

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
September 16, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners was held on September 16, 2015 beginning at 7:05 p.m. at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI. The pledge was said at the 6:30 p.m. KML meeting prior.

Commissioners present: Randy Eckloff, Bob DeMarois, Don Piche, Ray Chase, Del Rajala.

The meeting was posted in the Courthouse on the bulletin board and the agenda for the meeting was posted on the door of the Courthouse.

Motion by Rajala supported by Chase and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to accept the minutes from the August 19, 2015 regular monthly board meeting as presented.

The Treasurer, Sheriff and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$103,835.29 Construction Codes Fund=\$2,665.34 911 Fund=\$17,236.15 Law Library=\$0 Child Care Fund/Basic Grant=\$1,638.06 County Veterans Trust Fund=\$0 Medical Care Fund=\$667.20 Courthouse Improvement Fund=\$73,125.00. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, DeMarois, Chase, Rajala, Piche. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rajala supported by Chase and unanimously carried to table the contract with at&t until November as Rajala is waiting on an answer to a question from at&t and also to have legal counsel look over the contract.

Motion by Chase supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to remove Shorewaves from the agenda since there has been no contact with the Board in a couple of months.

Rajala suggested to the Board that tower inspections be scheduled in approximately three years as at&t did a structural analysis at Mt Horace Greeley and Range Telecommunications did some clean up at the Mountain Lodge site recently. There was some questions regarding the KML tower and DeMarois offered to talk to the Road Commission about barriers around certain spots of the KML tower.

The Employee Policy update will be tabled until a meeting can be set up with the employees. The employees will choose a time that will work for this to take place.

Motion by Rajala supported by Chase and unanimously carried to table a decision on the price of a tax roll for the County. The Equalization Department has only heard from a few counties.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to appoint Mel Jones (term ending 12/31/2017) and Peter Mace (term ending 12/31/2018) as alternates to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion by Chase supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to allow the Zoning Administrator Ann Gasperich to attend the annual Connecting Entrepreneurial Communication Conference in Houghton on October 7th and 8th at the cost of \$85. This will complete her continuing education requirements for 2015 for her Master Planner certification.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to allow the Equalization Department and District Court to purchase new computers as quoted. Additional funds will be needed to purchase software.

Motion by Chase supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to set two rates for 911 addressing, \$65 for regular processing and \$150 for expedited processing. The 911 Coordinator will work out the time frame with the Road Commission regarding what is considered regular vs expedited processing.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to allow the 911 Committee to be paid for mileage to the 911 meetings retroactive to January 2015.

Motion by Chase supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to hold a budget meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River.

Motion by Rajala supported by Chase to adopt the following resolution regarding Senate Bill #423:

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 423 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Agriculture; this bill would limit and restrict the ability for local health departments to establish locally appropriate fees for restaurant licensing; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Code (Act 368 of 1978, as amended, Section 2444) provides for local health departments to charge fees for services; and

WHEREAS, through the collection of local fees, the Western U.P. Health Department (WUPHD) has been able to balance its budget within the food program with limited general fund support from the County; and

WHEREAS, through the collection of local fees, the Western U.P. Health Department (WUPHD) has been able to balance its budget within the food program with limited general fund support from the County ; and

WHEREAS, a restriction in collecting local fees would have an adverse impact of the food program and would result in either a reduction in food safety programs or requiring a larger cost share from the agency's general fund; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in food safety program inspections would result in non-compliance with established minimum program requirements from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and put the citizens and visitors of the Western U.P. food establishments at risk; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Senate Bill is short-sighted and narrow in focus and does not take into account the specific and unique financial situations in various health departments across the state; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners opposes Senate Bill 423, and that restricting the ability for local government to collect fees for mandated services, provided by the Public Health Code, would negatively impact the Western Upper Peninsula and its residents and visitors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent directly to State Senator Tom Casperson and State Representative Scott Dianda.

Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, DeMarois, Chase, Rajala, Piche. Nays: None. Motion carried. **(#15-6)**

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business motion by Chase to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. Meeting adjourned sine die.

Donald Piche, Chairman

Julie A. Carlson, Clerk