

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting * Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Leslie Housler.

Roll call: Present – Commissioners Michael MacCready, Leslie Housler, Robert Hilty, Michael Bengelink, Michael Bush, Julie Theobald, Gary Taylor, Judy Nichols, and Bill Goodwill; Absent - None

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Added: Consent Agenda – 4. Approval to the Appointments of Sheriff Trent Taylor and Prosecutor Jason Elmore to the Wexford Missaukee Community Corrections Advisory Board.

Added Agenda – 7. Partial Payment Request.

Approval of the Agenda

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

All in favor.

Employee Recognition –

1. Resolution 17-05 Extending Appreciation for Sandra Kings' Dedicated Service
Ms. King was not present to receive her retirement recognition award. Chairman Housler read it into the record.

Presentations and Reports -

1. CWTA Update

Carrie Thompson, Executive Director of CWTA, updated the Board on some of the changes that have gone on over the past two years.

Some of the updates were:

- 90% to 95% on time for pickups;
- Becoming more comfortable with their software;
- For December they had 11,400+ passengers;
- Nightrider service has gone better than expected;
- Taking steps to increase nightrider service by marketing;
- Grant for a new smaller vehicle with a plus of better gas mileage;
- They received a grant for a new phone system;
- Looking at rebranding the buses, but they will always remain under the name of CWTA and stay green;
- Online services for riders has also been added and has been very successful;

Ms. Thompson thanked the Board and would be happy to provide more information when needed.

Public Comments

Michael Figliomeni, Boon Sports Management (BSM), met with Adm. Jordan, Commissioner Hilty, and Commissioner Taylor. They were asked by the County to update them on the maintenance, replacements and repairs that have been done. BMS has repaired some things with their revenue, with no expense to the County. He pointed out that any expenses to the WEX have come from BSM or millage dollars, no cost to the County. He sees no need to sell the facility now. He believes there are many options available to both the County and BSM before looking at the sale of the WEX. He recently learned that NWMCOG is looking to put together a committee to look at region wide issues which would include recreation. He is confident they will have some ideas to benefit the recreation in our community. The meeting will be setup for some time in the spring.

Fred Osborn, Cadillac, appeared before the Board to update them after the recent 911 committee meeting. These meetings are held every two weeks. They are hoping they will receive some direction at tonight's meeting on how this Board would like them to proceed. They have reviewed Meceola and Gaylord for price options. He does not believe that this committee has the authority to put together a quote for a 911 Authority.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the January 18, 2017, Regular Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of the Appointment to CWTA
3. Approval of the Appointment to the Housing Council
4. Approval of the Appointments of Sheriff Trent Taylor and Prosecutor Jason Elmore to the Wexford Missaukee Community Corrections Advisory Board

On page four of the 1/18/2017 minutes under Board Comment – the following change was requested. “He believes the Sheriff's **Building Department** is an asset for the County.

MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended.

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. Public Hearing – Road Commission Membership
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to open the public hearing on increasing the Road Commission Board membership from 3 to 5 board members.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

Alan Cooper, Wexford County Road Commission Manager, does not believe there is any reason to change the Board structure. Board members were provided a copy of a printout of "Multi-Jurisdiction Pavement Condition Comparison Tool" to show how well Wexford County roads compare to other roads in surrounding Counties. Mr. Cooper feels that a County of our size is doing a lot more on road maintenance and construction for the amount of money they receive. He has a good team in place and within five years their MERS Liability will be paid off.

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to close the public hearing on the Road Commission.

All in favor.

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Bengelink to move from a three to a five member Board effective April 1, 2017.

It was pointed out by some commissioners that by having five members it will allow for more representation across the County. Another commissioner did not support the increase in Board members. He felt the County was tampering with something that is working. Other Commissioners had reached out to some of their constituents and they supported a five member Board. By adding two members there is less chance of an open meetings violation.

Roll call: Motion passed seven to two with Comm Goodwill and Hilty voting against the motion.

A resolution will be prepared and presented at the February 15, 2017 meeting.

2. DHHS Contract with Wexford County Prosecutor

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve a contract between the State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Prosecutor for Foster Care Legal Representation for a period of no more than two years and authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the agreement, as presented.

The Board discussed having the agreement for one year only. A friendly amendment to the motion was made and it reads as follows.

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve a contract between the State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Prosecutor for Foster Care Legal Representation for a period of one year and authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the agreement, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

3. Bid Award – Civic Center Dehumidifier

MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Taylor to waive the bid process and accept the bid received from Advanced Mechanical in an amount of no more than \$12,956 for the replacement of the Civic Center dehumidifier, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

4. Sheriff's Department Position Title Changes

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the request to change the position description titles in the Sheriff's Department from Department Secretary to Office Manager and from Department Assistant to Administrative Assistant, as presented.

No monetary changes are involved or requested.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

5. 911 Request for Proposals Discussion

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Taylor to have the Administrator develop and issue an RFP for 911 Dispatch Services with a response date no later than March 14, 2017 and present a summary of the information to the BOC on March 15, 2017.

