

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting * Wednesday, June 16, 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-*None.*

Approval of the Agenda

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

All in Favor.

Employee Recognition- *None.*

Presentation and Reports-

Vicki Sawicki-North Country Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area, came before the Board to discuss an issue that has been brought to her attention with gypsy moths. She wanted the Board and the community to know that the moths are almost complete with their life cycle. When these moths die, the trees will re-leaf.

She has received the question of why the County has not sprayed for these gypsy moths. She explained that previously this had been done, but was handled by state and federal funding. The science now tells us not to spray because it disrupts the cycle of life for these moths. She projected next year would potentially be worse, but after that, we should see a crash in the population. Once the population has crashed, she predicted it would be 8-10 years before the moths return.

She further explained that Newaygo County had done a cost analysis of what it might be to spray their whole county. The estimate was around \$82 million.

Public Comment-

Joe Marleski, Haring Township, explained to the Board that his property is suffering from this problem with the gypsy moths. His foliage is being killed. He spoke with someone at Bay County that has a millage to spray for these types of moths. He explained that they only currently spray the hot spots for these moths. He requested a spray program be established by the County. He is willing to do it himself if the County isn't willing to,

but the company he contacted, stated the minimum amount they would spray would be 50 acres.

Joe Pacella also addressed the Board regarding gypsy moths. This is his third year dealing with this issue, and this year is worse. He would like to see a spray program established like they have in Roscommon County.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the June 2, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. Wexford County 2020 Financial Audit

Steve Peacock, Rehmann, presented the Board with their 2020 audit report. Overall he gave the County a gold star on the audit. He went further to explain the full report, noting that the balance sheet was healthy, there is a very healthy fund balance, and the income statements are both in good shape. He also highlighted that the County's pension plan is 71% funded, which was impressive.

He noted one area of concern that the Treasurer's office created a Corrective Action Plan for, and he did not anticipate this being a further issue. One Commissioner asked about the finding regarding approval of the credit card statements, and how that should be addressed. Mr. Peacock explained that Rehmann would work with us to help establish a policy to address that finding.

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Musta to approve Wexford County's December 31, 2020 Financial Statements, and Independent Audit.

Roll Call: Motion passed 9-0.

2. Lake Street Parking Lot

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Bush to approve Option 2 for the Lake Street Parking lot, and authorize the Chairman to sign a Professional Services Agreement with Prein & Newhof.

Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.

3. Cadillac Janitorial Agreement

MOTION by Comm Hurlburt, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Cadillac Janitorial, effective July 1, 2021, and authorize the Chairman to sign the memorandum.

Roll Call: Motion approved unanimously.

4. MI Works Lease Agreement
MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Bush to approve a two-year lease with Networks Northwest for Michigan Works office space at 401 N. Lake Street, and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement.

Roll Call: Motion passed 9-0.

5. Contingency Offer to Purchase the Old Jail Property
MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Bush to accept the Contingent Option to Purchase from US Federal Properties for approximately 4.25 acres of land at 429 Cobb Street, and authorize the Chairman to sign the Option.

Roll call: Motion passed unanimously.

6. Sentinel Contract Amendment
MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Musta to approve the Sentinel Contract amendment and authorize the Chairman to sign the amendment.

Roll call: Motion passed 9-0.

7. Web Security Purchase
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Potter to approve the purchase of a Barracuda web filter from IT Right, and a three-year subscription for updates.

Roll call: Motion passed unanimously.

8. L-4029 2021 Tax Rate Request
MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Musta to approve the 2021 Tax Rate Request, Report L-4029, and authorize the Chairman and County Clerk to sign the report.

Joe Porterfield, Equalization Director, explained to the Board that this is a yearly form that the Board approves. All millages have been effected by the Headlee rollback. The report shows a difference of \$184,000 and that is because the City of Cadillac has a property that is not subject to Headlee.

Roll call: Motion passed 9-0.

9. L-4046 2021 Statement of Taxable Values
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Nichols to approve the 2021 Taxable Valuations Report, Form L-4046, and authorize the Chairman and Equalization Director to sign the valuations.

