

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Session
June 13, 2023

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, in the 91st District Courtroom.

Chairman Jim Martin called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m. with a quorum present. The meeting was also available via Zoom. Commissioner Shackleton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Commissioners Damon Lieurance, Robert Savoie, Scott Shackleton, James Traynor, and Chairman James Martin.

ABSENT: None

ALSO, PRESENT: Administrator Kelly Church, Cathy Maleport, Clerk, Karen Senkus, John Petkus, Kevin Kalchik, Ralph Duman, Tim Moher, and David Ulrey
Present Via Zoom: Calvin Rohweder and Suzanne Lieurance

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the May 11, 2023, regular Board Meeting minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Licensed Surveyor *David Ulrey* appeared before the Board to express his concerns with county records as a follow-up to Resolution 23-01 and their access.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

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

NEW BUSINESS

A) Resolution 2023-08 – Reopen the National Forest Service Chippewa County Campgrounds.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, seconded by Commissioner Savoie, to approve Resolution 2023-08 as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-08

**REOPEN THE NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE
CHIPPEWA COUNTY CAMPGROUNDS**

WHEREAS, the USDA Forest Service cancelled reservations on May 17, 2023 for campgrounds in the Hiawatha National Forest, including Monocle Lake, Soldier Lake and Bay View campgrounds, located in Chippewa County; and

WHEREAS, the closure includes Mackinac County’s Brevoort Lake, Carp River and Lake Michigan campgrounds; this is 233 campsites, 108 in Chippewa County and 125 in Mackinac County;

WHEREAS, tourism is one of Chippewa County’s and the Eastern Upper Peninsula’s largest industries bringing in traveler’s dollars spent each year that are necessary for our small business owners to survive; and

WHEREAS, this shutdown not only disrupts vacations and events families have had planned; but it will hurt the small business owners who rely on income from these visitors; it will harm the gas stations, restaurants, markets, as well as, the local community events; and

WHEREAS, many local hotel rooms are under long term contracts for the Soo Locks project, which already limits the number of visitors and is affecting businesses and the tourism opportunities locally; and

WHEREAS, tourism is an immensely important industry in Chippewa County and all of northern Michigan; and the loss of 233 campsites nightly will undoubtedly have negative effects on Chippewa County and the Eastern Upper Peninsula’s tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners recognizes that the Hiawatha National Forest has stated that this a priority and has said they are “committed to resolving this situation as soon as possible” but every day campgrounds are closed are negatively affecting the families wanting to camp and the local business community; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners **STRONGLY** urges the USDA National Forest Service to resolve the issue quickly; so that the negative impact to Chippewa County’s tourism industry is reduced; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Chippewa County Resolution 2023-08 be forwarded to U. S. Senators Honorable Gary Peters and Honorable Debbie Stabenow and U. S. Representative Honorable Jack Bergman, calling their attention to the need to re-open the Hiawatha National Forest campgrounds in Chippewa County and the Eastern Upper Peninsula.

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.

B) Resolution 2023-09 – Opposition to Legislative Proposals on Establishing a

Statewide Septic Code.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, seconded by Commissioner Traynor, to approve Resolution 2023-09 as follows:

**RESOLUTION #2023-09
Opposition to Legislative Proposals on
Establishing a Statewide Septic Code**

Whereas, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners understands the importance for clean water, which a public health matter for all the counties, but particularly for those with shoreline on the Great Lakes; and

Whereas, the local Chippewa County Health Department, follows *The Upper Peninsula Environmental Health Code* which is for the purpose of protecting public health and safety and the quality of the environment; adopted pursuant to the Michigan Public Health Code, and

Whereas, the Chippewa County Health Department inspects and issues permits for Type II, Type III water wells, septic systems, along with public pools and beaches throughout the County, as well as, for both residential and commercial property systems; and

Whereas, this proposed code would apply to all residential and commercial systems and the Chippewa County Board Commissioners opposes any additional requirements for inspection of septic wastewater systems; as the proposed policy changes may be overly burdensome; for businesses and local residence alike; and

Whereas, recent proposals House Bills 4479 and 4480 and Senate Bills 299 and 300, only reintroduce a failed bipartisan septic code package from 2018; without structure or an agreed upon timing for the proposed inspections; and

Whereas, these changes would cause undue hardship for our citizens, as Chippewa County lacks the needed infrastructure and manpower that would be necessary to uphold the proposed Code changes, and

Whereas, Chippewa County Health Department and County both have long histories of providing a healthy and safe living environment for its constituents and its visitors, through its current processes.

