

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting * Wednesday, February 2, 2022

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

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

Absent- Judy Nichols.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda-

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- None.

Public Comment- None.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the January 19, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. Seating Arrangement for Commissioners Room

MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Bush to take the benches out of storage and either sell at auction or donate with the stipulation that the recipient does the moving.

One Commissioner questioned if this would be for all of the benches. Adam Kerr explained that it would be the benches for Circuit Court and the commissioner room. He did discuss the matter with Judge Elmore, and he did not see a need for them to come back into the courtroom. By not having them in the commissioner room, there are more options for things like trainings or meetings.

Roll Call: Motion passed 8-0.

2. Resignation from Airport Authority

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Bush to accept the resignation of Craig Hewitt from the Airport Authority.

One Commissioner questioned if they had a choice.

Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.

3. Liaison Policy Change

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the proposed changes to Policy A-2.0 County Board Liaison Requirements.

One Commissioner commented that this was a great idea. Another Commissioner appreciated the support on this.

Roll Call: Motion approved unanimously.

4. Wex Dehumidifier Bid Award

MOTION by Comm Musta, seconded by Comm Potter to accept the bid for the Wex Dehumidifier project from Cooke Sheet Metal in the amount of \$134,586.00 and to enter into an attorney-approved contract.

Roll Call: Motion passed 8-0.

5. Resolution 22-06 Supporting Local Law Enforcement

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve Resolution 22-06, Supporting Local Law Enforcement.

Each Commissioner took a turn reading a paragraph of the resolution.

Roll call: Motion passed 8-0.

6. Closed Session-Attorney Consultation Regarding Settlement Strategies

7. Closed Session-Administrator Performance Review

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Theobald Motion for the Board to meet in closed session for two purposes: under section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss a written attorney opinion regarding a settlement agreement for POAM grievance 21-369; and upon the administrator's request, under section 8(1.a.) of the Open Meetings Act, to consider the administrator's annual evaluation; and that Sheriff Taylor remain in closed session.

Roll call: Motion passed 8-0. Closed session began at 4:08 pm.

MOTION by Comm Bengelink, seconded by Comm Theobald to resume open session of the Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting and to accept the minutes of the Closed Session as orally read by the Clerk.

All in favor: Open session resumed at 5:01 pm.

MOTION by Comm Potter, seconded by Comm Musta to approve Exhibit 3 as presented by county counsel, for the settlement of POAM Grievance 21-369.

Roll call: Motion passed 6-2 with Commissioners Townsend and Bengelink voting against the motion.

Administrator's Report-

Administrator Koch informed the Board that Eric Karbowski has officially taken over as the new director of MSU Extension. He is tentatively scheduled to appear at the March 2nd Board meeting.

Ms. Koch provided an update to the moving at the Lake Street building. The building department has completed their move with the help of Adam, Bill, Joe, and Matt. The Invasive Species Department will be moving in on February 10th.

Ms. Koch also provided an update of recent ARPA funds. Because the County's award was less than \$10 million, there are very few expenditure limitations, however, the money cannot be used for paying down outstanding capital debt, replenishing a rainy day fund, and paying down pension funds.

Correspondence- None.

Public Comments- None.

Liaison Reports-

Comm Musta attended a Wex Express meeting where they are struggling with staffing issues. He also virtually attended an AAS meeting.

Comm Bengelink attended a 911 Committee meeting.

Comm Theobald attended a Community Corrections meeting. They are planning to be shutting down the Transition House within the next few months if it is approved by their executive board. She also attended a DHHS meeting where they voted to pay the \$500 previously requested by 211. Missaukee will be paying one third, while Wexford will be paying two thirds.

Board Comments-

Comm Bengelink read a quote from Ben Carson.

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Comm Theobald commented that she was concerned with losing another member of the Airport Authority.

Comm Potter asked for clarification on the final item. The Clerk explained the motion had passed 6-2. He also thanked Comm Bengelink for bringing the Resolution regarding Law Enforcement to the Board.

Chairman's Comments-

Comm Taylor thanked everyone for coming.

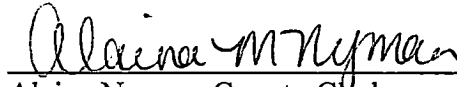
Adjourn

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

All in favor.



Gary Taylor, Chairperson



Alaina Nyman, County Clerk