

**CHEBOYGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
August 28, 2012**

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 Linda Socha, Don Horrocks, Pete Redmond, Cal Gouine, Tony Matelski, John Wallace, and Sue Allor

**Absent:** None

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

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

**CITIZENS COMMENTS** – None

**SCHEDULED VISITORS/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Probate Court Judge Butts presented updated information and statistics over the last ten years, beginning in 2001, relative to the Probate and Family Court and the Juvenile Division of the Family Court. Included in the report were new staff members, new programs and services and a report on performance measures instituted by the Juvenile Division. Judge Butts passed around and reviewed various handbooks given to persons first involved in the Probate Court system to guide them through specific processes. He stated the cost per youth in SAYPA per student per day of \$34.00 is extremely low compared to out of home placements. He said every youth that comes before the court is funded through the child care fund. Judge Butts said the Cheboygan County Juvenile Independence Court, a collaborative effort between the County Juvenile Court, Community Mental Health and the County Prosecutor's Office was established effective August 1, 2012. He introduced Intensive Probation Officer Cindy Ashbaugh to explain the program. She said this system will better serve court-involved, mentally ill youth and their families by combining resources and staff and working together toward the common goal of diverting youth from the justice system into long term mental health treatment. The program consists of four phases and will take about one year to complete. The program allows a payment plan to be established with the Court until all fines, costs and restitutions are paid in full. Treatment costs will vary depending on family income and the agency providing treatment. Discussion held.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT** – Administrator Lawson's written report included information on a Community Health Assessment, the Probate Court; Animal Shelter Construction Project; Recycling; and the County Building Security Project. He reported the Health Department of West Michigan is leading an effort to complete a Community Health Assessment for Northern Michigan with Cheboygan County as a focus County. The Health Department would like to conduct one or two focus group meetings in mid-September with at least 10 persons in each group; and plan to complete group meetings with health and service providers in early November. He also reported the majority of demolition at the Humane Society has been done and footings and foundation work has started. He said having discussed the complaints received concerning the frequency of bin pickup at recycling sites, it has been determined that the program needs three additional bins to meet the demand for recycling. The budget request for this purchase will be brought to the board next month. Discussion was held on debris not being picked up at the sites and the lack of response to calls.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Sheriff Clarmont presented a detailed restructuring proposal for board approval. He said with recent cutbacks to the Michigan State Police and local police agencies the citizens of the county increasingly rely on the Sheriff Department for police protection and services. His proposed restructuring plan would result in the addition of two MCOLES Certified Road Patrol Deputies to the Road Patrol Division and the elimination of a Corrections Officer from the Corrections Division, resulting in an overall cost of approximately \$56,339. Of this total, approximately \$12,745 would be for fiscal year 2012 and \$47,905 for fiscal year 2013. Discussion held.

**Motion** by Commissioner Wallace, seconded by Commissioner Horrocks, to approve the proposed restructuring of the Cheboygan County Sheriff Department which will result in the addition of two MCOLES Certified Road Patrol Deputies to the Road Patrol Division and the elimination of a Corrections Officer from the Corrections Division, and approve the necessary budget adjustments effective September 9, 2012. Discussion held. Commissioner Horrocks stated that the board should understand that down the road this could result with mileage problems and the need to replace vehicles more often. Chairperson Socha noted that in the future this board may be faced with layoffs and the need to look at the board's priorities. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Administrator Lawson advised that five bids were received for the roof replacement on the County Building. He said the apparent low bid was received by Great Lakes Roofing however, during the architect's review process Great Lakes identified that they had not completed roof core samples and requested to increase their bid. They were disqualified, leaving the next lowest bid from Story Roofing in the amount of \$188,426 followed by Tri-Star Industries at \$190,900. Doyle Roofing, a Cheboygan based company, submitted a bid of \$195,127, and since this bid is within 5% of the confirmed low bid of \$188,426, the architect has been asked to qualify Doyle Roofing's bid according to the County's Purchasing Policy. He said Civil Counsel has recommended a performance payment bond at a cost of \$2,892, as this is the safest way for the County especially if for any reason the project lead to involvement in the courts. Discussion held on paying for a performance bond and that with this company which is very reputable it would not be necessary. Administrator Lawson said he has been involved in numerous projects without performance bonds. Chairperson Socha she understands it would not be necessary in this case, but likes to have consistency for requirement of the bond or not.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Matelski, to approve the AIA Owner-Contractor Agreement with Doyle Roofing in the amount of \$198,019 for roof membrane and insulation replacement and authorize the Chair to sign. Chairperson Socha asked if Doyle's Roofing has been qualified by the architect. Administrator Lawson said it has been done. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**BOARD MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION - None**

