

**Board Comments-**

Comm Bengelink added information about MMR and the recent hirings. Gave a quote from Chinese dictator Mao Zedong.

Comm Theobald has heard positive feedback about the Fly and Drive. She mentioned that motorcycle people would like to be included. She is looking forward to getting the phone number for the suicide prevention. It concerns her that we are paying more for the panning commission and things are not consistent and would like to take a look at that.

Comm Nichols also attended Fly and Drive and mentioned it was so much fun. She thanked Ms. North for coming and Mr. Edwards as well.

Comm Potter thanked Comm Hurlburt for his help with getting a road repair completed.

Comm Musta commented that the budget calendar is on track and thanked Department Heads for their help on that.

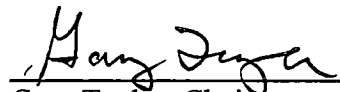
**Chairman's Comments-**

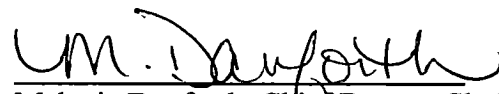
Comm Taylor thanked everyone for coming.

**Adjourn**

**MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Potter to adjourn at 4:37 p.m.**

**All in favor.**

  
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Gary Taylor, Chairperson

  
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Melanie Danforth, Chief Deputy Clerk

**WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Meeting \* Wednesday, September 1, 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**

Add: J.7. Policy C-9.0 Collective Bargaining, J.8. MERS Attendee,  
J.9. Parttime Position Administration Office discussion

**Approval of the Agenda**

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

**All in Favor.**

**Employee Recognition-** Katherine Gurumurthy-Probate Court. Ms. Gurumurthy was not in attendance to receive her award but it will be given to her.

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

**Public Comment-**

Dan O'Riley 615 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Haring Twp, Wexford County. When he moved in it was a paved road and 8 years ago he complained about the condition of the road. Spoke with Road Commissioner Harold Falan, and Karl Hanson who agreed the road was bad. Mr. O'Riley then spoke with Bob Scarbrough who said Building Dept. has nothing to do with it. Then he spoke with the head of the Road Commission, Al Cooper who said if the road was to be fixed each homeowner would have to pay about \$4000. Residents weren't interested so the road became a gravel road. Dan spoke with Road Commission 3 weeks ago and was told that the only person who could help him would be Karl Hanson who was on vacation-Dan then contacted Joe Hurlburt who said he would contact Mr. Hanson-Mr. O'Riley did not get a call back from Mr. Hanson. Finally spoke with Mr. Hanson and was told the roads that the commission has been paving have been paid for with a grant. Mr. O'Riley wants to know why his road isn't getting done with this grant money.

Shellon North appeared to talk about friend Geo (George) Timmons who took his own life in 2018. Ms. North wanted the Board to know that the need for mental health services in our community is a great one. Wants to see support before, during and after for the families. Wants to see more support for those contemplating suicide.

Chad Edwards-has been dealing with the Planning Commission. He is hoping that the Board of Commissioners can investigate issues with the Commission. Permit prices are all over the place, zoning ordinances don't exist, nothing is clear or specific. Mr. Edwards is also frustrated that ordinances were passed during covid. Also brought up that he was told that the county pays \$40,000 more than they would to have the Commissioners do the same job. Wants the members to be held accountable.

### **Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of the August 18, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

**All in favor.**

### **Agenda Items**

1. Resolution 21-25 Supporting the Community Mental Health Authority

**MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Nichols to approve Resolution 21-25, A Resolution of the Wexford County Board of Commissioners Supporting the Community Mental Health Authority and Opposing Current State Legislation to change the CMHA.**

A commissioner asked the commissioner who is the liaison for Community Mental Health-if at the next meeting he could bring up the concerns about suicide prevention. That commissioner commented that yes, he could and mentioned that there is an 1-800 number that is staffed 24/7 to help people contemplating suicide.

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

2. Flu Shots

**MOTION by Comm Hurlburt, seconded by Comm Bush to approve Cadillac Family Physicians to provide on-site flu immunizations for Wexford County and the County to pay the full \$35.00 for any Wexford County employee or official whose cost is not covered by insurance.**

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

3. DHHS Revenue Agreement

**MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Potter to approve to approve the DHHS Revenue Agreement: REV22-99029 and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement.**

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

4. Pitney Bowes Mail Machine Leases

**MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve both the Lake Street and Courthouse mail machines leases for 60 months and authorize the Chairman to sign the leases.**

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

5. Travel and Conference Line Items for 2022 Budget

**MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Potter to approve that any transfer of funds from General Ledger line items ending in 860.00, Travel & Conference, either in or out, will not be allowed in 2022 without board approval.**

A Comm questioned how this came about. It was explained but another Comm that the travel and conference budget for last year was about \$80,000, so far through July the county has used \$10,000. He continued that at the end of the year department heads take the left-over money and spend it on other things and that this motion will eliminate that happening without Board approval. The initial Comm asked if this motion had come through the Administration Office and the second Comm indicated this had come through finance.

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

6. **Budget Amendments**-none

7. Revision to Policy C-9.0 Collective Bargaining

**MOTION by Comm Hurlburt, seconded by Comm Theobald to update Policy C-9.0 Collective Bargaining to include the Human Resources Director as part of the Negotiations Team.**

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

8. MERS Attendee

**MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Potter to authorize the Human Resources Director as the Officer Delegate to attend the annual MERS Conference in Grand Rapids.**

A Comm questioned whether the Administrator goes to that conference. Administrator Koch spoke up that she does not want to attend, she has attended one in the past and that was enough for her.

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

9. Part Time Position Administrators Office

A Comm spoke up and said she is skeptical that an office with two full time office staff is being reduced to one and a half positions. She indicated that she feels the office will not be as efficient and would really like to see that stay two full time positions.

Another Comm spoke up and said that the possibility of the part time position becoming full time is still on the table and can be revisited. Another Comm said that the workload of the employee that was promoted went with her to her new position so in reality we went from two positions to two and a half positions.

It was agreed that the position will be revisited after the first of the year.

#### **Administrator's Report-**

Administrator Koch gave an update on union contract status.

The Administrator also mentioned that case law books are now electronic, and the Circuit Court had asked about getting rid of paper copies. The Comm indicated that that is the Judges call and they can dispose of them as they see fit.

Lake street parking lot project is coming a long, we are waiting for the engineer to complete the bidding documents and the hope is still to complete the project this year. Jail engineering report-onsite investigation is complete, expect to have the report back soon.

A Comm mentioned that the Road Commission information on the county website is not updated and needs to be updated with current information. Admin Koch indicated she would take care of it.

#### **Correspondence-** none

**Public Comments-** County Clerk Nyman indicated that the Apportionment Committee is starting the 2021 Apportionment for Commissioner Districts tomorrow at 9:00 am in the Circuit Court courtroom. We are waiting on certified census information but hope to have that soon.

#### **Liaison Reports-**

Comm Townsend mentioned Fly and Drive was a huge success, roughly 1850 people came, lots of different food trucks, live entertainment and classic cars.

Comm Bush had a CAMA meeting-they will see what places they can visit depending on what happens with the state and the delta variant. More information to come.

Comm Nichols attended an MSUE meeting, Roger Bandeen was the speaker-great meeting. Attended DHD # 10 meeting, had 18 visitors there and it was a long meeting but a good meeting.

Comm Hurlburt attended a Road Commission meeting, they have a lot of projects going on and are very busy but doing a great job. EMS-every position in Cadillac is filled and 5 people have been recently hired and will be going to Manton.