

CHIPPEWA COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Session
April 14, 2014

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, March 10, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the 91st District Courtroom of the Chippewa County Building.

Present: Commissioners Don Cooper, George Kinsella, Don McLean, Ted Postula and Chairman Scott Shackleton

Absent: None

Also Present: Jim and Michelle Traynor, Marvin Willis, John Willis, Scott Brand, Sheriff Robert Savoie, Jim Smith, Robert Smith, Chippewa County Prosecutor Brian Pepler, Mayor Anthony Bosbous, Michael Kujat, City Commissioner Kathy Twardy, Tom Farnquist, Lynn Farnquist, Darrel Proulx, Register of Deeds/Equalization Director Sharon Kennedy, Cal Lofdahl, Rudyard Supervisor Kathy Gaylor, Johann Ingold, Dana Sanderson, Terrance James, Deane Meyer, City Commissioner Don Gerrie, Ann Marie Askwith, Administrator Jim German and Cathy Maleport, Clerk.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to add to the agenda, under old business, the following:

- Meeting times for the regular Board of Commissioners to meet during the summer months.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

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

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Postula, 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.

APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, to approve the regular County Board meeting minutes of March 10, 2014, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- **Mayor Tony Bosbous**, expressed his support for NTI, noting that they've been in business a very long time and provide a tremendous service in our community. He also stated that Smith Sanitation is a good company and cited the mutual benefits of pairing the two operations.
- **Kathy Twardy**, Sault Ste. Marie City Commissioner, agreed with what Mayor Tony Bosbous said. NTI is a very important program within our county. She provided a specific example referencing someone she went to school with that has been gainfully employed for almost 20 years with NTI. She said, "I'm in full support of the millage; we have to pay for recycling anyway; why not support a program that you believe in, and that I know gives this county, and this city a good service. "
- **Ed DeTour**, Director of Northern Transitions, added that it is nice to hear positive things in the community when we talk about NTI; but, that he also knew the reason why we're here. "I'm proud to be a citizen in this county that has a program like this. We have a unique program that not only provides good services to the people that are paying the millage for the recycling; but, also secondary provides a service to people who need the work and placement," said Mr. DeTour.
- **Allison Youngs**, resident of Sault Ste. Marie, indicated that one of the reasons they always voted to pass this millage is the fact that it does employ Northern Transitions.
- **Johann Ingold** stated that he has been involved with the sheltered workshop before it was a sheltered workshop. He added, "I would hope that you would take into consideration, the fact that the recycling alone is only a part of the reason that this is an ongoing process. The other part is that it helps a number of people who need help in order to become contributing citizens, in one way or another, to the community. I would hope that you would keep that in mind when you make your decision."
- **Jim Smith**, owner of Smith Sanitation started out by saying that he is not unsympathetic to what NTI has done in the community and they have helped a lot of people out. He went on to say, "I just don't know where everybody says all these jobs are going to go away. I do believe there are many other alternatives to train these folks in different areas; we would have a better program for the whole county."
- **Shirley Farnquist**, in support of NTI, urged the Commission to pass the millage as presented. She shared with the Commissioners a story she did on NTI employees that won the Michigan of the year story award.