Whereas, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners understands the true cost of unfunded mandates that affect the County's financial means and do not want any additional charges to be mandated on our county residents.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners opposes House Bill 4479 and 4480 and Senate Bill 299 and 300, to establish a statewide septic code.

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.

C) Resolution 2023-10 – Imposing 2023 Property Tax Levy Pursuant to MCL 211.24e, 211.34, 311.34d, 211.36, 211.37, and 211.44a and Notice of Certification of 2023 County Tax Levy and L-4029, L-4028's, and L-4028 IC

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Traynor, to approve Resolution 2023-10 as follows:

CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION # 23-10

RESOLUTION IMPOSING 2023 PROPERTY TAX LEVY PURSUANT TO MCL 211.24e, 211.34, 211.34d, 211.36, 211.37, and 211.44a, AND NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION OF 2023 COUNTY TAX LEVY

WHEREAS, CHIPPEWA County is authorized under the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893, as amended, to levy and collect its allocated and voted property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the General Property Tax Act has been amended by Public Act 357 of 2004, being MCL 211.44a, to require each Michigan County to levy and collect its allocated millage in the summer; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Public Act 357 of 2004, **6.15 mills**, which is the County allocated millage, after application of the “Headlee” millage reduction fraction shall be levied and collected on July 1, 2023, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other anticipated and authorized County operating millages, i.e., EMS millage of .4275 mill, Road millage of .9821 mill, Recycling Programs millage of .50000 mill, Senior Programs millage of .7456 mill, and Animal Shelter millage of .0994 mill, after application of the “Headlee” and other applicable millage reduction fractions, will be levied and collected on December 1, 2023, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Treasurer of each city, village, and township in CHIPPEWA County is directed to account for and deliver the County tax collections for 2023 in accordance with the provisions of statute pertaining to such collections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution constitutes certification of the levy of the County millages as above described and as set forth on the attached 2023 TAX RATE REQUEST (L4029); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution will be delivered to the Treasurer of each City, Village and Township in CHIPPEWA County.

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.

D) Resolution 2023-11 – Tentatively Approving Conceptual Understanding for the Transfer of Hospital Facilities, and Providing an Opportunity for Public Input prior

to Consideration of Final Approval

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Traynor, to approve Resolution 2023-11 as follows:



CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**RESOLUTION TENTATIVELY APPROVING CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDING FOR THE
TRANSFER OF HOSPITAL FACILITIES, AND PROVIDING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR
PUBLIC INPUT PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF FINAL APPROVAL**

#2023-11

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners is the owner of certain Hospital Facilities, historically referred to as the Chippewa County War Memorial Hospital Facilities (“Hospital Facilities”). These Hospital Facilities are currently leased to MyMichigan Medical Center Sault, a subsidiary of MyMichigan Health, until December 31, 2081 for purposes of providing health care services in Chippewa County under a lease recently updated in 2021; and

WHEREAS, MyMichigan Medical Center Sault, a subsidiary of MyMichigan Health, now the tenant of the Hospital Facilities, and MyMichigan Health, a non-profit corporation and Sole Member of the seven-hospital subsidiary medical center network in Michigan (“MyMichigan”), desire to make extensive improvements to the Hospital Facilities, and to the surrounding care facilities and services providing health care to the residents of Chippewa County (“Chippewa Health Care Improvements”). MyMichigan represents that, if ownership of the Hospital Facilities could be transferred to MyMichigan Medical Center Sault, a subsidiary of MyMichigan Health, rather than that entity remaining as tenant, it would facilitate financing and the allocation of moneys for the Chippewa Health Care Improvements. Accordingly, MyMichigan has approached the County to consider a transfer of ownership of the Hospital Facilities to MyMichigan Medical Center Sault, a subsidiary of MyMichigan Health.

WHEREAS, the payment of a fair price, along with the achievement of continued health care services and facilities now in place for County residents, and also the improvement of such health care services and facilities by accomplishing the Chippewa Health Care Improvements, would provide an important motivation for the County to consider the transfer of ownership of the Hospital Facilities to MyMichigan Medical Center Sault, a subsidiary of MyMichigan Health. Achieving these objectives would be in the public interest, and add value to the County; and

WHEREAS, MyMichigan has offered to pay to the County, in cash, the amount of \$2,000,000 for the transfer of ownership of the Hospital Facilities, has committed to achieve significant Chippewa Health Care Improvements during the next ten years, and has also made certain related promises which will further maintain and enhance health care services in the County for such ten year period, and has agreed to secure such promises by consenting to incur liability for damages if such promises are not

fulfilled; and

WHEREAS, a conceptual understanding of the terms and conditions being considered for the transfer of the Hospital Facilities by the County to MyMichigan Medical Center Sault, a subsidiary of MyMichigan Health, and for MyMichigan to carry out its offers, commitments and promises in exchange for such transfer, is stated in the accompanying June 2, 2023 Conceptual Understanding for Hospital Transfer Agreement (“Conceptual Understanding”); and

