

This meeting due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Pandemic was held as a virtual meeting. Adhering to Governor Gretchen Whitmer’s executive orders during the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Pandemic.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Present Remote: David Heeres, Joshua Watrous, Karen Bargy, Ed Boettcher, Terry VanAlstine, Brenda Ricksgers, Dawn LaVanway, Jason Helwig, Christian Marcus.
Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.

The Chairman requested Invocation: Moment of Silence.

The Chairman addressed the Board and public attending the Zoom virtual meeting by video and/or phone. Deputy Administrator, Jeremy Scott will assist with public comment by screening the public in order of attendance by calling out phone numbers and addressing those in attendance. Deputy Administrator, Jeremy Scott will assist Board members that experience technical difficulties.

The Chairman requested Public comment. Deputy Administrator, Jeremy Scott called on all public via video and phone in order by attendance. Paul Jarboe, Peninsula Drive, Traverse City in attendance for the agenda item for the Indigent Defense Attorney-Administrator Agreement Amendment. Jennifer Berkey, MSU Extension in attendance for the agenda item MSU Extension Services Agreement FY2021. Lori Wilson, Montcalm County Register of Deeds in attendance for the agenda item for the resolution regarding Abstract and Register of Deeds. Patty Niepoth, Antrim County Register of Deeds for the Board agenda item concerning legal review of proposed resolution for the Abstract and Register of Deeds. The following addressed the Board regarding the Milton Township RV Park and timeline.

- Sue Kelly, Torch Bridge Court, Clearwater Township, Kalkaska County
- Kelly Wells, Milton Township, Antrim County
- Brenda Hasso Hess, Torch River Road, Clearwater Township, Kalkaska County

Public Comment closed at 9:20 a. p.m.

BOC CORRECTION 12/3/2020

Moved by VanAlstine, seconded by LaVanway, that the Board approve the agenda. Roll call as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bargy, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent –None.

Moved by VanAlstine, seconded by Marcus, that the Board approve the minutes of the November 5, 2020 as revised. Roll call as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bargy, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent –None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

County Administrator, Peter Garwood addressed the Board to inform them of a call he had received from an Antrim County resident about their exceptional experience with the Antrim County Building Department.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- Commissioner Marcus – NACO and North Country Mental Health updates.
- Commissioner VanAlstine – Grass River Natural Area update.
- Commissioner Helwig – Antrim Conservation District Soil Erosion update.
- Commissioner Baryg – Northwest Michigan Community Health Agency **Health Department NW MI - COVID update.**

BOC CORRECTION 12/3/2020

COMMITTEES:

- Commissioner Baryg – Parks and Recreation subcommittee update.

RESOLUTION #22-2020, By Christine Marcus, seconded by Terry VanAlstine

RESOLUTION PROVIDING THAT REGISTER OF DEEDS SHALL BE THE ABTRACTOR

WHEREAS, the Antrim County Board of Commissioners chose to establish an Abstract Department as authorized through P.A. 378 of 1921 to make, establish and maintain a system of abstracts of title to all lands in Antrim County; to make and sell abstracts of title and furnish information concerning the condition of titles to such lands and charge fees therefor; to employ persons to keep and maintain such systems of abstracts; to do all things necessary to carry on the general business of making and furnishing abstracts of title to all lands in Antrim County; and to prescribe penalties and provide remedies, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners intend to continue to maintain the County’s records on lands and properties within the County dating back to the 1800s, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners at their November 5, 2020 meeting voted to place the duties of the Abstractor with the Register of Deeds as they are authorized to do under PA 378 of 1921.

