities Need Work – Jeff is working on it  
Building Security

Commissioner Matelski arrived at 11:10 a.m.

IT Infrastructure  
❖ Employee Education  
WiFi for Visitors in County Facilities  
Rural WiFi - Broadband  
Map Hot Spots  
May Be Opportunities to Provide Facility Space for Wireless

### Collaboration-Service

Veterans  
Servers  
Soft Collaboration  
NEMCOG List  
Facilitate countywide meetings

### Quality County Service

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### Public Safety

Overall  
Jail Health Costs  
More Web EOC training  
Need more Emergency Drills  
Generator  
Knowledge Backups – Institutional Memory  
Building Security

The Turning Point system was used to prioritize the goals. The results were as follows:

1. **Public Safety**
2. **Jobs – Economic Development**
3. **Quality Public Service**
4. **Social Needs**
5. **Facility Needs**
6. **Collaboration Possibilities**

Lengthy discussion was held on how to measure progress made on the goals. Methods discussed were reports from departments and agencies, constituent comments, and communication. Administrator Lawson said measuring is important, but should not lose focus on the goals themselves.

Since Social Needs was new to the Board's goals the following was developed:

**Recognizing Social Issues** – To work diligently to address social needs, recognizing the limited role of counties and working together with state and federal governments in their roles.

**Motion** by Commissioner Wallace, seconded by Commissioner Gauthier, to adjourn to the call of the Chair. Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

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Mary Ellen Tryban  
Cheboygan County Clerk/Register

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Linda Socha  
Chairperson