WHEREAS, if the Board of Commissioners determines to tentatively approve the Conceptual Understanding, the Board will defer consideration of final approval until the public has had 30 days in which to review the Conceptual Understanding, and has then had the opportunity at an open meeting to present input to the Board of Commissioners on the Conceptual Understanding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners approves the introduction and tentative approval of the Conceptual Understanding; however, the Board shall not vote to grant final approval until the public has had the opportunity to review and provide input to the Board of Commissioners at its regular open meeting on July 13, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, following the approval of this Resolution, special legal counsel for the County shall meet with representatives of MyMichigan to formulate a proposed agreement reflecting the terms of the Conceptual Understanding with sufficient detail and precision to be binding on and enforceable by both parties, and to carry out the intent of the Conceptual Understanding. This proposed agreement shall be presented to the Board of Commissioners for consideration at its meeting on July 13, 2023 after the Board has received public input on the Conceptual Understanding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board’s regular meeting agenda of July 13, 2023 shall include the hearing of public input on the Conceptual Understanding, followed by a consideration by the Board of granting final approval of the agreement prepared for the purpose of giving legal effect to the Conceptual Understanding as presented, or as such agreement may be modified based on public input received.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

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

NAYS: Chairman Jim Martin

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

E) Resolution 2023-12 – Investment Policy (Bi-annual review)

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve Resolution 2023-12 as follows:

CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT INVESTMENT POLICY

#2023-12

WHEREAS, Act No. 20 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1943, (MCL 129.91) as amended authorizes County Treasurer's to invest county surplus funds in certain specified investments; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners wishes to authorize the County Treasurer to invest surplus funds of the County in those investments permitted by MCL 129.91; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has, in accordance with MCL 129.95, adopted an Investment Policy, which gives the County Treasurer the authority to invest surplus funds; and

WHEREAS, Act No. 40 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1932 (MCL 129.12) as amended requires the Board of Commissioners to provide by resolution for the designation and deposit of public money coming into the possession of the County Treasurer, in one or more financial institutions in the proportion and manner as provided by the resolution,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners authorize the Chippewa County Treasurer to invest surplus funds of the County in accordance with applicable statutes as modified or restricted by the County's Investment Policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chippewa County Treasurer is authorized to deposit all public money coming into his or her possession in any financial institution doing business and having a place of business in the State of Michigan, all of which financial institutions are hereby designated as authorized financial institutions of public monies in accordance with MCL 129.12

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

**Personnel, Equalization and Apportionment/Transportation/Health
and Social Services Committee**

Chairman Damon Lieurance

June 6, 2023

Personnel Items

Dispatcher 79-hour position to Full Time

The Committee reviewed the increased approximate expenses of \$20,303.46 associated with changing one 79-hour position to full-time for Central Dispatch. Director Postma believes this will help fill shifts better for the center's operations. This move will leave Dispatch with two 79-hour positions and twelve full-time dispatchers covering Chippewa, Mackinac, and Luce Counties. Dispatchers are still needed.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve the request

to move one 79-hour position to full-time at the start of the next pay period. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Medical Examiner Contract Renewal and Amendment

The Committee reviewed an Agreement between Chippewa County and Dr. Paula Rechner for Medical Examiner Services, which needs to be renewed and effective from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024, as presented. The Committee also reviewed an amendment increasing the monthly compensation by \$500.00, effective June 14, 2023. This compensation increase will put Chippewa County Medical Examiner's annual payment for services at \$39,000.00, in comparison with Houghton ME at \$36,000 and Delta at \$42,000. The increase also reflects the increased number of cases handled annually.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the renewal agreement with Dr. Paula Rechner, M.D. for Medical Examiner Services, \$2,750.00 monthly effective from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024, and to authorize and approve a first amendment to the Medical Examiner Agreement increasing compensation by \$500.00 per month effective June 14, 2023. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

VSO Employment Contract – Temporary

The Committee reviewed an Employment Contract to help cover temporary absences through a supplemental Veterans Service Officer, following Policy 215 reimbursement, which would be 80% of the starting salary for that position (\$16.67/hour). This position will need the appropriate and current credentialing to offer VSO services; these supplemental services will be written into the future grant request, as well as asking for a change in the current grant to authorize these expenditures.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve and authorize the Employment Contract as presented for VSO Supplemental Service. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Building Department Part-time Official

