



Wexford County

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Gary Taylor, Chair

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Executive Committee of the Wexford County Board of Commissioners will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, beginning at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room, third floor of the Historic Courthouse, 437 E. Division St., Cadillac, Michigan.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ROLL CALL
- C. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA
- D. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- E. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 REGUALR MEETING MINUTES 1
- F. PUBLIC COMMENTS
Designated for topics on the agenda only.
- G. AGENDA ITEMS
 - 1. Discussion on Current Litigation Matters
 - 2. Infrastructure Alternatives Inc. Monthly Report (*T. Lutke, September 2023*) 4
 - 3. Resolution 23-16 Opposing Pre-Emptying Local Control for Solar and Wind Developments 5
 - 4. Resolution 23-17 Operation Green Light for Veterans 7
 - 5. FOIA Coordinator Designation 9
 - 6. Prosecuting Attorneys Wage Increases Discussion 10
- H. CORRESPONDENCE
- I. ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS
- J. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- K. COMMITTEE COMMENTS
- L. CHAIR COMMENTS
- M. ADJOURN

COUNTY OF WEXFORD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
September 12, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order by Chair Gary Taylor at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioners’ Room, located on the third floor of the Historic Courthouse, 437 E. Division St. Cadillac, Michigan.

Members Present: Gary Taylor, Chair; Brian Potter, and Julie Theobald
Members Absent: Mike Musta
Also Present: Jami Bigger, Deputy County Administrator/HR Director; Megan Kujawa, Sr. Executive Administrative Assistant; Tom Lutke, IAI Project Manager; Kristi Nottingham, Treasurer; Joe Porterfield, County Administrator/Equalization Director; Roxanne Snyder, Register of Deeds; and Mistine Stark, Community Corrections Manager

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

ADDED: *G.6. Transition House Monies Discussion*

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Comm. Potter and supported by Comm. Theobald to approve the agenda. A vote was called, all in favor. Motion passed, 3-0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Comm. Theobald and supported by Comm. Potter to approve the August 08, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes. A vote was called, all in favor. Motion passed, 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

AGENDA ITEMS

G.1. Discussion on Current Litigation Matters

Mr. Porterfield informed the committee that they are waiting on more information to come in on the Treasurer’s foreclosures lawsuits. We have contracted with the attorney that has been handling the settlement agreements because MMRMA is no longer handling it. The attorney is hopeful that it will be dismissed.

G.2. Infrastructure Alternatives Inc. Monthly Report

Tom Lutke, IAI Project Manager, reviewed his report with the committee.

Mr. Lutke informed the committee that they had a new customer that wanted to be connected to the water supply. He obtained three quotes, two quotes were provided one from Matt’s Underground for \$9,645, one from Troy Forbes for \$8,490, and a verbal quote from Geeseman Excavating for \$15,000.

A motion was made by Comm. Theobald and supported by Comm. Potter to forward a recommendation to the full board to approve the quote from Forbes Construction and Excavation in the amount of \$8,490 for a new water connection. A vote was called, all in favor. Motion passed, 3-0.

Mr. Lutke stated that he did some research regarding the authority to turn off the water to those not paying their bill, and he stated that the County does have the authority to do so but there are some statues that they have to

follow in order to do so. He stated that back in 2016 the previous Administrator Patrick Jordan received a legal opinion on what course of action to take.

The committee asked that Administration investigate this.

G.3. DHHS Grant Agreement Amendment with Friend of the Court

A motion was made by Comm. Theobald and supported by Comm. Potter to forward a recommendation to the full board to approve the amended Title IV-D Reimbursement Grant Agreement. A vote was called, all in favor. Motion passed, 3-0.

G.4. Energy Assistance Support Letter

A motion was made by Comm. Potter and supported by Comm. Theobald to forward a recommendation to the full board to approve the DTE Energy Assistance Support Letter. A vote was called, all in favor. Motion passed, 3-0.

G.5. Grandstand at the Fairgrounds Discussion

Mr. Porterfield informed the committee that before the Fair started last week, he received a phone call stating that the stands were in need of repairs. The Maintenance department was able to replace some boards that were causing a safety concern. There is still a lot of remaining work that needs to be done to the stands. The State has set aside more grant funds to help with the fairs and the Fair Board is looking at applying after getting quotes back on how much it will cost to fix the grandstands.

