

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
September 15, 2021

The regular meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held on September 15, 2021, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was posted on the door of the Courthouse and on the County website.

Commissioner's present: Bob DeMarois, Randy Eckloff, Don Piche, Jim Vivian, Del Rajala.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to accept the agenda with the addition under New Business: item h) Union Negotiations with Sheriff Department.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the August 18, 2021, regular monthly meeting minutes as written.

The following reports were available: Sheriff, Treasurer and Mine Inspector.

Michael Mangan from Emerald Energy was a guest at the meeting. He came forward to speak about wind development on behalf of Keweenaw County. Mr. Mangan told the Board that they need to be proactive and that they should have a statement in the minutes stating that all future wind rights in Keweenaw County belong to Keweenaw County.

Public comment was offered, there was none.

Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$165,222.18 Construction Codes Fund=\$3,885.70 911 Fund=\$706.46 Child Care Fund=\$335.66 Kermits Fund = \$2,000.00 Veterans Affairs=\$2,601.76 Indigent Defense Fund=\$3,922.47 Board polled. Ayes: DeMarois, Eckloff, Vivian, Rajala, Piche. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to put the 1995 Chevrolet Bluebird bus to bid. Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Commissioners until October 20, 2021 at 4 p.m.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to appoint Mark Niemela as the Building Codes Assistant.

There was no public comment on the preapplication to the USDA Rural Development for assistance with purchasing a patrol vehicle. Motion to move forward with the preapplication by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried.

Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to accept the resignation from Ann Gasperich as the Zoning Administrator/Equalization Assistant effective 9/14/2021.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to have Eckloff and Vivian interview potential candidates for the part time position of Zoning Administrator/Equalization Assistant. The position has been advertised and the deadline for applications is on Friday, September 17, 2021.

Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to accept the resignation of Mike Shaltz as the plumbing and mechanical inspector effective 9/15/2021.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the following projects as expenses from the ARPA money that the county received: an air handling system, a new court recording system and a new patrol vehicle.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to have Rajala and Piche meet with the sheriff department union to begin negotiations.

Time was allowed for public comment. John Mueller gave his gratitude for Ann Gasperich's work, stating that it had been a pleasure to work through things with her.

There being no further business, motion by Rajala to adjourn at 7:02 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Donald Piche, Chairman

Julie Carlson, Clerk