

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Session
August 17, 2023

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Thursday August 17, 2023, in the 91st District Courtroom.

Chairman Jim Martin called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with a quorum present. The meeting was also available via Zoom. Commissioner Traynor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Commissioners Damon Lieurance, James Traynor, and Chairman James Martin.

ABSENT: Commissioners Robert Savoie and Scott Shackleton

ALSO, PRESENT: Administrator Kelly Church, Cathy Maleport, Clerk, Chippewa County Sheriff Mike Bitnar, Traci Delgado, Jan Bailey, Tracey Holt, Sheri Ailing, Betsy Huggett, Colleen Myotte and David J. Ulrey - Present *Via Zoom: Suzanne Lieurance, and B Wiesner*

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, seconded by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve the Regular Board meeting minutes of July 13, 2023, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, seconded by Commissioner Traynor, to acknowledge the correspondence received in the clerk's office and forward as appropriate. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- *Colleen Myotte* appeared before as a follow-up to her request last month for an investigation with the Health Department and Hospice. Ms. Myotte thanked the Board for listening to her the previous month. She also thanked Dolores Carruthers, Karen Senkus, and Tracey Holt for their initiative and time investigating the matter.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Kelly Church - provided for informational purposes only - *no action items*.

NEW BUSINESS

- A) Resolution 2023 -18 – Recognition and Appreciation to the MSA's Victim Services Unit and Chippewa County Businesses and Residents.**

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, seconded by Commissioner Traynor, that Resolution 2023-18 be adopted as reflected below:

A brief discussion followed, with Chairman Martin leading; the Board expressed their sincerest gratitude and appreciation for all involved. "We could not be prouder of this county; you are all at the heart of that."

RESOLUTION 2023-18

**In Recognition and Profound Appreciation to the
Michigan Sheriff's Association's Victim Services Unit
and Chippewa County Businesses and Residents**

LET IT BE KNOWN, that it is with great pride that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners join with the residents of Chippewa County, to express their appreciation and gratitude to the Michigan Sheriff's Association's Victim Services Unit, Jere Farms, Kokosing-Alberici Traylor, the Stalwart Fairgrounds, Jeremy and Lynn Spencer, as well as, many unnamed individuals and agencies who stepped-up to help the local, state, and federal emergency and law enforcement agencies; all the time, but specifically, during a recent incident.

WHEREAS, the Victim Services Unit is a trained volunteer group of advocates associated with the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office, who will respond upon request to major law enforcement events to assist the first responders and victims.

WHEREAS, the Victim Services Unit runs off donations and a small Michigan Sheriff's Association grant, who delivered lunch and dinners for over 150 law enforcement officers. The VSU accepts donations of food, water, paper products, and basic supplies for first responders and the victim's needs.

WHEREAS, to the local businesses and residents; who stepped up without batting an eye, offering support, including Jere Farms (Amy and Dan Jere) who helped feed over 100 people, boxed lunches from "Kinross Lodge East" -Kokosing Alberici Traylor; the Stalwart Fairgrounds and residents of the area who worked with law enforcement and emergencies services to assist neighbors who were displaced and the Spencer's for providing lunch to the employees at the Chippewa County Central Dispatch.

IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, therefore, upon this resolution, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners acknowledges all those individuals, businesses, and agencies who volunteer their time, goods, and their presence; when needed, not as a requirement but as a profound statement about what makes Chippewa County a great place to live by showing up and volunteering during others time of need.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

AYES: Commissioners Damon Lieurance, James Traynor and Chairman Jim Martin

NAYS: None

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

B) Resolution 2023-19 – Special Recognition of Cheryl Jones

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, seconded by Commissioner Traynor, that Resolution 2023-19 be adopted as reflected below:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023 - 19

**RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION AND
SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF CHERYL JONES**