G.6. Transition House Monies Discussion

Mr. Porterfield reviewed with the Committee the history of Community Corrections budget and how the funds from the sale of the transition houses were put into a reserve fund account. He discussed how Ms. Stark has worked to reduce her budget. Mr. Porterfield discussed in previous meetings that the Board wanted to be reimbursed for the years that Community Corrections was in a deficit from 2020 through present. Mr. Porterfield looked into this and in 2020 there wasn't confirmation that administrative fees were billed correctly and that his recommendation is that the County looks at 2021 to present. In 2021 they were \$50,000 short, 2022 was roughly \$68,470 short, this year Community Corrections eliminated a position, Ms. Stark moved all of the purchasing of testing supplies to the P.A. 511 Grant; and if Community Corrections is able to stay within the budget that Mr. Porterfield has been working on with Ms. Stark it is projected that she would be \$10,000 deficit. Combining three years deficits and taking that from the reserve fund the remaining amount would be an estimated \$103,500.

Mr. Porterfield stated that there have been several meetings between Missaukee County and Wexford County Administrators and County Board Chairs, to discuss Missaukee County funding a portion of the services that is provided by Community Corrections. Prior to 2020, Community Corrections had a surplus in their budget to where general fund dollars were not need, but with things changing there has been the need to have these types of conversations.

Comm. Theobald stated she is very much in support of using the funds to balance Community Corrections' budget moving forward; her concern is funding prior year deficits. She stated that she was against the admin fees because that is what caused Community Corrections to have a deficit.

Comm. Potter asked Ms. Stark if she is able to ask for more money from the P.A. 511 grant. Ms. Stark stated that she asks for more every year but usually is granted the same but there are some years in which received extra funds, for example this year, she was able to receive an extra \$10,000.

Honorable Judge Elmore spoke to the Committee of the importance of Community Corrections to his Court and how Missaukee and Wexford Counties utilize the services provided. He stated that he has spoken to Missaukee County Board of Commissioners and had informed them that, in his opinion, that they are responsible to pay a percentage of the services. He stated that his recommendation is that the remaining funds of the Transition Houses be used for a couple year to balance Community Corrections' budget while looking forward at continuing to work with Missaukee County to fund the services that Missaukee County utilizes, which he has figured to be about 25%.

Comm. Theobald questioned if any of the funds from the Transition Houses were paid through the grant. Ms. Stark suggested reaching out to the State, informing them of the funds and ask for direction from them on what to do with the funds. Mr. Porterfield stated that there was an audit that was completed and that there were no grant funds used in those Transition Houses.

A motion was made by Comm. Potter and supported by Comm. Theobald to allow Administration to use up to \$105,500, to continue to offset the budget of Community Corrections from the Transition House sales reserve fund of \$231,015, until further direction. A vote was called, motion passed 2-1, with Chair Taylor opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Porterfield informed the Committee that at or before the second finance meeting at the end of the month the Finance Committee should have a draft of the budget. Looking to the future of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office funds it is concerning since the State is making changes in the statutes but not helping fund those changes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

None.

CHAIR COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Comm. Theobald and supported by Comm. Potter to adjourn at 4:35 p.m. A vote was called, all in favor. Motion passed, 3-0.

Gary Taylor, Chair

Megan Kujawa, Recording Secretary



INFRASTRUCTURE
ALTERNATIVES, INC.

G.2.

Monthly Operations & Maintenance Report

October 10, 2023

Report for Month: September 2023
Location: Wexford County
Facilities: Cedar Creek Water Plant & Distribution System
Operator in Charge: Ryan Longstreet, Certified Operator

Emergency Callouts/Customer Complaints

- 9/27 – Customer at 9340 E 20 ½ Rd. requested their water be turned off temporarily for them to make a plumbing repair.

Significant Events:

- 9/14 – Annual Calibration of the wellhouse meter and totalizer. No issues were found during the calibration.
- 9/22 – Scheduled new water service connection for the first week of October.
- Fall system flush will be October 10-11.

Preventive Maintenance:

- IAI staff continues to regularly monitor chlorine residuals throughout the water system.

