

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting * Wednesday, April 16, 2014

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Housler.

Roll call: Present – Commissioners Robert Colvin, Leslie Housler, Gideon Mitchell, Alan Devereaux, Gary Taylor, John Fuscone, and Bill Goodwill; Absent – Commissioners Mark Howie and Robert Hilty.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Added – 3. Special Meeting to Consider Contract with Boon Sports Management

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Mitchell to approve the agenda as amended.

All in favor.

Employee Recognition - None

Presentations and Reports

Sarah Benson, Emergency Management Coordinator, appeared before the Board to update them on the recent damages that occurred due to large amounts of rain. Monday, the County was declared a State of Emergency. With that declaration, the County may be eligible to receive \$50,000 - \$100,000 from Section 19 under the State of Emergency plan. She explained just what impact this could mean for the County and how the dollars may be spent. She touched on the amount of damage in the area and the number of roads that were closed and those that are still closed. Ms. Benson stressed to the Board that she is not sure the County will receive the dollars. She is still trying to get some clarification. The Road Commission has been impacted by all the road damage and have been very busy working on getting some of the roads that were closed, opened up again.

Comm Hilty arrived at 5:10 p.m.

Alan Cooper, Manager of the Road Commission, explained that they had approximately 20/25 sites with road washouts. They now have only four roads closed. These roads will remain closed until more information is gathered. Mr. Cooper explained that the road washouts were not very deep due to frost still in the ground.

Public Comments - None

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the April 2, 2014, Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION by Comm Mitchell, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve the April 02, 2014, Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented.

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. Annual Equalization Report

Joe Porterfield, Equalization Director, provided Board members with a copy of the L-4024 for their review. This documents must be signed and sent into the State of Michigan. He explained that all townships came in as equalized between 49-50% so there are no equalization factors. The State equalized value of the County did increase at approximately 3.21% over last year. The County lost \$2,000,000.00 in tax value due to the new Veterans Exemptions which contributed a loss of about \$12,000 in actual tax dollars.

Mr. Porterfield explained that they are seeing a big increase in sales of agricultural property. Also, residential property is up some in taxes while commercial property went down.

MOTION by Comm Devereaux, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve the 2014 Equalization Reports and Form L-4024, and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign said reports, as presented.

All in favor.

2. Request to Waive the Hiring Freeze – Clerk’s Office

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Fuscone to approve the request to waive the hiring freeze for a full-time Deputy Clerk in the County Clerk’s Office and restore the full-time position to the roster to allow for the hiring of a replacement, as presented.

All in favor.

3. Special Meeting to Consider Contract with Boon Sports Management - *Added*
Board members agreed to hold the meeting on April 30, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

Administrator’s Report

Adm. Hinton reported on the following:

- The fieldwork has been completed for the 2013 Audit. He complimented the Clerk and Treasurer for all their hard work. The draft will be presented at the 2nd Finance Committee meeting in May and presented to the Board on June 4, 2014.

- The draft agreement from Boon Sports Management has been forwarded to our legal counsel. He believes there will be some items to be addressed. Board Members will receive a copy of the proposed contract for their review. Adm. Hinton believes he will have it by Monday.
- A conference call will be placed tomorrow between Rink Management, Boon Sports Management and Adm. Hinton regarding transition issues. Adm. Hinton scheduled a walkthrough of the Civic Center on April 30th with Rink Management and Boon Sports Management. He has also invited Bob Scarbrough, Building Inspector, and Ted Meyers, Fair Board Director, to join them.

Correspondence

Letter from Rink Management.

Public Comments - None

Liaison Reports

Comm Colvin explained that the COA audit has been completed. Also, they received a grant for the adult day care center which will help drop their cost share.

Board Comment

Comm Fuscone attended the Haring Township meeting. He remarked on how restrictive the signage placement is due to zoning.

Chairman's Comments –None

Adjourn

MOTION by Comm Mitchell, seconded by Comm Taylor to adjourn
at 5:30 p.m.
All in favor.

Leslie D. Housler, Chairperson

Elaine L. Richardson, County Clerk