The Committee was given an overview of the Building Department Part-time Official position, which essentially has the same responsibilities and requires the same licensure; as the full-time position, including doing residential plan reviews. Discussion followed regarding different options to supplement the pay for these services, as the starting pay for the full-time position is \$22.93, and we are currently paying \$16.20 per hour.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to authorize a pay increase for the part-time Building Inspector to an hourly rate of \$17.00 per hour, effected at the beginning of the next pay period. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Medical Director Contract Renewal and Amendment

The Committee reviewed an Agreement between Chippewa County and Dr. Patricia Newhouse for Home Health and Hospice Medical Director Services, which needs to be renewed and effective from January 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, as presented. The Committee also reviewed an amendment increasing the monthly compensation by \$500.00, effective June 14, 2023. This amendment adds the responsibility to serve as the Physician of Choice for hospice patients, including writing orders, prescribing medications, consultation, and attendance at Interdisciplinary Team meetings.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Savoie, to approve the renewal agreement with Dr. Patricia Newhouse, M.D., for Home Health and Hospice Medical Director Services, \$1,000.00 monthly effective from January 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, and to authorize and approve a first amendment to the Medical Director Agreement increasing compensation by \$500.00 per month effective June 14, 2023, with the added responsibilities as the Physician of Choice for hospice patients. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Policies

Policy No. 502 – Internet and Online Usage

Policy No. 505 – Agency Provided Telephone/Laptops/Tablets

Policy No. 506 – County Building and Courthouse Security Camera Policy

The Committee reviewed policies 502, 505, and 506; policy 502 only had a slight change in the general guidelines adding ‘while maintaining optimal network performance,’ and two new policies, 505 regarding County provided telephones/laptops and tablets use, and 506 regarding the security camera policy for both the Courthouse and the County Building.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve policies No. 502 – Internet and Online Usage, No. 505 – Agency Provided telephone/Laptops/tablets, and No. 506 – County Building and Courthouse Security Camera policies as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, seconded by Commissioner Shackleton, to accept the June 6, 2023, Personnel, Equalization and Apportionment/Transportation/Health and Social Services Committee minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee Meeting Minutes

Chairman Robert Savoie

June 12, 2023

AGENDA ITEMS

County – Audit Presentation and Approval FYE 12/31/2022

Ken Talsma from Anderson, Tackman and Company provided a presentation of the Chippewa County draft audit and financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022. The audit indicates that the financial statements and reports follow the government auditing standards and is classified as an unmodified opinion, a clean audit. There were no findings and the Committee reviewed the various graphs presented.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve the Chippewa County Draft Audit FYE 12/31/2022 and not released until final approval of Administration and to publish and release where necessary at that time. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Health Department – Deferred Comp – Empower – Notice of Plan Termination #340120-01

The Committee reviewed a Notice of Plan Termination addressed to Empower for plan #340120-01; this termination is due to lack of current or former enrollees; and will eliminate any services charges in the future.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve and authorize

the Chippewa County Health Department terminating the Empower Deferred Comp Plan #340120-01, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Register of Deeds – MOU’s Electronic Recording Payments

Corporate Service Company

Simplifile

The Committee was updated on the e-filing project in the Register of Deeds Office with these MOU’s being the next step to providing electronic recordings and the payments; the new vendors chosen by ROD Gigi Ferro were Corporation Service Company and Simplifile.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve, and authorize the MOUs for Corporation Service Company and Simplifile to provide electronic recordings and payments to the Chippewa County ROD’s Office. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Sheriff’s Department – Storage Building – Architectural & Engineering Services \$159,000.00

The Committee reviewed information from U.P. Engineers & Architects, Inc. regarding providing professional services for the design, bidding, and construction administration services for a new 180’ x 60’ storage facility building for the Chippewa County Sheriff’s Department. Discussion followed including how the Committee would like to see the bidding; so that they can building the building with or without certain items and wanting to know the pricing for each. The Committee discussed the need for the storage building which has been talked about for the past forty plus years; especially with the grant provided equipment that has been procured through grants.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to authorize the \$159,000.00 agreement presented by U.P. Engineers and Architects, Inc. to provide design, bidding, and construction administration, as directed by the Committee; with a breakdown in cost for each item and so that the BOC can build the project based on the pricing of each alternate for the different aspects of the building. Payment to be from the County’s fund balance. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Sheriff’s Department – Stonegarden Purchases

- **2023 Can Am Four-Wheeler \$11,861.00**
- **Polaris Ranger SXS ATV \$32,952.00**
- **Marine Electronics & Lights \$6,159.00**