Joe Porterfield also explained that this is also approved every year by the Board.

Roll call: Motion passed 9-0.

10. Resolution 21-21 Summer Millage Rate

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Bush to approve Resolution 21-21, the 2021 Summer Millage Rate, for the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget.

Roll call: Motion passed 9-0.

11. Intrado Quote-Dispatch Phone

MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the Intrado purchase of a new dispatch phone in an amount not to exceed \$11,700.

Roll call: Motion passed unanimously.

12. Purchase Historic Courthouse Chairs

MOTION by Comm Hurlburt, seconded by Comm Potter to authorize the Maintenance Supervisor to purchase chairs for the historic courthouse utilizing CESF - Court grant funding.

Roll call: Motion passed 9-0.

13. Budget Amendment

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the budget amendment dated 6/16/2021.

6/16/2021

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

Adj #	Acct	Acct Description	Revenue	Expense	
20210601	101.101.699.00	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$30,000		a.
	101.426.980.00	Equipment		\$28,306	
	101.426.957.00	Training		\$1,694	

Approved by BOC 6/2/21 for the purchase of a drone along with training.

Roll call: Motion passed 9-0.

14. Jury Commission Appointment(s)

MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the appointments of Gail King, Tom Taylor, and Penny Phelps to the Jury Commission.

Alaina Nyman, County Clerk, explained that last year the jury commission did not meet because of circumstances surrounding the pandemic. Their terms have since expired. Statute states that the Board approves these members, who are provided by the Circuit Court Judge. Judge Elmore has approved of these members.

Roll call: Motion passed unanimously.

Administrator's Report-

Administrator Koch told the Board that there was a rattling noise coming from the roof that morning. It turned out to be a HVAC issue. Adam came in on his day off to handle the issue. The parts have been ordered, and it should be an easy fix.

She further thanked the department heads for their work on the fixed audit list. She also thanked Kristi Nottingham, Alaina Nyman, and the Board for a successful audit.

Correspondence- None.

Public Comments-

Don Koshmider, Haring Township, addressed the Board regarding a podcast he listened to from Alex Jones. It was referenced to a reporter named Christopher Simon, who has passed away.

Joe Marleski addressed the Board again. He felt like no action was going to be taken. He said the State will tell them not to spray, but he won't give up.

Liaison Reports-

Comm Bengelink attended the Lake Mitchell Improvement Board. Lake levels are currently good.

Comm Townsend attended an Airport Authority meeting, where he has been named a rock star for mentioning jet fuel. On August 28th, they will be hosting a family friendly "fly-in". He hoped to see everyone there.

Board Comments-

Comm Nichols thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She explained that the Board cannot address the public when they are at the podium during public comment. She also congratulated those who worked on the audit.

Comm Potter informed everyone that the New Hope Shelter is almost finished. He is still waiting for a grand opening date. He also thanked everyone that worked on the audit.

Comm Hurlburt thank Commissioner Musta, Janet, Joe, Kristi, Annie, and Alaina for the work on the audit. He didn't want Mr. Marleski to leave discouraged. His concerns will be addressed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Comm Musta echoed everyone's comments about the audit. He also noted that gypsy moths are not great this year, but he hoped they were on a downward trend.

Comm Townsend also thanked those for the audit.

Comm Bengelink also echoed the comments regarding the audit. He also noted that several years ago gypsy moths took out 80 acres of trees at his property. He noted the following year was better, and the year after that was even better. He also read an Abraham Lincoln quote.

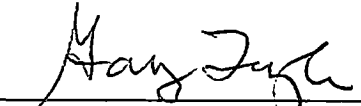
Chairman's Comments-

Comm Taylor stated great job on the audit and thanked everyone for coming.

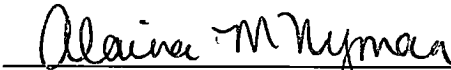
Adjourn

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Nichols to adjourn at 5:09 p.m.

All in favor.



Gary Taylor, Chairperson



Alaina Nyman, County Clerk