

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 17, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held March 17, 2010, 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI, opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioners present: Randy Eckloff, Frank Stubenrauch, Joe Langdon, Don Keith, Carol Rose Fouts.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda with the following changes: move Copper Harbor Trails Club from under New Business to follow Guest, Ray Chase; and to allow Charlie Hopper from Pasty.NET to address the Board about a letter of support.

The minutes from February 17, 2010 stood as presented.

The Treasurer, Sheriff and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Ray Chase from the EDC was present to talk about the tower at the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge. Motion by Langdon supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to enter into a license agreement between Keweenaw County and UPPCO for the term April 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011. This license agreement allows UPPCO to use space on the tower and space in the adjacent building for the purpose of operating a radio communication system.

Motion by Keith supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to agree on the \$150 per month offered by UPPCO in the license agreement.

Motion by Langdon supported by Eckloff to allow Chairman Langdon to sign the license agreement rewritten by Donna Jaaskelainen between Keweenaw County and UPPCO next Wednesday, March 24, 2010 if there have been no objections by any of the commissioners. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Keith, Fouts, Langdon. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Sam Raymond was present to talk to the Board on behalf of the Copper Harbor Trails Club. The Copper Harbor trails were featured in Bike magazine along with several other well known places. Sam talked about putting the money from the Keweenaw Land Acquisition Fund (fund was established to hold money that was raised for the possibility of acquiring land around the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge) into the Keweenaw Community Foundation. Tim Baroni came forward on behalf of the Keweenaw Community Foundation and said that the Foundation funnels money into one area to invest and watch. The Foundation helps to make the public aware of the local groups that can be donated and endowed to.

Motion by Keith supported by Fouts to refund \$10,305.51 from the Keweenaw County Land Acquisition Fund to the Copper Harbor Trails Club to establish an endowment fund through the Keweenaw Community Foundation. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Keith, Fouts, Langdon. Nays: Stubenrauch. Motion carried.

Charlie Hopper from Pasty.net was present to ask for support for a grant for federal funding for fiber connection throughout Keweenaw County and northern Houghton County estimated to cost approximately \$8 million. This grant application is in process right now. Motion by Keith supported by Fouts and unanimously carried to have the chairman write letters of support for Pasty.NET and also for WUPPDR on behalf of their broadband grant application. Charlie stated that the two grants would compliment each other and that the private and public sectors are supportive of each other.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by Keith supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS the separate tax limitation millage rates established for the County of Keweenaw and the Townships and Intermediate School District within the County, approved by the electors of said County, expire in the year 2010; and
WHEREAS the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners would like to alter or extend within an existing 15 mill limitation existing separate tax limitations of the County, the Townships and Intermediate School District within the County;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the members of the County Advisory Tax Limitation Committee meet to prepare separate tax limitations for the County and the Townships and Intermediate School District within the County. **(#10-3)**

Motion by Keith supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to appoint Paul Lahti as the member at large to the County Advisory Tax Limitation Committee.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Stubenrauch to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$115,549.27 911 Fund=\$26,496.49 EDC=\$2,481.17 Child Care Fund=\$1,828.54 County Veterans Trust Fund=\$96.80. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Keith, Fouts, Langdon. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A separate fund was set up for the County Veterans Trust Fund which contains the extra voted millage voted by the electors. This amount is now shown on the Treasurer's Report.

Motion by Keith supported by Fouts and unanimously carried to put the Treasurer's Report and the Sheriff's Report on line each month just like the minutes of the meeting.

Keith will meet with the staff of the Courthouse to see what other information should be on line for the public.

Motion by Keith supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried to appoint Mark McEvers and Gina Nicholas to the Keweenaw County Recreation Plan Committee for a term ending December 31, 2010.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Fouts to allow Chairman Langdon to sign the AFSCME union contract as presented. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Keith, Fouts, Langdon. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Keith supported by Eckloff to allow Chairman Langdon to sign the contract with the State of Michigan for the 2009 audit not to exceed \$16,100. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Keith, Fouts, Langdon. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Fouts and unanimously carried to allow any commissioner to attend the UPACC Spring Conference in Harris, MI.

Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Keith to allow Stubenrauch to enter into a contract with UPPCO regarding two night lights at Mt. Horace Greeley for a period of up to three years at a cost of \$40 per month. The lights would help with security at night. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Keith, Fouts, Langdon. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried to allow the American Legion in Mohawk to take the range hood from Mt. Horace Greeley. The Legion has already removed the stove that was under this hood. The roof is to be repaired by the Legion also.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m. Meeting adjourned sine die.

Joe Langdon, Chairman

Julie A. Carlson, Clerk