

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Session  
August 11, 2016

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 11, 2016 in the 91st District Courtroom of the Chippewa County Building.

Chairman Shackleton called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

Present: Commissioners Egan, Johnson, Martin, McLean and Chairman Shackleton

Absent: None

Also Present: Scott Brand, Evening News, Deputy Sheriff Jeff Erickson, Jim Traynor, John Lechner, Kristina Denison, Karen Senkus, Marilyn Mrozek, James Mrozek, Terry Benoit, Lana Forrest, Deputy Administrator Kelly Church, Administrator Jim German, and Cathy Maleport, Clerk.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve the agenda as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to approve the regular Board Meeting minutes of July 14, 2016, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

It was moved by Commissioner Egan, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to acknowledge the correspondence received in the clerk's office and, if necessary, forward to the appropriate committee. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- John Lechner referenced an incident that happened in the spring of 2011 concerning Mr. Pages and Deputy Carrick. He also read statements concerning an incident involving him hitting a patrol vehicle.
- Kristina Dennison provided pamphlets with information of their tree farm field day.

- Marilyn Mrozek, Raber Township Clerk together with Terry Benoit, Jim Mrozek and Jim Traynor appeared before the Commission on behalf of Raber Township in hopes for assistance in preventing a sewage septic drop off site in Raber Township. Mrs. Mrozek indicated that she was not notified and referenced a statute stating that the township clerk has to be notified when the application goes into process.

Chairman Shackleton suggested that the Board ask our County Administrator to assist them concerning this matter and indicated that they would help in any way they can.

- Jim Mrozek announced that one of the things that he wanted to bring to the Board's attention is that Tri County Septic is talking about bringing Luce and Mackinac County Septage into Chippewa County.
- Steve Welch, resident of Soo Township, once again, appeared before the Board with the same complaint about the speed limit on East Three Mile Rd. He communicated that his mission is to prevent the erection of small wooden crosses and reduce the speed limit on Three Mile Road. He provided a signed petition with all the residents in the region just west of Shunk Road, where the houses begin to Sun Glo subdivision.

Mr. Welch read the below petition and requested that it be part of the public record.

öWe the undersigned, residents of property owners on East Three Mile Rd approximately ½ mile West of Seymour Rd to the entrance of Sun Glo Subdivision of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan sign this petition to reduce the speed in the area of our property because of the following reasons.ö

The Current speed limit on East Three Mile Road in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan is 45 Miles per hour on the road in front of our properties. This speed limit has created great dangers and threats to residents, pedestrians, bikers, motorists and also Amish buggies that sometimes use this road for travel. This area is in a residential zone and the road has single lane traffic in both directions. This road is utilized by bicyclist, joggers and also for walking. Unfortunately, the current high speed limit in this area poses a great danger to these people. A decrease in the current speed limit is also so critical for the safety of local residents utilizing their driveways as a means of entry and exiting to and from Three Mile Road. It is critically important to lower the speed limit on East Three mile Road. The purpose of this petition is to require the Chippewa County Commission to look into this issue and hopefully to initiate the process of determining a more reasonable safe speed limit for our neighborhood. We would suggest that the current speed limit in this residential area be reduced from 45 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour to improve our safety and quality of life in our residential neighborhood.

Chairman Shackleton stated that Chippewa County does not set the speed limits and informed Mr. Welch that his presentation may be more appropriately directed to the road commission. The county road commission and the state police would have more ability to address this issue than this Board.

Having no further comments, Chairman Shackleton declared Public Comments closed at 6:07 p.m.

**Administrator's Report** – Jim German, given for informational purposes only ó *no action items*.

NEW BUSINESS

- A) Letter of Support To SSM Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Elder Service Division for the Elder Meal Program Grant through UPCAP.

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Egan, to approve the letter of support for the Sault Sainte Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Elder Service Division for the elder Meal Program Grant through UPCAP. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Chippewa County Board of Commissioners  
Scott Shackleton  
319 Court Street  
Don McLean  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Phone: (906) 635-6330  
Fax: (906) 635-6325



Conor Egan  
Rudy Johnson  
Jim Martin

August 11, 2016

Sheryl Hammock, Director  
Elder Service Division  
2076 Shunk Road  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Dear Ms. Hammock:

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners is pleased to provide a Letter of Support for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Elder Service Division to obtain grant funding through UPCAP (Upper Peninsula Area Agency on Aging) for Nutrition Services.

