

Missaukee County Board of Commissioners
Lake City, Michigan
Regular Meeting
105 S. Canal St. Lake City, MI 49651
February 9, 2021 @ 4:00 PM

Meeting Called to Order by Chairperson Vanderwal. Commissioner Zuiderveen gave invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call of Districts

In-Person: Pam Niebryzdowski, Hubert Zuiderveen, Star Hughston, Lan Bridson, Dean Smallegan, Roger Ouwinga

Via zoom: Frank Vanderwal (physical location state of Texas)

Absent: None

Motion by Bridson, supported by Ouwinga, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

Motion by Zuiderveen, supported by Smallegan, to approve minutes from January 12, 2021 as presented. Motion Carried. Correspondence sent and reviewed electronically prior to meeting.

Public Comment: None

Wilbur Yancer, Sheriff, gave a monthly update on his department.

Lori Cox, County Treasurer, presented monthly financial reports.

Missaukee Co. Commission on Aging monthly report received for information.

Yarrow Brown, Housing North, gave a presentation on the “Homes for Our Future” Campaign that is raising awareness and support for housing solutions. Brown asked the board consider adopting a resolution in support of the campaign.

Motion by Smallegan, supported by Niebryzdowski, to adopt a resolution in support of the Homes For Our Future Campaign. Motion withdrawn allowed by Chairperson Vanderwal. The Board asked that this resolution be re-considered at the next regular board meeting.

Precia Garland, County Administrator, reviewed the items she presented at the Finance Committee last week.

Finance Committee Report

Motion by Hughston, supported by Bridson, to approve sending the letter to Wexford County Commissioners regarding EMS mutual aid services as presented. Motion Carried.

Motion by Smallegan, supported by Hughston, to approve the proposed contract with MGT of America Consulting for a one-year period. Motion Carried.

Motion by Zuiderveen, supported Ouwinga, by to approve the following FY21 budget amendment as presented. Roll Call Vote: 7 Yeas (Niebrzydowski, Ouwinga, Smallegan, Hughston, Zuiderveen, Bridson, Vanderwal) 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

		Budget Amendment FY21			
		Current	Amended	Difference	Reason for Change
101-GENERAL FUND					
Revenues					
101-000-699.01	Approp Fund Bal	\$ -	\$ 50,200.00	\$ 50,200.00	Gap coverage
Total		\$ -	\$ 50,200.00	\$ 50,200.00	
Expenditures					
172-ADMINISTRATION					
101-172-722.02	BCBS Health Ins	\$ -	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	Election of cov-QE Admin
101-172-801.03	Prof Services	\$ -	\$ 33,200.00	\$ 33,200.00	search/interim
Total		\$ -	\$ 50,200.00	\$ 50,200.00	

Motion by Smallegan supported by Bridson, to approve the proposed lease with TCF bank for the Prosecuting Attorney's office building as presented. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Hughston requested to abstain from voting on his personal PA116 application approval.

Motion by Niebrzydowski, supported by Ouwinga, to allow Commissioner Hughston to abstain from voting on the Star & Stacy Hughston PA116 application. Motion Carried.

Motion by Smallegan, supported by Niebrzydowski, to approve the PA116 application for Star & Stacy Hughston as presented. Motion Carried.

Motion by Hughston, supported by Zuiderveen, to adopt to adopt the following pandemic resolution. Motion Carried.

**MISSAUKEE COUNTY RESOLUTION 2021-2
PANDEMIC RESOLUTION**

The Missaukee County Board of Commissioners, at a Regular Meeting, February 9, 2021, reviewed and approved the following:

WHEREAS, we live in a time of pandemic; and

WHEREAS, we are now entering into the second year of the global pandemic which has impacted every Missaukee County citizen in a myriad ways; and

WHEREAS, the threat from the virus, though serious, has resulted in a thwarting of constitutional liberties and personal freedoms without sufficient regard for ongoing and potentially irreparable economic, emotional, educational and other societal abuses; and

WHEREAS, Governor Whitmer working with the Attorney General, Secretary of State, the Directors of the Michigan Health Department and the Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, did engage in fining, penalizing, and revoking the licenses of businesses for failure to obey and enforce the unconstitutional Executive Orders; and