**CITIZENS COMMENTS** – Finance Director Kari Kortz said some department budgets and funds need some work even though the deadline was August 17<sup>th</sup>. She said currently there are still too many holes to compile a reasonable budget amount, but it will be done within the timelines

Straitsland Resorter Editor Scott Swanson asked where the funds for the restructuring in the Sheriff Department would come from. Ms. Kortz answered there appears to be enough in carried forward fund equity, not from fund balance. Mr. Swanson asked if the figures included gas costs. Sheriff Clarmont said they feel this would not exceed the current budget for gasoline.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS** – Commissioner Allor said in the past several weeks the Wolverine Lions Club talked with her regarding ORV rides they sponsor in conjunction with the Great Lakes ORV Association. In talking with head of the Great Lakes ORV Association, she said he pointed out that in Michigan 400,000 registered ORV's and looking at snowmobiles, \$1.2 billion is added to the Michigan economy in a three month season. Based on this, it is estimated that Michigan's economy potentially would be increased by approximately \$4 billion from ORV's. In Northern Michigan many trails are limited to snowmobile, or not designated for ORV's. She said he asked what the county could do to try

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to encourage development of ORV trails. Sheriff Clarmont said there are approved state trails that ORV's must stay on; and the trail system in this county is one of the better developed ones for ORV's, especially in the Black Lake area. He said there also is an ordinance in place here which allows ORV's on most county roads. Chairperson Socha said there was much discussion both for and against opening the roads to ORV's before the ordinance was adopted. There are maps available. Commissioner Allor said this gentleman said there are not many trail markings and even using maps it is hard to determine when a trail may not be opened to ORV's. Commissioner Horrocks said he will be meeting with the new DNR director in late September. Sheriff Clarmont said the county has very good trail maps available. Discussion held on how the county ORV ordinance has been working.

Commissioner Gouine attended a Soil Conservation meeting, and reported they are happy with the support they have received from the County.

Commissioner Horrocks noted the grand opening of the Pavilion in the City of Cheboygan on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Wallace said he needs direction for 9-1-1 as people in the Onaway ambulance area call into CCE in need of an ambulance and presently CCE then contacts Presque Isle County's central dispatch. He said this should be able to go through the radio system.

Commissioner Allor said when Dallas was here he mentioned the subscription program available. As she has been attending township meetings she has informed the township boards of the ambulance millage proposal on the ballot this year, and also mentions the subscription program, which most people are not aware of. Commissioner Matelski said the Onaway ambulance raises about \$40,000 annually through subscriptions, considerably more than Cheboygan does.

Chairperson Socha said the Deputy Director for Office of Emergency Management, Mike Wheeler, left the position as he did not like all the paper work involved with the job, he prefers work in the field. The OEM Director, Greg Williams, said one of the applicants that pulled out last time has expressed interest in the opening. Commissioner Socha said she feels bad for Greg because of the frequency in the turnover in the deputy position. Discussion held.

**Motion** by Commissioner Matelski, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to adjourn to the call of the Chair. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

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Mary Ellen Tryban  
Cheboygan County Clerk/Register

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Linda Socha  
Chairperson