Let It Be Known, that it is with great pride that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners join with the employees and residents of Chippewa County, to express their wish of good health and happiness upon her retirement; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl Jones has served the citizens of Chippewa County through her commitment to the County and its citizens. She has provided exceptional service to numerous individuals for over twenty-one years of service with Chippewa County, plus additional time serving Chippewa County with her employment at DHHS, and for this, we extend our tanks; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl Jones has taken pride in her work with the Chippewa County Prosecuting Attorney's Office as the Crime Victim's Advocate; she worked hard to serve those who needed her guidance during difficult times, and her efforts have not gone unnoticed by those who benefit from her efforts; and

WHEREAS, through her tenacity, her standards, her effectiveness, and her passion, she has earned from her fellow workers and citizens the utmost respect. ***Cheryl Jones*** is a shining example of the commitment needed and has selflessly given of herself to serve the citizens of Chippewa County, who could not always look out for themselves.

IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, therefore, upon her retirement from Chippewa County, this document is signed and dedicated to honor ***Cheryl Jones*** for her countless contributions to Chippewa County and the individuals she served so well. For her untiring efforts in improving the health and well-being of the citizens of this County, we join together to extend a gracious thank you for a job well done.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

AYES: Commissioners Damon Lieurance, Robert Savoie, Scott Shackleton, James Traynor and Chairman Jim Martin

NAYS: None

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building Grounds and Jail, Legislative and Natural resources and Information Technology Meeting Minutes

Chairman James Traynor

August 7, 2023

Agenda Items

Building and Grounds

Sheriff's Department – Storage Building

The Committee briefly reviewed and discussed the proposed floor plan for the Sheriff's Department storage building to be built north of the Animal Shelter on Mackinac Trail. Sheriff Bitnar, UPEA's Jeremy Gagnon and the Committee talked the scope of the work including garage doors and the heated area of the building.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, seconded by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the proposed CCSO Storage Building floor plan (labeled A101) as presented. On a voice vote, the motion was carried.

The Committee continued with the timeline discussion for the storage building with review of the plans possibly as early as September; with full plans completed and approved by December 2023; and bidding out the project for a spring building with a tentative completion date of October 2024, for at least the storage area of the building.

There were no other action items.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, seconded by Commissioner Lieurance, to accept the August 7, 2023, Building Grounds and Jail, Legislative and Natural Resources and Information Technology Committee meeting minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee Meeting Minutes

Chairman Robert Savoie

August 15, 2023

AGENDA ITEMS

Register of Deeds - Change

Kofile to US Imaging (additional \$2,815.18 – Fund 256)

The Committee reviewed a letter from Register of Deed Gigi Ferro; regarding the recently approved scanning project with Kofile, as the quote initially presented was an error on the vendor, which they would not honor the pricing. New accurate pricing was sought from US Imaging (HFGroup) in the amount of \$9,172.00, as an additional \$2,815.18 to complete the job utilizing Special Fund 256 monies, with a 12-week timeframe to complete the job.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, seconded by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the additional \$2,815.18 for a total of \$9,172.00 to complete imaging with US Imaging for 1334 pages. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Administration – NorthCare 2024 County Liquor Tax Funding Request

- **Public Defender’s Office - \$5,000.00**
- **Health Department - \$19,400.00**
- **50th Circuit Drug Court - \$30,000.00**

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, seconded by Commissioner Lieurance, to accept and forward FY24 Liquor Tax Funds requests as presented and referenced above to NorthCare Network – Substance Use Disorders. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Administration – Change Short-term, long-term, life and voluntary life carrier per quotes from 44North – switch to The Hartford

The Committee reviewed the comparable rates between our current carrier Lincoln Financial Group and The Hartford, with The Hartford showing an estimated annual savings of \$3,660.00 for employee benefits. 44North sought the quotes on behalf of the County. The voluntary life insurance is 100% employee paid; the other is employer paid.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, seconded by Commissioner Lieurance, to accept and authorize the quote from The Hartford for the employees short and long term, life and voluntary life insurances, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Finance - Claims and Accounts –

- **July – County and Health Department**
- **Budget Amendments**
- **Beginning Fund Balances to Audit**
-