Facilities Data for the Month

Production at Well House	359,300 gallons
Metered Usage	262,675 gallons
Metered Flushing	210,140 gallons
Difference *(% Gain)	*113,515 gallons (31.59%)



G.3.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner _____ and supported by Commissioner _____.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-16
RESOLUTION OPPOSING ANY LEGISLATION PREEMPTING LOCAL CONTROL FOR
SOLAR AND WIND DEVELOPMENTS**

WHEREAS, Executive Directive 2020-10 aims to achieve 100 percent carbon neutrality in Michigan by 2050; and

WHEREAS, industry leaders have pledged to reduce carbon emissions to help achieve this goal; and

WHEREAS, efforts to expand renewable energy projects will continue to increase in this state; and

WHEREAS, the governor has proposed the Michigan Public Service Commission be the sole regulating authority for solar and wind projects to expedite these efforts; and

WHEREAS, by granting the Michigan Public Service Commission this authority, local control will be preempted; and

WHEREAS, should local control be preempted, a county, township, city or village would be unable to determine the location, size, setback distance, decibel level or any other criteria for a solar or wind facility; and

WHEREAS, should local control be preempted, a county, township, city, or village would be unable to determine requirements for construction, operation, use, or maintenance of a solar or wind facility; and

WHEREAS, if a county already has a solar or wind policy, practice, regulation, rule or ordinance on record it would be null and void; and

WHEREAS, all other types of energy facilities, while regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission, must adhere to local zoning; and

WHEREAS, this proposal grants far more regulating authority to the Michigan Public Service Commission than for any other energy source; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties opposes any legislative action that may grant the Michigan Public Service Commission this power.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Wexford County opposes the pre-emption of local control in solar and wind siting and zoning.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Gary Taylor, Chairman, Wexford County Board of Commissioners

Alaina M. Nyman, County Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF WEXFORD)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of Resolution 23-16 adopted by the County Board of Commissioners of Wexford County at a regular meeting held on October 18, 2023, and I further certify that public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.

Alaina M. Nyman, County Clerk

G.4.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner _____ and supported by Commissioner _____.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-17
SUPPORTING OPERATION GREENLIGHT FOR VETERANS**

WHEREAS, the residents of Wexford County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Wexford County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm’s way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Wexford County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted.

RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Wexford County hereby declares from October through Veterans Day, November 11th 2023 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of our men and women in uniform transitioning from active service.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Wexford County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 6th through the 12th, 2023

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Gary Taylor, Chairman, Wexford County Board of Commissioners

Alaina M. Nyman, County Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF WEXFORD)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of Resolution 23-17 adopted by the County Board of Commissioners of Wexford County at a regular meeting held on October 18, 2023, and I further certify that public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.

Alaina M. Nyman, County Clerk

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM

TO: Executive Committee
FROM: Administration
FOR MEETING DATE: October 10, 2023
SUBJECT: FOIA Coordinator Designation

SUMMARY OF ITEM TO BE PRESENTED:

Pursuant to County Policy C-7.0: Freedom of Information Act and MCL 15.236, the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners is the FOIA Coordinator. The statute allows for the FOIA Coordinator (Chairperson) to designate another individual to act on his or her behalf as the FOIA Coordinator. In the past, the County Administrator has always acted as the FOIA Coordinator. During a recent FOIA training course the administrative staff attended, it was discovered the FOIA Coordinator should be designated in a written letter from the Board Chair.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Administrator is recommending the Board Chair formally designate the Deputy County Administrator as the FOIA Coordinator and the Senior Executive Assistant as the Assistant FOIA Coordinator.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM

TO: Executive Committee
FROM: Administration
FOR MEETING DATE: October 10, 2023
SUBJECT: Prosecuting Attorneys Wage Increases

SUMMARY OF ITEM TO BE PRESENTED:

In order to be competitive with the recent attorney increases approved by the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC) for the Public Defender’s Office, the Prosecutor is requesting that the Prosecuting Attorney’s salaries be increased. Below are the amounts he is requesting. Prosecutor Wiggins will be providing the committee with a written request prior to the meeting on Tuesday.

	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Requested Rate</u>
Prosecuting Attorney	\$97,294	\$120,000
Chief Prosecuting Attorney	\$71,272.50	\$92,500
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney	\$62,925	\$75,000
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney	\$62,925	\$75,000

RECOMMENDATION:

The Administrator is recommending the Executive Committee discuss the wage increases and forward a recommendation to the Board for approval.