

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 18, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held May 18, 2011, 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI, opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioners present: Ernie Mooney, Frank Stubenrauch, Don Piche, Del Rajala, Randy Eckloff.

Motion by Rajala supported by Mooney and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the following additions: Under New Business, e) Policy and Procedure Manual for County personnel and f) Membership with the National Association of Counties, both for discussion purposes only.

Motion by Mooney supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to accept the minutes from the April 20, 2011 regular board meeting and the May 5, 2011 special meeting as presented.

The Treasurer, Sheriff and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Tracie Williams was present from OHM and gave the board a proposal for building renovations which involved two phases. Phase one includes a preliminary look at the Courthouse and garage for siding and roofing and looking at any available grants and loans that could make it possible. Phase two is for future potential items and fees for projects for the county buildings and grounds. The board will look over the proposal and come up with any questions and will hope to make a decision in the near future.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Fred Gaabo spoke to the board about the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge. Fred stated that he was a Park Trustee from 1991-2002 and that the Lodge was profitable during those years. Many improvements were made including rewiring, a water tank, new bathrooms on the main floor, logs replaced on cabins, new mowers and golf carts and three new police cars for the Sheriff Department were purchased also. This was all done without loans. Mr. Gaabo said that he read quotes in the paper by the commissioners that the Lodge was never profitable and this is wrong. Mr. Mooney answered that this board is not critical about prior years and is now accumulating data for current operations.

Rajala questioned an item on the check detail of the Mountain Lodge. There was an expenditure of \$5,000 for exercise equipment and it was his understanding that big purchases needed to come through this board if they were not budgeted for. It was stated that this was a prior commitment and that the Mountain Lodge does need to come to this Board if they want to purchase anything not budgeted.

Motion by Mooney supported by Rajala to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$132,678.66 Construction Codes Fund=\$2,288.59 911 Fund=\$2,475.29 EDC Fund=\$7,843.36 Law Library=\$835.04 Child Care Fund=\$0 County Veterans Affairs Fund=\$987.00 Register of Deeds Automation Fund=\$0. Board polled. Ayes: Mooney, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Eckloff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Mooney supported by Piche to accept the proposal from BS&A Software for the Treasurer and Equalization offices for their software upgrade in the amount of \$17,980. Computer Mechanix will install the software and John Partanen said that they will not need onsite training. Board polled. Ayes: Mooney, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Eckloff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Mooney supported Piche and unanimously carried to allow the Equalization Department to purchase a new computer for the director so that the computer can run the old and new BS&A software. The quote is from Computer Mechanix was for \$1033. Director Partanen said the old computer can be used by the public to look up tax information.

Motion by Piche supported by Mooney to authorize Del Rajala to install the electronics and the cage in the new police car. Rajala provides the labor only for things purchased for him to install. Rajala has done this for the Sheriff Department prior to being a board member. Board polled. Ayes: Mooney, Stubenrauch, Piche, Eckloff. Abstain: Rajala. Motion carried.

Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Mooney and unanimously carried to sign a contract with A-1 Toy-Lets, LLC for a portable toilet to be placed at the Gratiot River Park.

Donna Jaaskelainen provided each board member with a letter that included a threat of litigation from the Eagle Harbor Township attorney regarding PILT money. Mooney and Piche will meet with Donna, the township attorney and Eagle Harbor Township representative to talk about the issue and will bring information back.

Motion by Mooney supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to enter into a contract with the Federal Government regarding the tower at Mt. Horace Greeley that serves Isle Royale. The agreement is for \$900 per month beginning 5/10/2011-9/30/2011 with 12 month options after that through 9/30/2015.

Motion by Mooney supported by Piche and unanimously carried to enter into a contract with Verizon on county property located on Brockway Mountain.

Motion by Mooney supported by Piche and unanimously carried to allow Rajala to start developing County-wide policy regarding personnel and acceptable use of County property.

Motion by Stuberauch supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to table National Association of Counties membership. Stubenrauch will come back to the board next month with more information.

Motion by Mooney supported by Piche and unanimously carried to keep a record with the minutes of the financials of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge.

Ray Chase mentioned the ATV trail dedication ceremony that is taking place on May 28, 2011 beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Vansville. Everyone is invited to attend.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned sine die.

Randy Eckloff, Chairman

Julie A. Carlson, Clerk