

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 18, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held January 18, 2012, 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.

The organizational meeting was called to order by Chairman Eckloff. Eckloff called for nominations for the 2012 chairman. Stubenrauch nominated Eckloff for Chairman but there was not a second so nomination died for lack of support. Rajala nominated Mooney for Chairman which was seconded by Piche. Board polled. Ayes: Mooney, Rajala, Piche. Nays: Stubenrauch, Eckloff. Mooney is the Chairman.

Mooney called for nominations for vice chairman. Stubenrauch nominated Eckloff for vice chair. Nomination died for lack of support. Rajala nominated Piche as vice chairman which was seconded by Mooney. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Mooney. Piche is vice chairman.

Motion by Eckloff seconded by Rajala and unanimously carried to hold official board meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River.

Chairman Mooney appointed the following committee members:

Economic Development	Piche	Historic Hiway/Byway	Stubenrauch
Building & Grounds	Piche	911 Committee	Rajala
Human Services	Piche	MSU Extension	Piche
Manpower Consortium	Eckloff/Stubenrauch	KEDA	Piche
Health Department	Stubenrauch/Rajala	Head Start	Rajala
UP Resource Conservation	Rajala	Finance/Budget	Mooney
US Port Authority	None-Ron Lahti	Road Commission	Piche
UPCAP	Stubenrauch	TriCounty Corrections	Rajala
Planning Commission	Piche	WUPPDR	Stubenrauch/Mooney
Substance Abuse	Eckloff	Mental Health	Eckloff
Community Action	Stubenrauch	Recreation Bd-mileage	Rajala
Keweenaw Mountain Lodge	Mooney	Resolutions	Full Board
Freedom of Information	Eckloff	UP Fair Authority	Langdon
Veterans Affairs	Rajala		

The following additions were made to the committee list for 2012:

Building Codes	Eckloff	Grounds/Grounds Care	Piche
Liason to Sheirff Dept	Rajala	Equalizaton	Stubenrauch

Motion by Piche supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to accept the committees as submitted by Chairman Mooney.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Piche and unanimously carried to designate the following as depositories for County funds: River Valley, Range, Superior National, Citizens and North Country Banks.

Motion by Piche supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to accept the agenda with one addition by Mooney: Under New Business i) Brownfield letter requesting funds.

Motion by Piche supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to accept the minutes as presented from the December 21, 2011 regular monthly board meeting.

The Treasurer, Sheriff and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Charlie Hopper from Pasty.net was present to talk about agreements with the County regarding internet relay sites. Charlie explained that Pasty was an employee owned business with revenue going right back into the business. Pasty would like to keep up with technology and would like to formalize an agreement with the County so they can look ahead to the next 3 to 5 years in regards to tower space at Mt. Horace Greeley, the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge and the tower here at the Sheriff Department. Motion by Piche supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to refer the matter to Rajala, Donna Jaaskelainen and Charlie Hopper and they can bring a formal agreement back before the board.

Joe Finch, chairman of the Veterans Affairs for Keweenaw County was present to announce that there is a website for all veterans of Keweenaw County that is up and running.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Piche to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$158,102.85 Construction Codes Fund=\$2,449.82 911 Fund=\$2,925.87 EDC Fund=\$2,132.44 Law Library=\$327.74 Child Care Fund=\$0 County Veterans Trust Fund=\$0 Register of Deeds Automation Fund=\$0. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Mooney. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Rajala to continue the advertisement with the new plat book due out in 2012. The full page ad will be \$600. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Mooney. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Piche to enter into the contract with Robert Mikesch. Mikesch will prepare the 2011 Financial Statements for Keweenaw County. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Mooney. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Stubenrauch to hire Tom Novoscone as Equalization Director as of February 1, 2012. He will work three days a week for \$30,000 and once things get in order, two days a week for \$20,000 plus travel and will train in an Equalization assistant until they reach a level three. Also, Keweenaw County is hiring Elizabeth Anderson as the Equalization assistant at \$31,000 plus full benefits. She will train in and go to the classes to reach her level three to become the Equalization Director at that point. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Mooney. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Piche to terminate the current Equalization Director as an agreement has not been reached. Robert Jon Partanen will be terminated effective February 1, 2012. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Mooney. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Rajala to appoint Gordon Jaaskelainen as a Road Commissioner to fill the vacancy until after the November General Election. Eckloff stated that there were many qualified candidates and that the decision was difficult. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Mooney. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to appoint Ron Lahti to the UP 911 Authority for a three year term.

Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to reappoint Joe Langdon to the UP Fair Authority Board for one more year.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Stubenrauch to pay a token payment of \$5,000 to Rural Development from the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge Fund on the debt that is owed. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Mooney. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A letter was received from Marlin Wingard, chairman of Brownfield, requesting an amount not to exceed \$2,000 for a title search on the parcels at Mt. Horace Greeley. This item will be placed under Unfinished Business for the February meeting.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business motion by Piche to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Meeting adjourned sine die.

Ernest Mooney, Chairman

Julie A. Carlson, Clerk