

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
October 20, 2021

The regular meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held on October 20, 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 Vivian supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the September 15, 2021, regular monthly meeting minutes and the September 30, 2021, special meeting minutes as written.

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

Jason Wickstrom was not available to speak as a guest.

Scott Wendt, Grant Township Supervisor, gave a presentation on his vision of the future for the Keweenaw, known as the Keweenaw Heartlands that has to do with the four parcels that are for sale by TRG that go out to Keweenaw Point. There are over 32,600 acres that are for sale. The presentation included many zones from low impact to administrative zones, with all levels of recreation and rustic and modern campgrounds. The Keweenaw Heartlands vision took preservation and protection of the land into consideration in perpetuity.

Public comment was offered, there was none.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$173,555.80 Construction Codes Fund=\$7,878.76 911 Fund=\$1,647.12 Child Care Fund=\$1,221.36 Kermit's Fund = \$952.00 Register of Deeds Automation Fund=\$3,235.00 Houghton County MCF=\$1,292.70 Veterans Affairs=\$1,453.89 ARPA Fund=\$17,205.36 Board polled. Ayes: DeMarois, Eckloff, Vivian, Rajala, Piche. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The following bids were received for the 1995 Chevrolet Bluebird bus: Melvin Niemi=\$501.00, Jasmine Sever=\$650.00, Mark Aho=\$454.45. Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to accept the highest bid of \$650 by Jasmine Sever.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to accept the 2021 County Apportionment report as presented by Equalization Director Elizabeth Anderson.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to appoint Don Piche and Bob DeMarois to the KORC Advisory Committee.

With the season coming to an end regarding mountain biking, the Board reminded the Copper Harbor Trails Club that they need to continue to search for appropriate insurance to cover participants before the next season. If appropriate insurance is not found, the four trails will have to be permanently closed and dismantled.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to allow Prosecutor Chuck Miller to file a lawsuit at his discretion against 3D stem for easement and access issues that are being created on the road to Mount Horace Greeley. 3D Stem has asserted that the county has no easement or agreement in place to use the road through their property.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the FY 2021 Emergency Services Grant Agreement annual renewal.

Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to approve a \$1,200 expenditure from the Register of Deeds Automation Fund for Compudyne to assist in moving the Register of Deeds forward with a program called Landshark which will allow the public to access information online.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to allow the County Treasurer to purchase two CDs in the amount of \$100,000 each, one from Range Bank and one from River Valley Bank. This money is coming from the sale of Mount Horace Greeley to Open Skies LLC.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to move the November Board meeting from Wednesday, November 17, 2021, to Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the contract between the County and the Tri County Public Defenders for 2022 as submitted.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to change the County overpayment policy from \$5 to \$10.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to purchase a new public access terminal for the Register of Deeds from the Automation Fund.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business, motion by Rajala to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Donald Piche, Chairman

Julie Carlson, Clerk