WHEREAS, the orders by the MDHHS lack legislative support of the democratically elected representatives, having been initiated unilaterally and unconstitutionally by the Governor of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the orders by the MDHHS have disallowed any degree of personal accountability, eroded constitutional rights of citizens and have placed undue burden and restrictions on local businesses, local employees and the citizens of Missaukee County; and

WHEREAS, The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has issued orders without providing funding or sufficient guidance for the enforcement of such orders; and

WHEREAS, the 1st Amendment to the constitution states: “*Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.*”; and

WHEREAS, title 18, u.s.c. section 241 says “*If two or more persons conspire to injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate any person in any State, Territory, Commonwealth, Possession, or District in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or because of his having so exercised the same...*”

Title 18, u.s.c 242 says “*Whoever, under color of any law, statute, ordinance, regulation, or custom, willfully subjects any person in any State, Territory, Commonwealth, Possession, or District to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or to different punishments, pains, or penalties, on account of such person being an alien, or by reason of his color, or race, than are prescribed for the punishment of citizens, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one year, or both*”; and

WHEREAS, the right and responsibility of individuals to self-determine what is best for their own health, liberty and pursuit of happiness is necessary and ensured by our Constitution, which we have taken an oath to defend and uphold;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Missaukee County Commission calls upon the Michigan Legislature to exercise their co-equal authority by adopting constitutionally sound measures which limit the unchecked exercise and abuse of executive power, which restore individual responsibility and accountability, and which return Michigan to the ranks of freedom-loving governments everywhere.

FURTHER, The Missaukee County Commission does not support the expenditure of any county funds for the purpose of arrest and prosecution of any person accused of violating MDHHS emergency orders regarding COVID-19, and encourages the Missaukee County Sheriff’s Department and The Missaukee County Prosecutors Office to uphold their oaths of office to support the Constitution, which is the Supreme Law of the land, and make this the lowest priority;

FURTHER, we call upon the citizens of Missaukee County to act responsibly with regards to others while determining for themselves what is best for themselves, for their own families and loved ones and how to contend with the ongoing risks associated with the COVID-19 virus;

FURTHER, we call upon local businesses to use their own good judgement to operate in a manner which minimizes risk to patrons while protecting the health and welfare of their businesses, care for their employees, and the community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Governor Whitmer, both United States Senators, all Michigan Members of Congress, both Speakers of the House of Representative and the Senate, along with the Michigan Association of Counties and all Counties within Michigan, along with the Michigan Township Association and all Townships, Cities and Villages within Michigan.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

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The board discussed acquisition of an interim county administrator. There was a consensus to appoint Clerk/Register Jessica Nielsen and Treasurer Lori Cox as Interim Co-Administrators, with a weekly stipend as well as a weekly stipend for support staff Kelli Berend until a permanent administrator is hired.

Motion by Hughston, support by Smallegan, to accept the proposal as presented and appoint Clerk/Register Jessica Nielsen and Treasurer Lori Cox as Interim Co-Administrators, with a \$400 weekly stipend each, and a \$250 weekly stipend for support staff Kelli Berend, effective 2/22/21, until a new permanent Administrator is hired. Motion Carried.

Motion by Smallegan, supported by Zuiderveen, to hire Michigan Municipal League to perform their Executive Search level service for a new permanent County Administrator. Motion Carried.

Personnel Committee Report: No items

Claims and Accounts Report

Motion by Niebrzydowski, supported by Bridson, to pay Claims and Accounts and Own Accounts as presented. Roll Call Vote: 7 Yeas (Zuiderveen, Bridson, Vanderwal, Niebrzydowski, Ouwinga, Smallegan, Hughston) 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Buildings and Grounds Report: No items

Safety Committee Report: No items

Commissioner Reports

The Board discussed March meeting dates and agreed to change the Regular Board meeting from March 9th to Thursday, March 11th at 4pm.

Commissioner Niebrzydowski updated on the recent Lake City Council and Area Agency on Aging meetings.

The board thanked Administrator Precia Garland for all of the work she has done in the last five years for the County and wished her great success in her next position with the City of Ionia.

Public Comment: None

Meeting adjourned at 5:25pm until March 11, 2021 at 4PM or Call of the Chair.

Frank Vanderwal, Chairperson

Jessica Nielsen, County Clerk/Register