

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 16, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners was held on December 16, 2015 beginning at 7:03 p.m. following the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge meeting, at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI.

Commissioners present: Randy Eckloff, Bob DeMarois, Don Piche, Ray Chase. Absent: 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 Chase supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Chase and unanimously carried to accept the minutes from the November 18, 2015 regular monthly board meeting as presented.

The Treasurer, Sheriff and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by Chase supported by DeMarois to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$148,203.94 Construction Codes Fund=\$5,035.85 911 Fund=\$2,020.25 Law Library=\$310.31 Child Care Fund/Basic Grant=\$0 County Veterans Trust Fund=\$0 Medical Care Fund=\$1,292.70 Courthouse Improvement Fund=\$. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, DeMarois, Chase, Piche. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The at&t contract is tabled until January as we wait for more information.

Motion by Chase supported by DeMarois to approve the following resolution opting out of PA 221 exempting Keweenaw County employees from paying 20% for health insurance:
WHEREAS, on September 27, 2011, P.A. 152 of 2011, an act to limit a public employer's expenditures for employee medical benefits plans, became immediately effective; and
WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners have reviewed the requirements of that Act; and
WHEREAS, in keeping with the County's established, long-range budgeting practices that actively balance the interests of taxpayers and County employees, and in keeping with the long established practice of Keweenaw County employees working with the County to defray escalating costs associated with employees' medical benefit plans and having made wage and salary concessions; and
WHEREAS, Section 8 of Act 152 authorizes a local unit of government, defined to include a county government, upon a 2/3 vote of the governing body, to exempt itself from the requirements of the Act for the next succeeding year; and
WHEREAS, by exempting itself under Section 8 of Act 152 for calendar year 2016, Keweenaw County is allowed prudent time to continue making changes over time that yield significant reductions in health care costs in a manner that is fair to both taxpayers and employees; and
WHEREAS, exempting Keweenaw County from Act 152 for calendar year 2016 is equitable considering that Keweenaw County's employees have already demonstrated by their actions a continuing willingness to fairly share in the burden of meeting the significant economic challenges associated with Michigan's long recession; and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that acting pursuant to the authority granted a county under Section 8 of Act 152, the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby exempts Keweenaw County government from the requirements of P.A. 152 of 2011 for calendar year 2016.
Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, DeMarois, Chase, Piche. Nays: None. Motion carried. (#15-8)

Motion by Chase supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the following budget amendments;

Courthouse Septic Replacement	101-970-970	\$20,000
Elections	101-262	\$2,330
Other Govnt-Verizon/Computer Mechanix	101-290	\$6,000
Marine Patrol	101-331	\$5,500
Substance Abuse Pass Through	101-631	\$9,000
Federal PILT	431 taxes	(\$14,856)
Substance Abuse Pass Through	571 Conv Tax	(\$9,000)
Sewage Fees	651 Fees	(\$17,725)
General Reimbursements	677 Refunds	(\$14,444)
Elections	678 Election Reimb	(\$2,330)

The following is a list of amendments that were made prior to December in 2015;

EDC-Copper Harbor Trails	101-725-965	\$2,500	April 15th
Brownfield Per Diems	101-727-710	\$275	July 15 th
District Court Probation Officer	101-136-710	\$3,000	August 19 th
EDC-Appraisal for KML	101-725-965	\$5,000	October 21 st
Keweenaw Adventure	101-760-965	\$450	October 21 st
Copper Harbor Improvement	101-725-965	\$500	October 21 st
911 Mapping	101-101-808	\$3,800	November 18th

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the 2016 Survey and Remonumentation contract.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to reappoint the following people:

PLANNING COMMISSION

Tom Hall-term ending 12/31/2017
Steve Siira-term ending 12/31/2018
Richard Schaefer-term ending 12/31/2017

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

James Vivian Jr-term ending 12/31/2018
Frank Kastelic-term ending 12/31/2018

EDC

Peg Kauppi-term ending 12/31/2017
John Sturos-term ending 12/31/2017
Ned Huwatschek-term ending 12/31/2017
Don Secor-term ending 12/31/2018
Jill Protzel-term ending 12/31/2018

BOARD OF CANVASSERS

Carol Patrick-term ending 10/31/2019
LaVerne Kytta-term ending 10/31/2019

BROWNFIELD

Steve Karpiak-term ending 12/31/2018

The Board tabled the bill from Gogebic County in the amount of \$1,974.09 dealing with the Western U.P. Consortium Pension that has an unfunded liability. Some U.P. counties including Keweenaw were a part of this consortium for over 40 years. Gogebic County was the fiscal agent for all of us. The Board will make a decision in January.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Chase and unanimously carried to approve the agreement with Michigan State University in the amount of \$4,150 for the Houghton/Keweenaw Cooperative Extension for 2016.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business motion by Eckloff to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Meeting adjourned sine die.

Donald Piche, Chairman

Julie A. Carlson, Clerk