

**WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
Regular Meeting \* Wednesday, April 5, 2023

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

Roll Call: Present- Commissioners Jason Mitchell, Michael Musta, Ben Townsend, Kathy Adams, Michael Bush, Julie Theobald, Jason Baughan, Brian Potter and Gary Taylor.

Absent- None

Pledge of Allegiance.

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda-**

**Added – J.3.b.** Letter of Agreement with POAM and the Sheriff's Office

**Approval of the Agenda**

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

**All in Favor.**

**Public Comment-** *Keith Newell, Wexford County Airport Manager, stated that the airport is an asset and jewel to the community. Mr. Newell's mission is to ensure that the airport's value increases within the community. Mr. Newell thanked the Commissioners for all of their support. Mr. Newell stated that he is working with the schools to receive grants for aviation activities for students and is also working with the Road Commission for input for the Recreation Plan. He would like the community to know that the airport is more than just a place for airplanes.*

**Employee Recognition-** *None.*

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

**Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of the March 15, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes  
**MOTION** by Comm. Musta, seconded by Comm. Adams to approve the Consent Agenda.

**All in favor.**

**Agenda Items**

1. Purchase Request for Activation of Jail Radios  
**MOTION** by Comm. Adams, seconded by Comm. Musta to approve paying the activation fees from the State of Michigan for the jail radios in the amount of \$6,500.00 and authorize the Chairman to sign the purchase order.

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

2. Resolution 23-10 Opiate Litigation Settlement and Agreement  
**MOTION by Comm. Musta, seconded by Comm. Adams to approve Resolution 23-10 regarding partial Opiate Settlement and the corresponding agreements and authorize the Chairman and County Administrator to electronically sign the agreements on behalf of the County.**

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

3. Memorandum of Agreement – School Resource Office  
**MOTION by Comm. Theobald, seconded by Comm. Baughan to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for the School Resource Officer and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the County.**

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

4. Letter of Agreement with POAM and the Sheriff's Office  
*Letter provided as correspondence, no action or motion necessary.*

Deputy County Administrator, Ms. Bigger stated that this is a letter agreement to show that the POAM-312 Union approved the School Resource Officer position, as it will not be a union position.

5. Advanced Correctional Healthcare Amended Agreement  
**MOTION by Comm. Theobald, seconded by Comm. Bush to approve the revised Advanced Correctional Healthcare Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the County.**

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

6. Purchase Request for Sheriff's Office Vehicle  
**MOTION by Comm Baughan and seconded by Comm Bush to approve the purchase of the 2016 Ford Explorer and authorize the Chairman to sign the purchase order.**

There was discussion about where the funding for the vehicle was coming from. Deputy County Administrator, Ms. Bigger stated the County had received a reimbursement check from MMRMA for a totaled out vehicle in January 2023, but this would only cover a portion of it. County Administrator, Mr. Porterfield stated that the remaining balance will come from the general fund and budget amendments will be made accordingly.

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

**Administrator's Report-**

County Administrator, Mr. Porterfield stated that he will put together the resolution and signatures for the opiate settlement. Mr. Porterfield believes that it is \$580,000.00, paid over 13 years. Mr. Porterfield and Ms. Bigger have started to work on the budget for 2024. Mr. Hervey will be here at the end of the month to help with the audit. Mr. Porterfield stated that the Board of Commissioners will be holding a statutory meeting on April 11, 2023 at 3 p.m. for Equalization reports. The final draft of the Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority Enabling Agreement has been sent to legal for review. The deed to the Health Department building was recorded at the Register of Deeds and Mr. Porterfield is awaiting one signature to be able to record the termination of lease and then the County would own the building and property.

**Correspondence- None.**

**Public Comments-**

Jacquelyn Erways, representing the Lake Mitchell Property Owner's Association, provided an update on the current state of the sewer system. Ms. Erways, stated that the property owners would like the sewer system redone and completed, but are not having the best of luck working with the Lake Mitchell Sewer Association Board. The property owners are looking for funding, have been spending their own time going to different meetings and contacting different elected officials, hoping to get the word out and find some assistance.

**Liaison Reports-**

Commissioner Theobald stated she will be forwarding the research report to the commissioners. Also, that there are funds to send kids to summer camps, that the income level is higher than what a lot of people would expect. They have money sitting in a pot and want to send kids to camp.

Commissioner Potter stated that the DEQ has put a hold on the brine situation, as reported in the Cadillac News.

**Board Comments-**

Commissioner Townsend wanted to thank Keith Newell for coming and introducing himself to the Board. There are a lot of positive things happening at the Airport. The Wings & Wheels event is being planned for this August and they are hoping that it will be bigger this year than it was last year. Mr. Townsend is very happy to have Mr. Newell as our airport manager and is excited about what he is bringing to our community.

Commissioner Adams would also like to thank Mr. Newell, for coming to the meeting and for the newsletter. On the Lake Mitchell Sewer Authority, she believes that they are coming to the knowledge of needing funding from other places. They are reaching out to our representatives and attempting to make it into a bipartisan issue.

Commissioner Bush would also like to thank Mr. Newell for coming and introducing himself.

Commissioner Theobald stated that you will start seeing the little blue pinwheels around town for Child Abuse Awareness. There are pinwheel cookies for sale at Willow and Annie's for \$4, and for every cookie sold \$2 will be donated to the child advocacy. Commissioner Theobald would like to thank the regulars for coming to the meetings.

Commissioner Potter would also like to thank Mr. Newell and Ms. Jackie Erway for their input. The next meeting for the Road Commission Board is April 26 at 7:30 a.m.

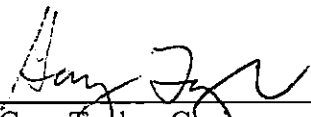
**Chairman's Comments-**


Chair Taylor, thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**Adjourn**

**MOTION by Comm. Potter, seconded by Comm. Theobald to adjourn at 4:18 p.m.**

**All in favor.**

  
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Gary Taylor, Chairperson

  
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Ashley Hackert, Deputy Clerk