- **Dana Sanderson**, president of the Board of Northern Transition, also a small business owner and a registered social worker stated, “Twenty- four years of service with a very effective, positive working relationship, demonstrates a fiscal responsibility. To suggest that the people whose jobs would be compromised by this, could easily be placed in jobs elsewhere, is not true; there is more to this than just money.” She went on to say, “ I have been very troubled by this and I am very much in favor of Northern Transitions continuing as the entity that it is; to make the changes that have been brought up, would not only be devastating to that entity, but also, to a lot of people involved.”
- **Diane Meyer**, member of the EUP solid waste committee, stated that she believed it would be a mistake for the commission not to pass the millage. She did not want to see jobs in our county/city be outsourced to another state. She added, “It’s a much healthier community if we support our own people.”
- **Ann Marie Askwith** noted that she worked at NTI and also worked with the individuals, “It is a Superb Operation.” She encouraged the Commission to look at other ways of making both of these individuals win.
- **Cal Lofdahl** commented on the recycling millage article in Friday’s paper and read a short excerpt. He said, “We do not require anyone to pull a trailer, we upon request, will pull it ourselves, that’s as hard as it gets,” said Mr. Lofdahl.
- **Don Gerrie**, Sault Ste. Marie City Commissioner expressed his support for Northern Transitions. He said “I can tell you from experience there are no hidden costs and that it is a very well-run operation. Everything is very transparent; Northern Transitions, from my perspective, is one of the best run operations in this community.”
- **Terrance James**, citizen of Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, noted that he is on the Board of Superior lines independent living in Marquette and the living philosophy that they follow is that every citizen has the right to participate in society, and life, to the fullest extent possible. He said, “I think this is a service that provides value to the community that goes beyond simply costs.”
- **Bud Willis**, resident of Sugar Island, commented on the special election for the schools coming up on May 6, 2014. He believed they should be held in an August primary or November General Election.
- **Kathy Gaylor**, supervisor of Rudyard Township, expressed her concerns as supervisor stating that a millage is always targeted at the taxpayer and should be responsibly spent. After referencing their revenue and expenses stated, “I just don’t think this is responsible,” encouraging the competitive bid process. I think that if this were competitively bid out, you would see some great growth in the recycling program.”
- **Joel Krupa** , expressed his support of NTI and referenced reliability , consistency, and dependability.

- **Ms. Krause** , expressed her concerns with the millage re: costs and 24 hour service.
- **Richard Dalimonte** , first stated that he is in support of the millage for NTI and the recycling program. He also referenced Mr. Smith, and his company, doing an amazing job in what they do.
- **Penny Clark**, expressed her support for the millage, as is, and NTI she said, “It takes a special skill to train people and I believe NTI has that skill.”

Declaring the public comments period closed at 5:05 p.m. Chairman Shackleton called upon Commissioner Kinsella to discuss his addition to the agenda and referenced regular board summer meeting times.

Old Business

Regular Board Meeting Times for the summer Months

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to change the regular Board meeting times to 2:00 p.m. May through September 2014.

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

Administrator’s Report – Given for informational purposes only ~ No action items.

Standing Committee Reports

Chairman Shackleton communicated that if there were no objections; he would ask that Finance Claims and Accounts go first, having no objections, he called upon Commissioner Cooper.

FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 10, 2014 ~ Commissioner Cooper Chair

AGENDA ITEMS

Chippewa County Recycling Program Millage Renewal Language approval

CHIPPEWA COUNTY RECYCLING PROGRAM PROPOSITION MILLAGE RENEWAL REQUEST

(This proposal will permit the County to renew and fully restore the millage which was previously approved by the electors in 2010 to fund the recycling program in Chippewa County)

Shall the expired previous voted increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes with CHIPPEWA COUNTY,

MICHIGAN of .50 mill (\$.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value) be renewed at .50 mill (\$.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value) and be levied for 4 years, being 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for the development and operation of the Chippewa County Recycling Program, and shall the County levy such millage for said purpose? The estimated of revenue the County will collect if this millage is approved and levied in 2014 is \$546,000.

YES ____

NO ____

The Committee had a lengthy discussion regarding the Chippewa County Recycling Program and the proposed Millage Renewal. The discussion included the original language, which included the Soo Sheltered Workshop, as part of the wording in the ballot language, which was already approved by the NTI Advisory Board; reduction in costs, and comparisons from other County Recycling Programs.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve the language as presented and place it on the August Primary ballot. A discussion followed.

Chairman Shackleton noted, that this millage request is the language that was sent to us by the recycling committee; the concern from Mr. Smith and Mr. Smith's supporters, is that if the language was slightly changed, it would be more open for bid. He went on to say, "I want people to understand that this issue was not initiated by the county. Mr. Smith came to us and suggested that he would like an opportunity to bid on it."