The Committee previously approved the purchase of a Can Am Four-Wheeler and Polaris Ranger SXS ATV for \$11,861.00 and \$32,952.00 of which Stonegarden covered all but \$11.00 for the Can Am Four-Wheeler and \$2,932.00 for the Ranger SXS ATV will be paid from the ORV grant, after approval from the SOM; a budget amendment will be necessary. Additionally, Stonegarden monies have been reallocated to purchase marine electronics and emergency lights in the amount of \$6,159.00.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to authorize the additional \$11.00 and \$2,932.00 for the Can Am Four-Wheeler and the Ranger SXS ATV to be paid from the ORV grant; and to make a budget amendment for \$2,943.00 and to authorize the \$6,159.00 purchase for marine electrical equipment and lights for OPSG purchased boat. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Sheriff’s Department – Equipment – Approval to release to Auction

The Committee reviewed a request to approve the sale via auction of various Sheriff’s Department equipment including: three (3) Four-wheelers (1997 Honda 300 TRX, Yamaha Green 4x4 and Artic Cat 400), a watercraft (18’ Crestliner 1850 Sportfish), three (3) trailers (8’x10’ Karavan Clam, 8’x10’

Karavan Open 2013 8'x12' Interstate enclosed), a SXS (2012 Polaris Ranger) and a Snowmobile (2010 Skidoo GTX); It was requested that some of the revenue from the sale of the SXS go into purchasing additional lights for the new SXS; the Committee previously approved proceeds from the sale of the Crestliner for lights and electronics on the new boat; with the balance of the revenue going to the general fund. There was a brief discussion on minimum bids.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to authorize the request of the Sheriff's Department to offer through public sale, excess equipment. Each item listed with a minimum bid and will be awarded to the highest bidder via sealed bids and to utilize some of the proceeds to purchase lights and electronics, as referenced above. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Chippewa County Animal Control – Finish Design & Building Services

The Committee was giving an update on the Animal Control project and the request that was sent out to bid; the bid sought to provide a guaranteed maximum price for the project; four companies had shown interest, with two submitting bids; only one bid met the specifications. The Committee discussed how rebidding would be unfair to the contractor that met the requirements. Arbic Construction, Inc. offer a gross maximum price of \$1,238,000.00, included the preliminary schedule and breakdown for each of the expenses.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve and authorize Arbic Construction, Inc. to complete the Chippewa County Animal Control Shelter Expansion and Renovation at a price not to exceed \$1,238,000.00 per bid dated June 7, 2023. Commissioner Savoie noted that we are very fortunate for this unnamed gentleman to provide this funding for us. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Office of Emergency Services – Soo High Tower Antenna Replacement - \$9,738.84

The Committee reviewed information from Director Postma about a communication issue with the Soo High Tower Antenna which serves the Sault Fire and EMS and other area agencies. Director Postma received a quote from ELCOM of \$9,738.84 which includes \$1,000.00 of possible needed additions and possibly shipping; he also asked that the County's purchasing policy be waived due to ELCOM's history and knowledge of the County's infrastructure.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve the quote from ELCOM to replace the Soo High Tower at a price not to exceed \$9,738.84 to be paid from Fund 212 and to waive the County purchasing policy. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Finance - Claims and Accounts – May – County and Health Department

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to recommend the approval of May County bills and payroll: general claims \$346,997.74, other fund claims \$1,170,494.49, payroll \$590,653.86, and Health Department claims \$311,712.31 and payroll \$228,294.46 total claims \$2,648,152.86. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, seconded by Commissioner Lieurance, to accept the June 12, 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

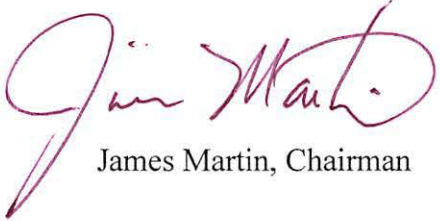
Among some of the comments were as follows:

- **Commissioner Traynor** noted that he reached out to Jeremy Gagnon from the EUP Engineers and Architects and explained what had happened concerning the Animal Shelter bid; he had no problem with it.
- **Commissioner Shackleton** thanked Brian and Mike for always taking care of the Zoom meetings so well for the Board.
- **Chairman Martin** thanked his fellow Commissioners for listening, for their professionalism, and for their insight. He said, "You're always a wonderful group to work with, even when we agree to disagree. "

It was moved by Commissioner Savoie, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to adjourn; accordingly, the Board adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Catherine C. Maleport, Clerk


James Martin, Chairman