

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting * Wednesday, July 7, 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, Gary Taylor, Judy Nichols, and Brian Potter.

Absent- Julie Theobald.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda-

Commissioner Potter requested to add a discussion on a Human Resources Department, seconded by Commissioner Musta.

Added J10-Discussion on Human Resources Department.

Approval of the Agenda

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

All in Favor.

Employee Recognition- *None.*

Presentation and Reports- *None.*

Public Comment-

Craig Delaney, Cadillac, stated he is being invaded by gypsy moths. This is a problem that keeps coming and moves around. Right now it is a problem in Northern Michigan. 28-30 years ago the County sprayed for these. He would like to see the County come up with a plan to address this in the spring.

Commissioner Taylor allowed Commissioner Bengelink to respond to Mr. Delaney. He informed him there would be a meeting on July 21st at 2pm and there will be a report.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the June 16, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. Policy C-9.0 Collective Bargaining Revised

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Bush to approve a revision to Policy C-9.0 adding the County Clerk as part of the Negotiation Team.

Roll Call: Motion passed 8-0.

2. Equalization Roster Update

MOTION by Comm Hurlburt, seconded by Comm Nichols to approve adding an Assistant Equalization Director to the employee roster at the M2 wage scale.

Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.

3. FY 2022 Budget Calendar

MOTION by Comm Musta, seconded by Comm Nichols to approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Calendar.

Roll Call: Motion approved unanimously.

4. Resolution 21-22 Opposing MI Sec. of State By Apt. Only

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Bush to approve Resolution 21-22 Opposing Michigan Secretary of State "By Appointment Only".

Roll Call: Motion passed 8-0.

5. MERS Voluntary Contribution

MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Hurlburt to approve a payment of \$500,000 from the General Fund fund balance for an additional voluntary contribution to MERS in the surplus division.

One Commissioner questioned what percentage we currently are at. Administrator Koch explained that we are at 71% funded according to the audit.

Another Commissioner asked what this payment will bump it up to. It was believed about 5%.

Roll call: Motion passed unanimously.

6. ARPA Direct Payment

MOTION by Comm Potter, seconded by Comm Bush to approve a \$2,500 direct payment to all active County Employees annually for three years, prorated per month of service from the prior year's work as of July 31st of 2021, 2022 & 2023, using allowed American Rescue Plan Act funds, subject to any contractual or collective bargaining agreement requirement. Payments will be made in a separate check on the same pay date of the first payday in August.

One Commissioner asked if this was the Counties first act with this money and if there are plans for others. It was explained that this is the first act, and any additional ideas should be sent to Executive.

Roll call: Motion passed 8-0.

7. Lake Street Security

MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Bush to approve increasing the Lake Street Security Hours to 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Roll call: Motion passed unanimously.

8. Purdue Opioid Bankruptcy Settlement

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Nichols to approve the Purdue Bankruptcy Plan and to authorize the Board Chair to submit the Wexford County vote electronically.

One Commissioner questioned if we knew the amount yet. It is still all a big unknown.

Roll call: Motion passed 8-0.

9. Budget Amendment

MOTION by Comm Musta, seconded by Comm Bengelink to approve the budget amendment dated 7/7/2021

7/7/2021

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

Adj #	Acct	Acct Description	Revenue	Expense	
20210701	101.286.528.07	CESF - Prosecutor 2021	\$23,185		a.
	101.229.702.12	CESF Employee Wages		\$14,145	
	101.286.726.05	CESF - Prosecutor 2021 Supplies/Materials		\$9,040	
		CESF grant money received.			

Roll call: Motion passed 8-0.

10. Discussion of Human Resources Department

Comm Potter requested that this be sent to the appropriate committee to discuss creating a Human Resources department. Comm Taylor agreed to send it to the Human Resources Committee.

Administrator's Report-

Administrator Koch has been in communication with Baker College regarding their intern program. It is a semester based project. She is hoping to create an intern spot to flow from each department. She is hoping to show what County government can offer.

She also explained that the jail investigation was done the previous week. She is hoping to have a report in four to five weeks.

Correspondence- *None.*

Public Comments- *None.*

Liaison Reports-

Comm Hurlburt visited with the road commission. They are doing a fine job and working hard mowing. He also talked with Paul Owens, and they are still hiring.

Comm Potter attended a Clam Lake DDA meeting.

Board Comments-

Comm Townsend stated he was thrilled with what was being done with the ARPA funds. He thought we needed to take care of our employees.

Comm Bengelink read a quote from Teddy Roosevelt.

Comm Nichols dittoed what Comm Townsend stated. She appreciates that Craig Delaney came to address the Board, and that a meeting was put together for the 21st. She informed everyone that the Shelter Shares Facebook page will be closing on August 1st. The Animal Control now has their own page though.

Comm Potter echoed what Comm Townsend stated. He is hoping to retain employees with the future payments.

Comm Hurlburt stated he hoped our townships and cities follow suit with the ARPA funds.

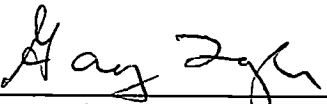
Chairman's Comments-

Comm Taylor agreed with everyone that our employees are worth it. He also thanked everyone for coming.

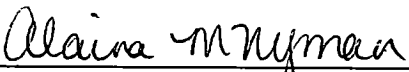
Adjourn

MOTION by Comm Hurlburt, seconded by Comm Bengelink to adjourn at 4:22 p.m.

All in favor.



Gary Taylor, Chairperson



Alaina Nyman, County Clerk