RESOLVED, that the Abstractor shall continue all services and complete all recordings through December 31, 2020 and as of January 1, 2021, it will henceforth be the duty of the Register of Deeds:

- (a) To keep and maintain a system of indexes and abstracts up to date within a reasonable amount of time, in every particular, promptly entering upon the records of said system every deed, mortgage, release, discharge, attachment, lien, sale, lis pendens, agreement or other transaction appearing on the records of Antrim County in any manner affecting the title to any of the lands in Antrim County;
- (b) To promptly make and deliver abstracts of title to any lands in the County which may at any time be ordered and to collect the fees therefor which may be fixed and established by the Board of Commissioners;
- (c) To promptly furnish information concerning the condition of title to any such lands to any person inquiring therefor and collect such fees as established by the Board of Commissioners;
- (d) To turn over all moneys received to the Antrim County Treasurer at the end of each month with an itemized statement of all receipts which statement shall remain on file in the office of the County Treasurer;

RESOLUTION #22-2020 Continued.

(e) To provide to all Antrim County departments, their employees and their consultants free and full access to property records, tracts and indexes by way of book, software and other storage media for internal County use only.

(f) To provide services to the public as the information source for questions and concerns involving title searches and abstracts, grantor – grantee index, and the tract index.

(g) To provide the above services while adhering to all Board of Commissioners approved county policies.

FURTHER RESOLVED, in support of the verity and accuracy of the abstracts made and sold as required by PA 378 of 1921:

(a) That the faith and credit of the County shall be pledged to the verity and accuracy of the abstracts;

(b) That the Register of Deeds acting as Abstractor shall be covered by a blanket bond of a responsible company or association assuring the verity and accuracy of all abstracts to be issued by the Abstractor during his or her office. Any additional policy determined to be necessary will be paid out of net proceeds;

(c) Each abstract shall have attached a signed certificate that all conveyances and other matters of record in the public offices of the County affecting the title to the property covered by the abstract are correctly set forth in the abstract.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that there will be no additional compensation offered for these duties, which will in no way affect the compensation, raises or benefits set by the Board of Commissioners for the Register of Deeds.

YES– David Heeres, Terry VanAlstine, Jason Helwig, Christian Marcus;

NO – Joshua Watrous, Karen Bargy, Ed Boettcher, Brenda Ricksgers, Dawn LaVanway;

ABSENT – None;

RESOLUTION #22-2020 DECLARED FAILED

Discussion followed. Memo of Understanding. (Equalization/Register of Deeds and County Administration) and language revisions (consultant to contractor) and that the indexing get up to date.

Moved by VanAlstine, seconded by Bargy, that the Board approve the Antrim County Real Property Acquisition and Disposal Policy as amended. Roll call as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bargy, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent –None.

Moved by VanAlstine, seconded by Ricksgers, that the Board approve and pay Claims and Accounts totaling \$189,045.79. Roll call as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bary, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent –None.

Moved by VanAlstine, seconded by Ricksgers, that the Board Adopt the revised L-4402 statement showing Taxable Valuation and Mills Apportioned by the Antrim County Board of Commissioners for the year 2020 and authorize Jamie Houserman, Equalization Director to sign the revised L-4402, thereby authorizing and directing the various assessing officers to spread the rates against the taxable valuation for 2020. Roll call as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bary, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent –None.

RESOLUTION #23-2020 By Karen Bary, seconded by Jason Helwig

TITLE VI PLAN RENEWAL

ANTRIM COUNTY TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1965 prohibits discrimination by agencies utilizing federally assisted program;
- Antrim County receives federal funds in support of operations by the Antrim County Transportation (ACT) programs;
- The Antrim County Transportation (ACT) Director revised the Antrim County Title VI Plan in accordance with the Federal Transit Administration Title VI Circular 4702.1B; and,
- The Antrim County Board of Commissioners wish to communicate to the Michigan Department of Transportation that it complies with Title VI,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Antrim County Board of Commissioners adopted the attached Renewal of the Title VI Plan.

YES – David Heeres, Joshua Watrous, Karen Bary, Ed Boettcher, Terry VanAlstine, Brenda Ricksgers, Dawn LaVanway, Jason Helwig, Christina Marcus;

NO – None;

ABSENT – None.

RESOLUTION #23-2020 DECLARED ADOPTED.