A commissioner has not seen any of the proposals, which may be several months old. This commissioner wants to see it stay local, but would like to see the cost associated with it. It was pointed out that Human Resources sent this topic to the full board for discussion only. It was also mentioned that if the Board issued an RFP or an RFQ they would only get a cost for service and we are not to that point. Administrator's office has been informally gathering information. Board members were reminded that the 911 Service Committee put together by this Board was given a year to come up with some solutions to the 911 Dispatch. It was felt by some that the State may mandate some type of consolidation. A commissioner believed if we have an Authority it may be the most expensive option. It was felt that this Board needs to decide where the system may be located first.

Bob Olson from the State was to provide us with information, such as, connectivity charges to go with the Gard and the retained annual cost if the County went with the Gard. To date, the County has not received anything from Mr. Olson. This Board should allow the 911 Service Committee to move forward, gathering more information for this Board.

Sheriff Taylor expressed the need to update the answering system in dispatch. He did not feel it would last another year. When repaired last year, they has a difficult time getting parts. The hardware cost would be \$88,000 and the maintenance cost would be \$145,000

for five years. Board members discussed the Viper system and sharing 911 Services with other counties. There is money to pay for this in a 911 dedicated account.

State Rep. Hoytenga just was placed on the Communication Committee at the State level. She would be happy to meet with us and provide any information from the State.

The motion made by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Taylor was rescinded.

The 911 Service Committee will continue to work on the various options that may be available to serve the County's needs. Adm. Jordan felt it may be time to send letters out to Townships for their involvement. If the best option for the County is an Authority, the County will need more than millage money to pay for 911 service.

MOTION by Comm Hilty, seconded by Comm Theobald to purchase the Viper phone answering equipment for \$140,000.00 including service Contract.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

6. Budget Amendments

MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve a budget amendment dated 02/01/2017, as presented.

Roll call: Motion passed eight to one with Comm MacCready voting against the motion.

7. Committee of the Whole – Jail Project – No Presentation

a. Partial Payment Request

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve the partial pay request in the amount of \$956,552.84 submitted for January 1, 2017 through January 31, 2017 for the jail construction and related expenses.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

Administrator's Report

Adm. Jordan reported, Francis Street, used by First Nazarene Church has gotten pretty torn up due to the Jail Project. He has been in contact with Granger and they will take care of it.

Also, he reported that the PFN is a one-time connect without cost and could be used to connect to the new jail. Merit is already here and we could pay a connection fee of \$20,000.

Correspondence - None

Public Comments

Harry Yonkman, Boon, explained that they have one Road Commission member in Boon and one in Harrietta. He has watched the Road Commission since the '50s. They have a good working relationship and he believes Mr. Cooper does a good job. If he were to be voting on this issue, he would vote for no Board members.

Al Cooper, Wexford County Road Commission Manager, expressed his disappointment on the Board's vote tonight. They have done work in every township in the County. He does not believe the constituents of the County know what is done at the Road Commission as they have very little public participation.

Robert Swanson believes the County received their answer on the 911 Service staying in the County by the approval of the millage.

Liaison Reports

Comm Taylor attended a COA meeting and things are going smoothly; the Soil Conservation District received a grant for invasive species and they will be having their tree sales soon. He attended a MAC environmental meeting and they discussed pipeline #5 which is having a study done. MAC was also asked to rewrite the dog law which Comm Taylor provided to the Sheriff for his review. He also learned that the dark stores bill died last year and they are hoping it comes up again this year. Finally, the 17 year old jail housing matter died last year and they are hoping it does not come up again.

Comm Nichols attended her first District Health Department #10 meeting with training at 9:00 and the meeting starting at 10:00 a.m. She has provided Board members with a link to the 2015 year in review on the Health Department.

Comm MacCready attended the NLCMH meeting they are reviewing/monitoring 3 to 4 policies each month. He suggested this Board consider reviewing our policies at meetings.

Board Comment

Comm Nichols questioned why the WEX sale did not come before the Building and Recreation committee rather than having a couple of commissioners and the Administrator having a meeting with Mike Figliomeni. She also asked if evaluations

were done here at the county yearly. There are instructions in the County Policy for employee evaluations.

Comm MacCready attended a Northern Lakes Community Mental Health and they are working on their leadership linkage. They have an internal Board system of monitoring, self-evaluation. He would like to see that done by this board. He touch on the agenda policy and having items turned in by the 7th calendar day prior to the BOC meeting. If the County Board adds items to the agenda, he would like to see each added item voted on as to whether or not it is an added agenda item. He then touched on the 911 Service Committee and the Road Commission. He offered a list of contacts this committee may want to contact regarding the 911 service.

Comm Bengelink is hoping that this Board will get State Rep. Hoytenga involved in the 911 Service.

Comm Bush thanked Carrie Thompson for the updates on the CWTA.

Comm Theobald felt Mr. Cooper is doing a good job at the Road Commission. Her concern was quorum issues. She also felt the meeting was good tonight. She was able to hear good discussion and interaction.

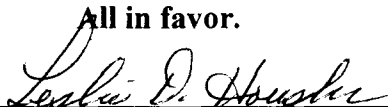
Chairman's Comments

Comm Housler thanked the Board for the open discussion tonight

Adjourn

**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to adjourn
at 7:05 p.m.**

All in favor.



Leslie D. Housler, Chairperson

Elaine L. Richardson, County Clerk