Commissioner McLean noted, that in the Finance minutes, he voted against bringing this to this point. He explained that the reason he voted that way, was because he thought there were some unanswered questions. Upon research over the weekend, he said, "I feel very comfortable, at this point, of supporting this millage to continue as it is; it's a terrific program."

Commissioner Kinsella stated that he did not believe they should mix NTI with the recycling, from the standpoint of, we're for NTI or against NTI referencing he is not in any way against NTI operations. He said, "I'm in support of the millage from the standpoint of it going forward, I argued about the language and I didn't win that vote."

Commissioner Cooper indicated that he has a problem with the language as well, it should be stronger.....it should be written up so people know what their voting for. He added, "There is no doubt in my mind and there never was that this should ever be changed."

Trying to keep an open mind, Commissioner Postula indicated he went to the supervisors of the townships he represents and that all of them we're in favor of NTI. He also noted that they also indicated that there is always room for improvement and that they tried to keep an open mind as well. He added, "Jim runs a good operation."

Chairman Shackleton provided his research results, noting that other jurisdictions may have better numbers on the surface, but that does not necessarily mean they are cheaper to run once all the fees and costs are added up. He provided examples of other counties. He went on to say that we are average for the state in regards to recycling. What it added for me is "The program we

have here is a pretty good program, in fact one of the better programs, and is not out of line of what we're paying to support it. I am 100% supportive of it staying with NTI; if townships have concerns about their trailers they should talk to Mr. DeTour and he will work with you on it."

Chairman Shackleton further noted that they have motion to approve ballot language as it is on the floor.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Cooper stated, that he believed that when the voters go the polls, they should have some clarity as to what their voting for. Having said that, he stated that he would like to make a motion that we authorize the administrator to negotiate a 4- year contract to coincide with the terms of the millage with Northern Transition to provide recycling services for Chippewa County. This was seconded by Commissioner McLean. A discussion followed.

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

Chairman Shackleton moved for a five minute recess at 5:41 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending.

Chairman Shackleton announced the Board was back in session at 5:48 p.m. He called onto Commissioner Cooper to proceed with his Finance Claims and Accounts report.

Vital Records

The Committee reviewed the survey of fees charged by the County Clerk's, and the request from County Clerk Cathy Maleport, to increase the fees effective May 1, 2014, for first copy of vital records to \$10.00 from \$8.00; and expedited marriage licenses to \$20.00 from the current \$5.00.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve the new vital records fees in the Clerk's Office to \$10.00 for the first copy and \$20.00 for an expedited marriage license, effective May 1, 2014. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

2014 Survey and Remonumentation Grant

The Committee reviewed the 2014 Survey and Remonumentation Grant in the amount of \$163,712, of which the County has budgeted \$15,000; the documentation also includes \$17,200 for the Program Administrator; \$46,200 for Rogers Land Surveying to complete 33 corners; \$93,800 for Northwoods Land Surveying to complete 67 corners, and agreement for Peer Review Surveyor's, to receive \$800 per meeting, as follows: Jeff Davis, Neil Hill, Erik Lewicki, Larry Rogers, Keith Waters and Lawrence Weinreis – all the documents need to be approved and authorized for signature by the Committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, supported by Commissioner Postula, to approve and authorize signatures on the 2014 Survey and Remonumentation Grant for \$163,712. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve the Program Administrator contract in the amount \$17,200 for Northwoods Land Surveying. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Kinsella, to approve two Monumentation contracts one for \$46,200 for 33 corners to Rogers Land Surveying and another for \$93,800 for 67 corners to Northwoods Land Surveying. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve the Peer Review Surveyor agreements at \$800 per meeting for the following Surveyors: Jeff David, Neil Hill, Erik Lewicki, Larry Rogers, Keith Waters and Lawrence Weinreis. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

IPAD Purchase Approval – Animal Shelter purchase from Fund 285.