Moved by Bary, seconded by Helwig, that the Board approve and authorize the Chairman to execute the First Amendment to Antrim County Indigent Defense Attorney-Administrator Independent Contractor Agreement between Antrim County and Paul Jarboe of Jarboe & Pfeil at a cost of \$45,000 as budgeted in 2021, with the option for renewal for one additional year. Roll call as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bary, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent –None.

Moved by VanAlstine, seconded by Bargy that the Board approve the sponsorship of a grant application to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians for a 2% Tribal Grant on behalf of the 86th District Court. Roll call as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bargy, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent –None.

Moved by Bargy, seconded by Helwig, that the Board approve the sponsorship of a grant application to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians for a 2% Tribal Grant on behalf of the Special Olympics of Michigan Area 2. Roll call as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bargy, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent –None.

Moved by Bargy, seconded by Helwig, that the Board approve to execute the 2021 Agreement for Extension Services provided by Michigan State University. Roll call as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bargy, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent –None.

ORIGINAL MOTION

Moved by Ricksgers, seconded by Bargy, that the Board approve purchase of new furniture and rearrangement of the office space, and authorize the Finance Director to amend the budget by increasing line item 249000-901-980.000 by \$35,000 to come from the Construction Code fund – fund balance. Roll call vote as follows: Yes -Heeres, Bargy, Boettcher, Ricksgers, Helwig; No – Watrous, VanAlstine, LaVanway, Marcus; Absent – None.

MOTION TO AMEND

Moved by Marcus, seconded by Watrous, that the Board approve to amend proposed motion to replace and purchase only the necessary furniture and that no building walls be moved. Roll call as follows: Yes – Watrous, Marcus; No – Heeres, Bargy, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig; Absent – None. **Motion Died.**

ORIGINAL MOTION STANDS

CORRECTION BOC 12/3/2020

REPORTS:

County Administrator, Peter Garwood addressed the Board with his report. Discussion followed. Board member question and input.

- Building Department
- Airport – October Financials
- Emergency Operations – September/October 2020

Finance Director, Brad Rizzo addressed the Board with his report.

- Revenue and Expenditure Report – October 2020
- Budget Amendment Report – October 2020

Sheriff Reports:

- Township Statistics
- Animal Control Statistics

Chairman Report – Commissioner Boettcher.

- Appointments for Antrim County Road Commission and 911 Board applicants will be interviewed.
- Part II – Closed session December 3 prior to the Board meeting at 8:00 a.m. prior to regular meeting.

VARIOUS MATTERS:

- Commissioner Watrous – Business concerns COVID 19 Orders and Enforcement.
- Commissioner Bargy – Health Department has authority to direct enforcement.
- Commissioner VanAlstine – Grass River Natural Area staff concerns of talk that their offices may be related.
Antrim County Transportation Director no CDL.
- Commissioner LaVanway - Minutes of groups that receive an appropriation from the county make their minutes available for posting on the Antrim County website.
- Commissioner Marcus – Election equipment concerns.

The Chair requested Public Comment. The Deputy Administrator addressed the public via the zoom webinar each by callers in order as they entered the meeting. Brenda ~~Hasso Hess~~, Torch River Road, addressed the Board on the RV Park. Mark Haynes, Building Department Official addressed the Board to report that the surveys are available on the Building Department home page. Patty Niepoth, Register of Deeds addressed Board to request a meeting with the County Administrator to discuss the language in the resolution and memo of understanding. Sherry Comben, County Treasurer addressed the Board to request a copy of the draft resolution before Board takes action. Commissioner Christian Marcus addressed the Board: Moved by Marcus, that a ~~letter resolution~~ be sent to the Michigan Legislatures regarding contract with Dominion Voting System. Discussion followed.
Public comment closed at 10:39 p.m. **BOC CORRECTION 12/3/2020**

The Chair **TABLED** request made by Commissioner Marcus for a ~~letter resolution~~. Action is not appropriate for public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Chair, Edgar Boettcher, III

County Clerk, Sheryl Guy