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, seconded by Commissioner Lieurance, to recommend the approval of July County bills and payroll: general claims \$344,424.05, other fund claims \$972,226.29, payroll \$597,850.16, and Health Department claims \$296,618.45 and payroll \$119,849.41 total claims \$2,341,968.36; approve the budget amendments and the beginning fund balances from the Audit. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

8/15/2023		Chippewa County				
		Budget Amendments				
General Fund - Revenue		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change	Description	
101-000-518.283	CEFS Grant	0.00	3,365.00	3,365.00	To Equal Grant	
101-000-859.000	District Court	1,000.00	2,000.00	1,000.00	Additional Revenue from Testing	
				4,365.00		
Special Funds - Revenue						
294-000-562.294	Veterans Grant	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	VSO Grant	
		0.00	0.00	0.00		
				\$ 58,730.00		
General Fund - Expenditures						
101-228-860.000	Information System	120.00	770.00	\$ 650.00	Travel for Education	
101-283-979.508	Circuit Court	0.00	3,365.00	\$ 3,365.00	To Equal Grant	
101-285-806.000	Juvenile Court	500.00	5,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	Appeals cases	
101-285-807.000	Juvenile Court	10,000.00	35,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	Additional costs from conflict cases	
101-286-727.286	District Court	1,750.00	2,750.00	\$ 1,000.00	Additional Drug test	
101-299-846.000	Crime Victim Coordinator	0.00	1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	Costs not budgeted	
101-299-860.000	Crime Victim Coordinator	0.00	500.00	\$ 500.00	Costs not budgeted	
101-299-881.000	Crime Victim Coordinator	0.00	150.00	\$ 150.00	Costs not budgeted	
101-299-900.000	Crime Victim Coordinator	0.00	500.00	\$ 500.00	Costs not budgeted	
101-713-801.000	Surveyors Office	1,525.00	1,900.00	\$ 375.00	Weir's Moving	
101-713-931.000	Surveyors Office	0.00	1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	Electrical & Paint	
101-714-903.000	Plat Books	2,500.00	19,500.00	\$ 17,000.00	Books printed in 2023	
				\$ 56,240.00		
Special Funds - Expenditures						
215-000-978.000	FOC Related Collections	0.00	500.00	\$ 500.00	Chair for Probate Courtroom	
238-000-980.000	School Resource Officers	0.00	92,000.00	\$ 92,000.00	Fund Balance	
294-000-845.000	Veteran's Trust	0.00	50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	To Equal Grant	
				\$ 142,500.00		

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, seconded by Commissioner Lieurance, to accept August 15, 2023, Finance, Claims, and Accounts Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

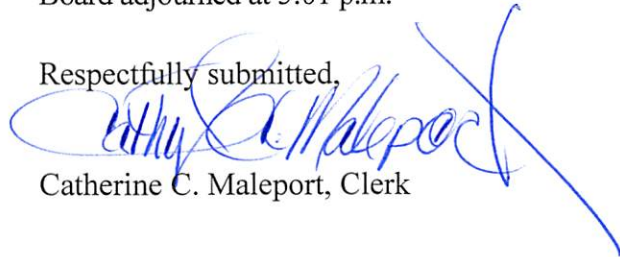
COMMISSIONER REPORT ON MEETINGS AS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE
AND GENERAL COMMENTS

Among some of the comments were as follows:

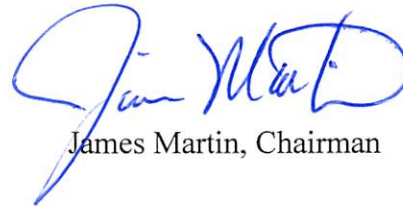
- **Commissioner Traynor** reported on the regional planning and development meeting he attended.
- **Chairman Martin** stated again what the Victim Services Unit did was phenomenal.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to adjourn; accordingly, the Board adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine C. Maleport, Clerk



James Martin, Chairman