The Committee reviewed a request from the Animal Shelter to purchase an IPAD from Fund 285 (Donations) so that the Animal Control Officers can utilize two apps customized for License Notices and Compliances notices, in an effort to go paperless. The cost of the IPAD is approximately \$399, with an additional monthly cost for the program of \$20.00 per month.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Kinsella, to approve the purchase of an IPAD from Fund 285, to utilize the License and Compliances Notices for the Animal Control Office, and the program cost of \$20.00 per month. Commissioner McLean expressed his appreciation of the efforts made by the people at the Animal Shelter/Holly Henderson in developing this app. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

VantagePointe Financial Group – Plan Document - Approval

The Committee received VantagePoint Plan Document, the newest 457 Plan available to the employees of Chippewa County, to utilize for retirement purposes. This an employee only funded retirement plan.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve and authorize VantagePointe Financial Group's Plan Document, as a Chippewa County 457 Plan, for employees to utilize, if they so choose. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Inmate Medical and Rx Insurance Renewal – BC/BS - Approval

The Committee received a copy of the renewal Administrative Services Contract (ASC) for the term of July 2014 through June 2015, with Blue Cross Blue Shield. It was noted that the Administrative Fees would not increase and still be at the 11% per contract. Last year Employee Benefits researched available savings and none were available.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Kinsella, to approve Blue Cross Blue Shield Administrative Services Contract for Chippewa County Inmates for a term of July 2014 through June 2015, with an Administrative Fee of 11.00%. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Prosecutor Request from Personnel to Hire an Assistant Prosecutor

The Committee reviewed the information from the Personnel Committee meeting held on March 18th, as follows: The Prosecutor informed the Committee that he had notified DHS that he no longer could provide service to them. Chris Stabile informed the Committee that he would have to contract the services out at \$60.00 per hour or at a minimum of \$50,000.00 per year. Mr. Stabile stated that the close ties with the Prosecutor only made sense for him to contract it out with the office rather than another attorney. Mr. Pepler suggested he could use the 50k to supplement an 85k a year prosecutor, bringing the County's portion to approx. thirty to thirty five thousand a year. In addition, Mr. Pepler said, with the extra hours he would be able to work on a drug court and an imaging system. The Prosecutor also noted if revenues did not make 50k a year, he would eliminate the position. Also there would be monthly billings and some months may be low and others high. The committee was very complimentary of the thought the Prosecutor had put into the idea and thought it worthwhile. Committee discussion ensued.

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to follow the motion from Personnel, to approve the Prosecutor to hire a new assistant Prosecutor and to contract with DHS to provide a minimal of \$50,000 per year for the position, with the County paying the rest of the salary and fringes. The new assistant would leave time for the Prosecutor's Office to continue with DHS cases, a drug court and imaging and if the position did not get 50k from DHS per year, the position would be eliminated.

Chairman Shackleton addressed his concerns regarding independent research as opposed to a group advocating one position or another. A discussion continued.

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

Approve New Policy 314 – OPEB Health Care Retirement Vehicle Annual Funding Policy

The Committee review Policy 314, pursuant to the Board of Commissioners decision on December 16, 2013, to establish the OPEB Health Care Retirement Vehicle, and following the Special Finance meeting held on March 13th. The Policy is intended to provide the County Board of Commissioners with guidance regarding the OPEB Health Care Retirement Fund, and to ensure that Chippewa County's future contributions to the OPEB Health Care Retirement Vehicle meet current and future liabilities, for those employees, who are eligible for Retiree Health Care.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve Policy 314 – OPEB Health Care Retirement Vehicle Annual Funding, as amended, including a Chair (County Treasurer) for the Investment Committee and to include an annual meeting obligation, at a minimum. On a voice vote, the motion carried. **(See attached)**

Sheriff's Department Duty Firearms – Bid Summary - Approval

The Sheriff's Department Duty Firearms RFQ received one bid timely, from C.M.P. – with the twenty-four models coming in at \$409 each.

