

**WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Meeting \* Wednesday, March 3, 2021

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

Roll Call: Present- Commissioners Joseph Hurlburt, Mike Musta, Ben Townsend, Mike Bengelink, Michael Bush, Julie Theobald, Gary Taylor, Judy Nichols, and Brian Potter.

Absent- *None.*

Pledge of Allegiance.

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda-**

1. Added J2a-Revision to Policy
2. Added J2b-Chief Deputy Wage Increase

**Approval of the Agenda**

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

**Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.**

**Employee Recognition-** *None.*

**Presentation and Reports-** *None.*

**Public Comment-** *None.*

**Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of the February 17, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes
2. Appointment to Standing and Special Committees
3. 84<sup>th</sup> District Court Magistrate Appointment

**MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the Consent Agenda.**

**Roll Call: Motion passed 9-0**

**Agenda Items**

1. Resolution 21-09 Extending Appreciation for Alan Cooper  
**MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Potter to approve Resolution 21-09 Extending Appreciation for Alan Cooper's Dedicated Service.**

**Roll Call: Motion passed 9-0.**

2. Chief Deputy's Salary Increase
  - 2a. Revision to Policy

**MOTION** by Comm Townsend, seconded by Comm Bengelink to revise the Policy B-8.0.C.3 to designate the Chief Deputy Clerk, Treasurer, and Register of Deeds for the wage standpoint of M2, Level 6 employee.

**Roll Call: Motion passed 8-1 with Comm Theobald voting against the motion.**

2b. Chief Deputy Wage Increase

**MOTION** by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Potter to approve the wage increase for Chief Deputy Clerk, Register of Deeds, and Treasurer as recommended by the Human Resource Committee.

**Roll Call: Motion passed 8-1 with Comm Theobald voting against the motion.**

3. Part-Time Wage Scale

**MOTION** by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the part-time wage scale for the Substance Abuse Tester, Animal Shelter Attendant and Court Bailiff.

**Roll Call: Motion approved unanimously.**

4. Intrado Life & Safety Solutions

**MOTION** by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the purchase of Intrado Life & Safety Solutions upgrade to the Viper 911 system in the amount of \$12,000 and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement.

**Roll Call: Motion approved unanimously.**

5. Bid Award-WEX HVAC

**MOTION** by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Nichols to award the Wex HVAC bid to 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Heating and Cooling in an amount not to exceed \$165,337 and request a contract for review by County Counsel.

**Roll Call: Motion passed 9-0.**

6. Letter of Intent-Old Jail Property

**MOTION** by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Nichols to accept the Letter of Intent by US Federal Properties Co. for the proposed acquisition of the Old Jail Property and authorize the Chairman to sign the letter of intent.

**Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.**

7. Budget Amendment(s)-

**MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the budget amendment dated 3/3/2021.**

3/3/2021

**Wexford County Board of Commissioners  
 Amendments to the 2021 Budget**

Adj#	Acct	Acct Description	Revenue	Expense
20210201	101.229.702.02	Supervisory Staff		\$ (3,200) (a)
	101.229.800.00	Contracted Services Window tinting/security film of the entire office windows		\$ 3,200 )

**Administrator’s Report-**

Administrator Koch provided the Board with a written report.

**Correspondence-**

**Public Comments-**

Lorne Haase thanked the Board for honor Al Cooper.

Al Cooper thanked the Board for the resolution they passed, as well as their support throughout the years.

**Liaison Reports-**

Comm Nichols attended the Northwest Community Action Agency meeting. They will be coming to the Board on April 7<sup>th</sup> for a report on the weatherization of homes. She also attended the District 10 Health Department meeting where there were a lot of updates on COVID.

Comm Theobald informed the Board that the Fair Board is looking at a free circus this year. Dates will be coming. They also received a grant to fix the grandstands. It is a 50/50 grant, with the County to contribute 50% of the 50%. They will be doing online entries for the fair this year. They are also looking into the issues with having campers on the grounds.

Comm Theobald also attended the DHHS meeting. They are working on a pilot program for intensive CPS. They are in need of foster care parents. They also have a new prosecutor for their cases, Ron Sims.

### **Board Comments**

Comm Potter stated he was a Commissioner of the employee. He tries to look out for County employees in each way possible. In a COVID year, we were still able to do many things including First Responder pay, additional positions in the Prosecutor's office, and a multi-year contract with the Administrator. Some of the feedback received from other County employees has discouraged him. He's been asked why staff is being added to the Prosecutor's office and not another office. He's been asked why the Administrator received a 2% increase, when employees received a \$1. He's been accused of showing favoritism to the Clerk, Treasurer, and Register of Deeds, when it wasn't even voted on. He was also bothered by statements made of "why should they make what I make?" These employees take positions knowing the pay, knowing the position, and if their Department Head feels they are undervalued, they need to bring it to the Board. That is what happened here. Employees should be happy their coworkers are receiving something like this.

Comm Hurlburt thanked Al Cooper for coming and his service. He wished him a happy retirement.

Comm Townsend echoed what Commissioner Potter had stated. Any complaints of not being looked at are false. Employees are always looked at. He also congratulated Al Cooper. He stated our Road Commission is the best run County.

Comm Bengelink agreed with what Commissioner Potter and Townsend had to say. He mentioned a letter that was emailed out to everyone from Michelle Hoitenga for signatures. He also read two quotes from Martin Luther King Jr and Eleanor Roosevelt.

Comm Bush thanked Al Cooper for his hard work and wished him a happy retirement.

Comm Theobald stated that tonight is another reason we need a wage study done. She congratulated Al Cooper on his retirement.

Comm Nichols concurred with the comments made by the other Commissioners, starting with Commissioner Potter. She is happy for the elected officials and their deputies. She also congratulated Al Cooper.

### **Chairman's Comments**

Comm Taylor congratulated Al Cooper and stated he was very happy with the Chief increases.

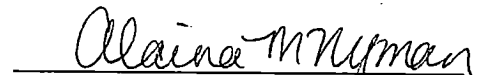
### **Adjourn**

**MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Bengelink to adjourn at 4:26 p.m.**

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**All in favor.**

  
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Gary Taylor, Chairperson

  
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Alaina Nyman, County Clerk