

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
May 17, 2023

The regular meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners was held on May 17, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Zoom was unavailable because we could not connect.

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

Commissioners present: Bob DeMarois, Randy Eckloff, Del Rajala, Jim Vivian. Absent: Don Piche.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the following amendments: add \$6,698 to the General Fund Bills, add item (e) under New Business- Approval of Agreement of Extension Services between Keweenaw County and Michigan State University.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the April 19, 2023, regular monthly meeting minutes and the May 5, 2023 special meeting minutes as written.

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

Rich Bowman, Director of Policy for The Nature Conservancy, was present and wanted to introduce TNC's new employee, Julia Peterson. Julia will be the Keweenaw Heartlands Project Manager. She plans to keep the Board informed of what is happening on this new acquisition and to field questions as they come up.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Time was allowed for committee meeting reports.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Vivian to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$169,564.00 Construction Codes Fund=\$3,733.90 911 Fund=\$7,551.10 Child Care Fund=\$726.66 Medical Care Fund=\$1,809.78 Veterans Affairs Fund=\$620.08 Courthouse Improvement Fund=\$509.98 Board polled. Ayes: DeMarois, Eckloff, Vivian, Rajala. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to table the Pasty.net upgrade until June.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to table the medical examiner topic until the June meeting as there is a tentative meeting scheduled.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to appoint Bob Pokorski to the Planning Commission, term ending 12/31/2024.

Motion by Vivian supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to reappoint John Parsons to the Planning Commission, term ending 12/31/2025.

Keweenaw Search and Rescue was awarded a grant from Visit Keweenaw in the amount of \$5,200 for GPS units.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to provide a letter of support for a Trails Easement Agreement between The Nature Conservancy and DNR to help to finalize and secure the trail system for ATV's and snowmobiles on the Keweenaw Point Heartlands purchase. The agreement would be recorded and would travel with the land.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the Agreement for Extension Services between Keweenaw County and the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University on behalf of Michigan State University Extension for fiscal year 2023.

Public comment was allowed. Paul Putnam was present and spoke about some of the things that are being researched and worked on regarding tourism in our area. He also introduced Matt Shane, Associate Director of Field Operations.

There being no further business, motion by Eckloff to adjourn at 6:46 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Del Rajala, Vice Chairman

Julie Carlson, Clerk