It was moved by Commission Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve the bid from C.M.P. to purchase twenty-four (24) firearms for the Sheriff's Department, at a price not to exceed \$9,816 or \$409 per firearm. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Approval to Release – RFB – 17 Desktop Computers

The RFB was presented for release to purchase seventeen (17) Desktop Computers.

It was moved by Commission Cooper, supported by Commissioner Kinsella, to approve the RFB release to purchase seventeen (17) Desktop Computers. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Approval to release – RFQ – Elevator Maintenance Contract

The Committee received and reviewed the RFQ for Elevator Maintenance Contracts to include the four County Elevators, three with a current expiration date of August 1, 2014 and one expiring April 1, 2015. The maintenance contract will cover the quarterly and annual Fire Services Test and the 3-Year Hydraulic Load Test.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve the release of the RFQ for Elevator Maintenance on the County's four elevators, as amended. 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 Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Kinsella, to recommend the approval of the general claims totaling \$304,695.53, other fund claims of \$519,539.31, payroll of \$435,259.24, Health Department claims of \$504,264.73 and total claims \$1,763,758.81 and vouchers H-1 through H-296. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to approve the FOPLC Union contract with the following changes:

Article 1: Change to Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council

Article 8: Change Union Security language

Section 1. Union Membership. Upon completion of 30 days of employment, membership in the Union or compliance with payment of representation fees shall be completely voluntary, in accordance with [MCL 423.210](#). If an employee voluntarily elects to submit a dues deduction form, the Employer agrees to deduct Union dues or Union service fees to become effective the second payday of the month, following the employee's successful completion of 30 days of employment.

Section 2: Open Shop. The Employer agrees to deduct dues from the salary of each individual employee in the bargaining unit who voluntarily becomes a member or who voluntarily authorizes the payment of representation fees, subject to all of the following conditions:

- a. The Union shall obtain from those employees who voluntarily agree to become

members or voluntarily agree to remit representation fees a completed authorization form which shall conform to the respective state and federal law(s) concerning that subject. The Union shall furnish the forms.

b. Check-off authorization forms shall be filed with the Employer's Director of Human Resources, who may return any incomplete or incorrectly completed form to the Financial Secretary of the local Union, and no check-off shall be made until such deficiency is corrected. Once the deficiency is corrected, the total amount due shall be deducted and forwarded to the Union at the address of:

The Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council
c/of Post Office Box 71527
Madison Heights, Michigan 48071-0527

It is the responsibility of the Labor Council to promptly notify the Director of Human Resources of any change in address for forwarding payments. The parties, by mutual agreement through a letter of understanding, may also agree to electronic transfer of dues payments, if such a method is available.

c. The Employer shall only check-off obligations which come due at the time of check-off, and will make check-off deductions only if the employee has enough pay due to cover such obligation. The Employer is not responsible for refund to the employee if he/she has duplicated a check-off deduction by direct payment to the FOP Labor Council.

d. The Employer's remittance shall be deemed correct if the Union does not give written notice to the Human Resources Director within two calendar weeks after remittance is transmitted of its belief, with reason(s) stated therefore, that the remittance is incorrect.

e. The Union shall provide at least 30 days written notice to the Human Resources Director of the amount of Union dues and representation fees to be deducted from the wages of employees in accordance with this Article. Any changes in the amounts determined will also be provided to the Human Resources Director at least 30 days prior to its implementation.

f. The Union agrees to defend, indemnify and save the Employer harmless against any and all claims, suits, or other forms of liability arising out of its deduction from an employee's pay of Union dues, or representation fees or in reliance upon any list, notice, certification or authorization furnished under this Article. The Union assumes full responsibility for the disposition of the deductions so made once they have been sent to the Union.

g. It is the express intent of the Employers and the Union to follow the law as enacted in [2012 PA 349](#), at [MCL 423.209](#) and [MCL 423.210](#). However, if during the term of this Agreement, [2012 PA 349](#) is amended or repealed by legislative enactment, the parties agree to abide by the amended or superseded Act.

