

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting * Wednesday, January 16, 2019

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Gary Taylor.

Roll call: Present – Commissioners Mike Musta, Benjamin Townsend, Michael Bengelink, Michael Bush, Julie Theobald, Gary Taylor, Judy Nichols, and Brian Potter;
Absent – Commissioner Joseph Hurlburt

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Added – 4. Release and Transfer Agreement – Lakeside Title

Approval of the Agenda

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

All in favor.

Employee Recognition - None

Presentations and Reports – None

Public Comments

Toby Danford, Cadillac, a member of the RC Modelers Society, approached the Board regarding use of the airport for their model planes. He read a prepared statement to the Board. He believe when the County Executive Committee discussed this topic they did not have all the facts before them.

Michael MacCready, Manton, questioned why the Board was only interviewing one candidate for the administrator's position.

Dan Danford, Cadillac, is also a member of the RC Modelers Society. He grew up in Cadillac and worked across the street from the airport. He has seen for himself the ongoing activities held years back to generate revenue. He encouraged the Airport Authority to look into having similar events to generate funds. He reminded the Board that the gliders using the airport take up about 38% of the runway.

Bob Baird, LeRoy, read a prepared statement from Jay Stargels, a CAMS member. Mr. Stargels has been involved in RC Modelers for many years. His letter spoke on the amount of airports he had used for his RC aircraft and never had a problem. Mr. Baird then explained his activity with the RC Airports. Since he started back in 1969 he has never had a problem. They have spotters who alert RC members when aircraft are coming and going. They live by the rules of the airport.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the January 2, 2019, Regular Meeting Minutes
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. County Administrator Interview
Todd Surline, Owner/Operator of Hiring Solutions, appeared before the Board to introduce Janet Koch as a possible administrator.

Janet Koch provide the Board with 30-60-90 day plan and goals she would look to implement, if she were to get the position. She detailed each period. In part, her goals are to meet Courthouse staff, Department Heads, and Elected Officials and work with them for open communication. She will work to gain deeper knowledge of Wexford County's history.

When questioned what drew her to Wexford County, she explained that she loves the area and enjoys being involved with government. She feels this will be her final job and does not plan on leaving until retirement.

She has had some involvement in constructions projects and does not see that as a problem. She has a working knowledge of county budgets and grant writing skills both large and small. She understands conflict resolution and ways to work together to get through it.

Ms. Koch would like to know how the Board will communicate whether or not she is meeting their expectations. It was explained that they will have a performance review once a year at the Executive Committee level.

Board members thanked her for appearing tonight and she excused herself.

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Theobald to offer the Administrator position for Wexford County to Janet Koch with a start date of February 19, 2019.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Theobald to set her pay and benefits as: \$85,000 start rate, Health Care; two weeks'

vacation at start date, three personal days; sick time will be at the discretion of the Board Chair.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

2. MOU – Intergovernmental Agreement for NG 911 Call Handling System
MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Theobald, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding among Collaborators in the Intergovernmental Agreement for NG 9-1-1 Call Handling System Project and authorize the Chairman to sign the MOU on behalf of the County, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

3. Compensation for Project Advisor
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Bengelink to approve compensation at the rate of \$25.00 per hour for Mr. Hilty for services as the Project Advisor for the jail, dispatch center and Cedar Creek/Landfill issues.

A Board member raised some questions as to this appointment and the compensation. Although this commissioner supports the candidate, a few questions have come up. The Board had a discussion and the vote was taken.

Roll call: Motion passed 7 to 1 with Comm Nichols voting against the motion.

4. Release and Transfer Agreements – Lakeside Title – *Added*
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Nichols to approve the Release and Transfer Agreement between the County of Wexford, Wexford Landfill, LLC and Lakeside Title, LLC and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement on behalf of the County, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

Administrator's Report

Jayne Stanton, County Treasurer / Interim Administrator informed the Board that steps are being taken now to start the audit for 2018. Elaine Richardson, County Clerk / Interim Administrator will work with our legal counsel to set up a Commissioner Training for January 30, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Correspondence

1. Toby Danford – Cadillac Area Modelers Society at the Airport

Public Comments

Bill Paul, Hagstrom Lane, Cadillac, thanked Mr. Potter for attending their last Airport Authority meeting. He again touched on the risks involved if the RC Modelers were allowed to use a portion on the airport. He believes it would be a safety concern for all that are using the runway at the airport.

Robert Light, Leroy, President of the RC Modelers Association, has been involved with RC flying for the past 60 years. He has flown at many airports not in just this area. He has not seen or heard of any problems with the model planes. The property in question is in the northwest corner of the airport out of the flight line. He would like to move forward on this idea and work out the details.

Michael MacCready, Manton, feels the Board should have a voting member on the Airport Authority. He is hopeful that Janet Koch will be someone to help with county administration.

Liaison Reports

Comm Bush attended a CAMA meeting and had a tour of the Otwell facility. There is still a push out there to get more educational programs for younger people that need more training to get into the work force. The Career Tech Center offers that type of training. CAMA will provide gas cards, and baby sitting, just to name a few ways they help.

Comm Theobald attended Community Corrections Board. Minutes has been passed out with a report from the State.

Comm Taylor attended a Veteran's Committee meeting and the minutes will be available.

Comm Nichols will be attending the NMCAA meeting tomorrow.

Comm Potter believes the Airport Authority has many issues. He reviewed the joint agreement between the City of Cadillac, Wexford County and the Airport Authority. Under rule #7rules are made by the Airport Authority; rule #9Insurance coverage must be obtained by the Board and approved by the City and the County. He believes that this Board has no decision to be made here.

Board Comment

Comm Musta believes that Ms. Koch has the qualities needed to fill the administrator's position.

Comm Townsend explained that his constituents like to see an openness on this Board. He appreciated the outline made tonight on the reason the Board approved Mr. Hilty as our project manager. With his zoning background, he believes a special use permit

should have been requested by the RC Modelers from the City. It would have saved a lot of time and trouble.

Comm Bush thanked all for doing their due diligence in finding a new administrator. He is happy she wants to come to Wexford County.

Comm Theobald appreciated her taking time to come to know our community.

Comm Nichols appreciated the information Janet Koch provided tonight. She also thanked Hiring Solutions for screening many applicants. She agreed with Comm Theobald that this candidate wants to be a part of our community. Thanked all for showing tonight and voicing your opinions on both sides.

Comm Potter believes that the entire Board needs to trust each other. Not one member can be at everything and trusting other members of the board that they are doing their due diligence in their duties as representing the Board. Glad that this Board fully supported the candidate for County Administrator brought here tonight.

Comm Bengelink has had some conversations with both sides of the airport issue. He is now more comfortable with the liability end of this problem. This Board has two options: the appointment of 4 members on the Board or agree to a resolution opposing the RC modelers. There has been a meeting scheduled February 13, 2019, for the Airport Authority to discuss this matter.

Chairman's Comments

Comm Taylor thanked all for coming tonight.

Adjourn

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Bengelink to adjourn at 6:40 p.m.

All in favor.



Gary Taylor, Chairperson



Elaine L. Richardson, County Clerk