It is the Board of Commissioners understanding that in 2004 the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians established the Elder Service Division with the mission to provide high quality in-home; access; and community based services for tribal elders and their spouses to assure maximum health and independence. Furthermore we understand that you not only service Tribal Elders at your meal sites, but that you serve many non-native seniors and welcome all seniors, to help their health, independence and to enjoy a good meal.

As you are aware, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners has representation on the UPCAP Board, and given our ongoing work with key stakeholders; helping to maintain and improve senior services. We recognize the importance of our collaboration in collective efforts to work toward improving health outcomes for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Elder Services and

throughout Chippewa County.

We are happy to support this important work and we wish you the best success in moving this forward for your program.

Sincerely,

Scott Shackleton  
Chairman  
Chippewa County Board of Commissioners  
Copy paste (Letter of Support)

**FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
August 8, 2016**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**Correctional Inmate Healthcare Services Renewal**

The Committee reviewed the Correctional Healthcare Companies (CHC) renewal to provide medical care services for the detainees at the Chippewa County Jail for the period of October 3, 2016 through October 2, 2017. The County Administrator was able to negotiate the increase down from the CPI rate of 3.5% to 2.5%.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner McLean, to approve the renewal of the Correctional Inmate Healthcare Services contract for the October 3, 2016 through October 2, 2017 at an increase of 2.5% - \$190,638.56 annually. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**44North Benefits Renewal**

The Committee reviewed a renewal for employees' short term disability, long term disability and life insurance with 44North, with only an increase to the long-term coverage from 0.41 percent to 0.45 percent of insured earnings (approximately \$200 per month increase). Further discussion of healthcare benefits and the switched to Medicare Advantage with 44North by way of Don Wilson Agency, with the Committee being requested to approve the annual renewal for short-term, long-term, life and healthcare benefits with 44North, due to the upcoming change of Medicare Advantage.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve and authorize renewal with 44North for FY17, including employee benefits: short term disability, long term disability, life insurance and healthcare insurance. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Medical Examiner travel to Marquette**

The Committee reviewed a travel request from the Medical Examiner to attend a meeting in Marquette, regarding forensic pathology needs for the Upper Peninsula.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Johnson, to authorize travel to Marquette for the Medical Examiner on September 6 & 7, 2017. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**USDA Requirement for funding – Administrative Policy #606 Limited English Proficiency**

The Committee reviewed the proposed Administrative Policy #606 ó Limited English Proficiency for all County Programs ó which will meet the required compliance per Executive Order 13166 òImproving Access to services for Persons with Limited English Proficiencyö which requires the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development to ensure service.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve Administrative Policy #606 Limited English Proficiency for all County Programs ó Interpretative Services as presented to meet requirement of the USDA Rural Development. On a voice vote, the motion was carried.

**York Risk Services - Workers Comp request for Safety Policy & Committee**

The Committee received the review letter from the recent loss prevention walk through at the County offices. Using Industry accepted Best Practices it was recommended that the County establish a Safety Committee, which will also help the County obtain grants monies in the future. Policy #607 Safety Policy & Committee Guidelines were reviewed.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve General Policies No. 607 ó Safety Policy & Committee Guidelines as recommended following the risk management walk through by York Risk Services Group. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Part-time Elected Officials Health Care**

The Committee discussed at length the status of benefits for the Chippewa County Surveyor and the Chippewa County Drain Commissioner, as these positions are receiving full-time benefits when only being paid part-time wages. The Committee discussed eliminating all future benefits to these positions, as well as, changing current benefits for prior part-time Commissioners, on a sliding scale until eliminated. The Committee discussed fairness, cost savings and were concerned with the lives that would be effected by any change.

It was moved by Commissioner McLean to adopt policy number 123 Part-time Elected Officials Benefits & Compensation (Drain Commissioner and County Surveyor)

Having received no second, Chairman Shackleton declared the motion died for lack of support.

It was moved by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Egan, the following:

- Effective August 15, 2016 no past, present, or future part-time elected officials will be eligible to receive health insurance and/or retirement.

A discussion followed with Chairman Shackleton noting that you cannot legally take away health insurance from elected officials, who currently have health insurance. You can only do it starting on the next elected term.

It was moved by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Egan, to amend the motion as follows:

- Effective January 1, 2017 no past, present, or future part-time elected officials will be eligible to receive

health insurance and/or retirement.