Article 18: Section 1 – Change to 96 hours per rolling calendar.

Article 19 – Section 2 – B – Change to Community Blue 2 (CB3) & as of date of this contract new employees will pay 20% of the health care premium. CB3 is the same as the AFSCME union and NON-Union employees.

Article 19 – Section 11

Effective Effective Effective Effective

Classification:	4/15/2014	1/1/2015	1/1/2016	1/1/2017
Sergeant	\$21.43	\$22.07	\$22.07	\$22.07
Corporal	20.60	21.22	21.22	21.22
Deputy	3 year 19.75	20.34	20.34	20.34
	2 year 19.52	20.11	20.11	20.11
	1 year 19.36	19.94	19.94	19.94
	Start 17.68	18.21	18.21	18.21

***Wages are 1% for fiscal 2014 and 3% for fiscal 2015, with zero for 2016 and zero for fiscal 2017; however, the union will have the option to give notice of negotiations for a wage re-opener on or after July 1st, 2016 for years 2016 and 2017.**

Article 21 – Section 4 – Change to effective April 15, 2014 and remain in effective until December 31, 2017.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Postula, that the Finance Claims and Accounts meeting minutes of April 10, 2014 be accepted as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports:

Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee
 Commissioner Cooper – Workshop
 March 13, 2014

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Kinsella, that the minutes of the special meeting of Finance Claims and Accounts held on March 13, 2014 be accepted as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Personnel/Equalization/Health and Social Services Committee
Meeting Minutes
 March 18th, 2014 ~ Chair Commissioner Kinsella

Agenda Items

Probate Court Job Descriptions

New job descriptions were presented for Probate Court Register/Court Recorder and Probate Register/CEO. Judge Church notified the Committee that the new job descriptions fit the jobs better with actual day to day practices.

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve the new job positions for the Probate Court Register/Court Recorder and Probate Register/CEO as

requested by Judge Church. A discussion followed noting that it was agreed that there were no subsequent pay increases. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Circuit Court Personnel Request

Mr. German noted that Marcy Smith was resigning and had submitted her letter. Judge Lambros submitted a letter to hire Stephanie Bumstead to replace her and said the new position in the FOC would need to be advertised.

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to accept the resignation letter of Marcy Smith. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, supported by Commissioner McLean, to replace Marcy Smith with Stephanie Bumstead as the Circuit Court Recorder. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Constitution Family Day

Administrator German noted that 4H and the League of Women voters had requested an evening at the Courthouse in which families and local youth would tour the building after hours and different Department Heads would explain their jobs. The evening would be September 17th and participation by staff would be voluntary.

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner Postula, to support the Constitution Family Day on behalf of Chippewa County. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to accept the minutes of Personnel/Equalization/Health and Social Services meeting of March 18, 2014 be accepted as presented.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PERSONNEL, EQUALIZATION AND APPORTIONMENT/TRANSPORTATION/HEALTH
AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
April 9, 2014 ~ Chair Commissioner Kinsella

Agenda Item: 2014 County Equalized Values.

Equalization Director Kennedy and Appraiser Kathy Loup reviewed the process of arriving at equalized values, including land value, economic condition factor, 34 appraisal, and 15 sales studies, the assessor and boards of review function in the process, and ultimately the role of the county and state in establishing equalized value.

Ms. Kennedy went on to present the 2014 County Equalized Values. The total 2014 Equalized Value for the county is \$1,330,106,620 (see page 1 of Equalization Report).

She explained that the values presented on the report are the basis for completing the State required forms, which must be completed and sent to the State, before the end of April. The equalization process and the valuations presented were discussed in detail.

