

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting *Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Vice Chairman Bengelink.

Roll Call: Present- Commissioners Joe Hurlburt, Ben Townsend, Michael Musta, Mike Bengelink, Mike Bush, Judy Nichols and Brian Potter.

Absent- Gary Taylor

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda- *None.*

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION by Comm Musta, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the agenda.

All in favor.

Employee Recognition- *None.*

Presentation and Reports-

Joanie Blamer, Acting Chief Executive Officer for Northern Lake Community Mental Health, provided the Board with their 2019 annual report. Currently they are in an agreement with 6 counties, including Wexford. Their funding is provided mostly by Medicaid, but they are very appreciative of the counties contribution as well.

She highlighted that in 2019, CMH had 5,109 registered individuals receiving service. Of that amount, 1,174 were Wexford County residents. She explained that that number is made up of people with developmental disabilities, adults with mental illness, and children with serious emotional disturbances.

With the added challenge of the COVID pandemic, they needed to switch to telehealth services which was difficult to some of their clients because of a lack of data plans. They were finding themselves taking iPads to clients porches, communicating with them, and then retrieving the iPads.

One Commissioner asked Ms. Blamer to explain how and why iPads were provided to local police. She explained that they provided those so that local law enforcement could contact a worker from CMH to determine if the person they were interacting with was one of their clients and needed additional assistance.

Several other Commissioners extended their appreciation to all that Community Mental Health has done for their families and the community.

Public Comment-

Al Sherburne, Mesick EMS, shared his concern with the merger between North Flight and MMR. He currently has an intercept agreement with North Flight, and he is concerned that will not carry over to MMR.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the October 7, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the Consent Agenda.

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. Public Hearing-COVID-19 Grant
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Potter to open the Public Hearing on the COVID-19 CDBG Funding, CARES Funding.

Roll call: Motion passed unanimously.

The Public Hearing was opened at 4:21pm and no one addressed the Board.

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Nichols to close the public hearing.

All in favor.

2. CDBG Authorizing Resolution-COVID-19 Grant
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Potter to approve Resolution 20-23 Authorizing Resolution for the CDBG grant.

Administrator Koch explained that the public hearing is a requirement for the grant application. She also explained that it was still unsure if these were going to be eligible expenses.

Roll Call: Motion passed 8-0.

3. Resolution Condemning Threats to Governor/Politician
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Bush to Approve Resolution 20-24, Denouncing Acts of Violence Against the Governor, any Politician, any Government Official, or any Citizen.

One Commissioner asked where this originated. It was explained that this was brought up because recent events that put Wexford County in the media.

Another Commissioner commented that whoever wrote the resolution did a great job.

Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.

4. Employee Roster Increase-Jail

MOTION by Comm Potter, seconded by Comm Bush to amend department 101-351, 2020 employee roster from 20 Corrections Officers to 21.

Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.

5. MIDC FY 2021 Agreement

MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission grant agreement for Fiscal Year 2021 and authorize the Board Chair to sign the grant agreement.

Roll Call: Motion passed 8-0.

6. COVID Preparedness and Response Plan Update

MOTION by Comm Musta, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the County Administrator, with the assistance of the Emergency Manager, to revise and implement the County's COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan as required.

One Commissioner questioned why Emergency Management isn't the one handling this. That Commissioner also asked if the Administrator has time to take this on. It was explained that it was a labor issue concern and no one really has time to take this on, but it will get done.

Another Commissioner pointed out that we are fortunate enough to have an Emergency Manager and that he was not satisfied with the answers provided. He felt that Travis Baker needed to be apart of this process.

Roll Call: Motion passed 5-2 with Commissioners Hurlburt and Potter voting against the motion.

7. Abilitia Telecommunications Analysis Report

MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Potter to approve the Abilita's Executive Summary of Recommendations and authorize the County Administrator to implement the recommendations.

One Commissioner asked what this was. It was explained that this is similar to our agreement with Tenurgy. This company was recommended by MAC to help save the County money on our phone service.

Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.

8. Budget Amendment

MOTION by Comm Bush, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the budget amendments dated 10/21/2020.

10/21/2020

Wexford County Board of Commissioners

Amendments to the 2020 Budget

Adj #	Acct	Acct Description	Revenue	Expense	a.
20201003	101.275.538.00	Beaches Grant	\$ 2,510		
	101.275.800.10	Contracted Services		\$ 2,510	

Additional revenue for the Beaches Grant has been received.

Roll Call: Motion passed 8-0.

Administrator's Report-

Administrator Koch explained to the Board that the windows are still looking like they will be installed in December.

She pointed out that last week was the first jury trial since February. She commended the Clerk's Office and Circuit Court for their hard work on getting everything prepared for that.

Ms. Koch also pointed out that Election Day is coming up, and the next Board meeting is the day after the election.

Correspondence- *None.*

Public Comments-

Alaina Nyman, County Clerk, informed the Board that Travis Baker had written an emergency plan for Election Day, and it was written very well. She also told the Board it was forwarded on to the Townships for them to hopefully approve something locally.

Liaison Reports-

Comm Theobald informed the Board of Ted Meyer's passing from the Fair board.

Comm Nichols attended the virtual meetings for NMCAA and MSU Extension. That information will be coming.

Comm Hurlburt pointed out that the Road Commission had a tractor catch fire, but no one was injured. He also met with Paul Owens from North Flight about the merger with MMR. Mr. Owens assured him that MMR is keeping the same people, and they will intercept for those they have agreements with.

Comm Townsend attended the Northern Lakes Community Mental Health meeting for their first in person meeting. He felt very encouraged for where they are heading.

Comm Bengelink attended the Lake Mitchell Improvement Board meeting in the parking lot where it was cold and windy.

Board Comments

Comm Nichols thanked everyone for coming.

Comm Hurlburt stated that Ted Meyer will be missed. Mr. Meyer always loved the fairgrounds, and his thoughts are with his family. He also commented about the World Series.

Comm Townsend attended Ted's funeral, and it was a wonderful message. He appreciated that twenty one gun salute, as well as taps. He said the County should be concerned with who will be replacing him.


Comm Theobald thanked Mr. Meyer for all he did for the County.


Comm Bengelink stated that Ted was an icon to the community, and he will be missed. He also assured that if Paul Owens is in charge of this merger with MMR, he is not concerned. He closed the meeting with a quote from Ronald Reagan.

Adjourn

MOTION by Comm Hurlburt, seconded by Comm Potter to adjourn at 4:42 p.m.

All in favor.


Mike Bengelink, Vice Chairperson


Alaina Nyman, County Clerk