During discussion, Chairman Shackleton communicated that if you have a person who is vested through MERS, and they get a retirement benefit, there is no action that this Board can take, to take that away.

Commissioner Egan stated that he understands that there is no way they can take away the past part time elected officials benefits; that it is hard for him to give a part time elected official a huge retirement package or insurance when some of the jobs are barely part time.

Commissioner McLean having noted that they still have a motion on the floor; Chairman Shackleton called upon Commissioner Johnson to re-state his motion.

- As of January 1, 2017 no past, present, or future part-time elected officials will be eligible to receive health insurance and/or retirement.

In an effort to clarify the motion, Administrated German explained that if you vote for this motion, you're taking away from somebody that worked for the county 33 years, health insurance effective January 1, 2017.

If you vote no, you're still getting what you're after, which is new people coming in, not having those benefits.

On a voice vote:

Yeas: Commissioners Egan and Johnson

Nays: Commissioners Martin, McLean, and Chairman Shackleton.

Nays being the majority, the motion was declared failed.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to adopt Personnel Management Policy No. 123 as follows:

<p><b>Personnel Management Policy No. 123</b></p>
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<p><b>Part-time Elected Officials Benefits &amp; Compensation (Drain Commissioner and County Surveyor)</b></p>
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**County Board Approval: August 11, 2016 (Updated)**  
**Reviewed: Finance Committee August 8, 2016**

Effective August 15, 2016, any future Chippewa County Drain Commissioners and future Chippewa County Surveyors shall not be eligible to accrue county retirement benefits, or hospitalization/medical insurance coverage or payment in lieu of coverage or life insurance coverage. And shall not be allowed to accumulate vacation days, sick days, or any paid leaves of absences.

Travel expenses directly related to official County business shall be reimbursable in a manner consistent with policy #410.

Part-time Officials prior to this date who gained eligibility for health insurance and/or retirement benefits after separation and during their current tenure shall be entitled to maintain and receive the same coverage offered to other eligible current employees and retirees.

Where this policy is in conflict with any previous county policy, this policy shall be the enforced policy.

On a voice vote, the motion carried with Commissioner Johnson voting Nay.

### **Correctional Facility Personnel Changes**

Lt. Paul Stanaway addressed the Committee regarding a recent resignation of Cody Mayer, who will maintain his part-time status and the need to fill the positions that become available due to this resignation including the full-time position, a corporal position, and a 79 hour position. The facility is still having a difficult time finding part-time staff.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to accept the resignation from Corporal Cody Mayer, including Mr. Mayer maintaining part-time status; to fill the Corporal position through a promotion from within; fill the full-time position from a 79 hour position and to fill a 79 hours position within the Chippewa Correctional Facility. 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 Martin, seconded by Commissioner Egan, to recommend the approval of July bills and payroll as follow: the general claims totaling \$325,695.41, other fund claims \$421,743.74, payroll \$443,320.08, Health Department claims \$527,053.06; total claims \$1,717,812.29 and vouchers H-1 through H-266. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to accept the August 8, 2016 Finance Claims and Accounts minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

### **COMMISSIONERS REPORT ON MEETINGS AS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE AND GENERAL COMMENTS**

- Commissioner McLean referenced Mr. Welch's presentation during public comments agreeing with him that Three Mile Road is dangerous. He suggested and asked the Administrator to put together a Resolution for the Board to vote on in support of his petition. He could then take that Resolution to the Road Commission and the State Police.
- Commissioner Martin communicated that if we cannot change the speed limit, if nothing else; get some shoulders on that road so people have more time to react.
- Also suggested were more 4-way stops.

- Commissioner McLean also commented on Marilyn Mrozek's presentation during public comments communicating that this issue in Raber Township is completely unacceptable. He asked Mr. German to put together a Resolution in support of their efforts preventing the septage site from opening in Raber Township.
- Chairman Shackleton stated that he certainly agrees with the Commission's intent that the Administrator be involved in exploring ways to help Raber Township as well as working with the health department. If nothing else, make sure that it's done properly. I know that the goal here is to beat it and I'm with you, but, it sounds like they're getting all kinds of short cuts and special considerations that is not proper. The whole thing needs to be re-examined and figure out what is going on here.

Having completed the agenda items, it was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Johnson to adjourn. The Board adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine C. Maleport, Clerk

Scott Shackleton, Chairman