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner Postula, that the equalized values as presented by Equalization Director Kennedy be adopted, as reported, and that all state required forms regarding same be completed and filed, as required by statute.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Agenda Item: Tentative 2014 Tentative Taxable Values:

As an informational item, Equalization Director Kennedy also presented the tentative 2014 tentative taxable values and explained the capped value formula as it relates to taxable values. It was explained that the county's projected tentative taxable value is \$1,086,567,654 which is a projected decrease of \$3,776,305 and, while there were increases due to new construction and uncapped transfers that occurred in 2013, the decreases are due to the newly enacted and authorized exemptions for properties moving into special taxation categories, our disabled veterans, certain commercial and industrial personal property together with market adjustments in the commercial class in the city. The final taxable values for the county will be calculated in May, after preliminary State equalization occurs and after all of the homestead/qualified ag/qualified forest exemption information has been provided by the local assessors. Once those taxable values are finalized, all of the Headlee calculations will be made by the director, and the county's operating millage, after a truth in taxation public hearing is held, will be determined by the County Board. The 2014 tentative DNR/PILT taxable values show an increase of \$587,466 over the 2013 values. It was noted that the DNR/PILT properties pay taxes at same rate as other qualified agricultural properties.

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner McLean, that the taxable value information presented be accepted into the minutes. A discussion followed.

On a voice vote, the motion was carried.

Agenda Item: 2014 Truth in Taxation Public Hearing

Director Kennedy reviewed the process of establishing the County's operating millage rates, the time table involved, and the necessity of holding a Truth in Taxation Public Hearing, at the June meeting of the County Board of Commissioners.

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, that the County's Truth in Taxation Public Hearing be held at its June 9, 2014 meeting, and that Director Kennedy, as soon as the necessary data is certified and compiled, will submit the pertinent information to the Administrator's Office and the Board so that the hearing may proceed, within the deadlines, established by law.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Agenda Item: Other items of concern

Equalization Director Kennedy explained that beginning with 2011, the continuing education requirements for certified personnel has increased to 30 hours in a three year period in addition to specific annual mandatory class requirements. And, while she did not have a schedule of those trainings yet, when the trainings are known staff will be scheduled for those trainings as well as others throughout the year as she determines is necessary and relevant to departmental functions.

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner McLean, that should the need arise, and at the discretion of the Equalization Director, in order to accommodate attendance at continuing education classes, with advance notification of administration, the office may be closed during those periods.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Kinsella complimented the entire Department for a job well done, adding Ms. Kennedy's job is a very complicated process that she and her staff go through, and just wanted to reemphasize the fact that the entire Commission is appreciative of the job she, and her staff do.

It was moved by Commissioner Kinsella, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, that the Personnel/Equalization/Health and Social Services Committee meeting minutes of March 18, 2014 be accepted as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to accept Resolution 14-08 as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-08
Resolution Supporting and Approving Chippewa County Policy 314
OPEB Health Care Retirement Vehicle Annual Funding Policy**

Whereas, the Chippewa County Financial Management Policy No. 314 – OPEB Health Care Retirement Vehicle Annual Funding Policy has been reviewed by the Finance Committee; and

Whereas, the policy would provide an annual funding system for the OPEB Health Care Retirement Vehicle; and

Whereas, the policy provides a stable funding source for the County to ensure that future obligation are met for employees whom have Retiree Health Care coverage; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners does hereby offer support and approve the Chippewa County's Financial Management Policy No. 314 – OPEB Health Care Retirement Vehicle Annual Funding Policy.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

AYES: Commissioners Cooper, Kinsella, McLean, Postula and Chairman Shackleton

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Kinsella stated that he just wanted to make sure everyone understands that we have to make absolutely positive, that we do that process right, referencing the State and Federal Government.

Chairman Shackleton added, “We went through a controversial issue here with recycling, we had some challenging moments dealing with the issue. It was a tough issue and I’m glad that we’ve resolved it and look forward to just moving on to other issues and realize that we analyzed it thoroughly, and the Board has made a decision.”

Having completed the agenda items, it was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Kinsella, that the Board adjourn. On a voice vote, the motion carried. The Board adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine C. Maleport, Clerk

Scott Shackleton, Chairman