

**WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Meeting \* Wednesday, March 6, 2024

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

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

Absent-*None*.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda- *None*.

Approval of the Agenda

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

All in Favor.

Employee Recognition-

Michelle Kovach was presented with a certificate to honor her 25 years of service.

Presentation and Reports-

Eric Karbowski, MSUE Director, gave the Board a brief update on programs they have been working with. He highlighted the Mock It and Rock It mock interviews that drew 270 youths. He also highlighted that they had 1556 youths involved in 4-H this past year, and he anticipates this year to be just as high or higher.

Mr. Karbwoski introduced Anna Kahmark, the nutrition director for MSUE. Ms. Kahmark explained to the Board that she has mainly worked with low income apartments, schools, and seniors. She does everything from learning new recipes to helping get equipment for working out. Ms. Kahmark provided the Board with a handout regarding a Cooking for One class she just completed at the Senior Center, as well as a recipe for a cranberry applesauce.

Public Comment-*None*.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes  
**MOTION by Comm Adams, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the Consent Agenda.**

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. Resolution 24-07 Marty Penney Retirement

**MOTION** by Comm Potter, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve Resolution 24-07 Extending Appreciation for Marty Penney's Dedicated Service.

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

2. Resolution 24-08 Animal Control Millage

**MOTION** by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Bush to approve Resolution 24-08 Animal Control Fund Millage Renewal Proposal and Certifying Ballot Language, as presented.

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

3. Resolution 24-09 Public Safety Millage

**MOTION** by Comm Adams, seconded by Comm Baughan to approve Resolution 24-09 Public Safety Millage Renewal for Law Enforcement Services Proposal and Certifying Ballot Language, as presented.

**Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.**

4. Resolution 24-10 Veterans Services Millage

**MOTION** by Comm Baughan, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve Resolution 24-10 Veterans Services Program Renewal of Millage Proposal and Certifying Ballot Language, as presented.

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

5. Probate Court Juvenile Transport Vehicle Purchase Request

**MOTION** by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Baughan to approve the purchase of a 2024 Ford Explorer in the amount of \$46,420.00 with funds from the Raise the Age Grant.

**Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Sheriff's Office Purchase Request-Bolawrap Replacement Equipment

**MOTION** by Comm Baughan, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the purchase of Bolawrap replacement equipment from Vance's Law Enforcement in the amount of \$8,163.70 and to waive the three-quote requirement in accordance with Section I of Policy D-1.0 Purchasing, Contracts, and Sales.

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

7. Budget Amendment

**MOTION** by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Bush to approve the budget amendment dated March 06, 2024.

**Wexford County Board of Commissioners  
 Amendments to the 2024 Budget Log**

BOC Meeting Date	Acct	Acct Description	Revenue	Expense
	101-301-			\$
2024-03-06	702.03	Permanent Employeers		(8,772.00)
	101-301-			\$
	957.00	Training		8,772.00
<b>Comment/Reasoning:</b> Cadet training				

**Roll Call: Motion passed unanimously.**

**Administrator's Report-**

Administrator Porterfield thanked Michelle for her 25 years of service to the County. Mr. Porterfield explained that he had recently attended a summit with Commissioner Townsend, and the retirement party for Detective Penney with the Clerk and Deputy Administrator.

Mr. Porterfield highlighted that the transformer was in, and there was a tentative install date of March 15<sup>th</sup>. He explained that Adam would get with Boon Sports Management because there will not be power on during the installation.

He further explained that the MAC Legislative Conference is coming up and a few commissioners have already registered. Mr. Porterfield informed the Board that the Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Board will be meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> also.

**Correspondence-**

**Public Comments-**

Michael Mix, Colfax Township Supervisor, came to talk to the Board regarding the address ordinance again. He noted that at a November meeting there was a lot of discussion about being concerned with finding employees due to a lack of housing. He brought up a home he had in the past in Pontiac. That house would not be able to get power in Wexford County due to this ordinance. He asked if Consumers doesn't want to put power on vacant land, then fine. Why do we need this ordinance? He pointed out that it is the Boards job to make this a better place to live.

Rob Mongar has been buying buildings up in Cadillac for the last several years. He received a grant for housing on Kentucky Avenue. He is able to do work inside the City, but is not able to outside of the city because the County does not have a land bank. A Brownfield Tax Authority gives the County latitude to work in creative ways. We need more tools for developments to come in. He has been told the County doesn't want to pursue it, but he would like to petition the County to pursue. It would open up more tools to developers to help the community.

John Wallace, City of Cadillac, explained that all developments being done needed a Brownfield Tax Authority. Without it, a lot of developments would not have happened. He asked the Board to at least look into it and keep an open mind.

Don Koshmider, Haring Township, explained that beginning 3/11 the Federal Reserve might not give cash to banks. He asked the Board to look into World Economic Forum and Agenda 2030. He asked to push back at the local level.

**Liaison Reports-**

Comm Townsend attended a Networks Northwest meeting where they voted on a new CEO, Jane McNabb. They will soon be moving out of the Lake Street building and into their new building on Mitchell Street. He also informed everyone that the Airport received a \$1million grant, and there will be a meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup> for all stakeholders.

**Board Comments-**

Comm Adams thanked the Clerk for all the work put into the Election.

Comm Potter is excited for the Airport.

**Chairman's Comments-**

Chair Taylor thanked everyone for attending.

**Adjourn**

**MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Potter to adjourn at 4:30 p.m.  
All in favor.**

  
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Gary Taylor, Chairperson

  
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Alaina M. Nyman, County Clerk