

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
August 18, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held August 18, 2010, 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI, opened with the pledge of allegiance.

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

Motion by Eckloff supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried to accept the agenda with the following addition: Under New Business f) Verizon tower request.

The minutes from July 21, 2010 stood as presented.

The Treasurer, Sheriff and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Louisa Wills, Director of the Department of Human Services asked for support and for the board's attendance at the Navigating Toward Prosperity Conference to be held on Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, from 10 am to 4 pm at the Rozsa at Michigan Tech. There are many agencies that are partnering to make this conference on poverty happen. Conference registrations are available and professionals that work with people including local government officials, educators, volunteers and businesses, faith-based and civic leaders are urged to attend.

Joe Finch, member of the Keweenaw County Veterans Committee was present asking for support for holding a meeting to discuss options for helping veterans in not only Keweenaw County but also in Baraga and Houghton County. Motion by Keith supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to have Langdon sign a letter written by Joe Finch inviting Houghton, Keweenaw and Baraga County officials or others dealing with veteran's issues to a meeting to discuss options for the veterans and the counties involved.

Ann Harris, a resident of Bumbletown discussed the complaint that was brought to the County Board in July regarding several issues including animals, manure, fences and excavating equipment. Ms. Harris stated that they have complied with the law and ordinances governing their land and despite that, the harassment and complaints have continued with various agencies and county and township offices. The Harris' are in the process of buying 80 acres adjacent to their property, but in Houghton County, where they plan to put their excavating equipment. Ms. Harris said an attorney has been consulted regarding the constant harassment from other neighbors.

Joe Caron came to the County Board with pictures of playground equipment that is rusting away at Mt. Horace Greeley. He requested that the equipment be donated to Glad Tidings Church in Hancock where it would be put to good use. Stubenrauch stated that the playground equipment is not on County owned property but it is owned by the Federal Government. Houghton Township also has interest in the equipment. Motion by Keith supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried to allow Stubenrauch to talk to GSA (the Federal Government) to see if it is possible to get the playground equipment and if so, Stubenrauch will work with Glad Tidings and Houghton Township to donate the equipment.

Ray Chase addressed the resolution for the Snowmobile/ORV Trail Sticker program from last month. He noted that the Keweenaw ATV Club is opposed as all of the funds for the trails come from the trail stickers. Motion by Fouts supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to have Ray write a letter stating the reasons for opposition with Langdon signing.

Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Eckloff to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$121,897.83 Construction Codes Fund=\$85.62 911 Fund=\$742.59 EDC=\$628.46 Law Library=\$198.93 Child Care Fund=\$0 County Veterans Trust Fund=\$39.40 Register of Deeds Automation Fund=\$3,428.94. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Keith, Fouts, Langdon. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Clerk will check with Computer Mechanix about storage of computer information off site. There is continued work to be done to complete the process of computers being networked and put on the server. This will be placed under Unfinished Business for September.

No action was taken on the Superior Watershed Partnership and Land Trust regarding recycling of bulbs etc. It was decided that it was not in the county's best interest to get into this business.

Last month after the complaints were brought to the Board regarding the issues in Bumbletown, the Board requested a written report following up on the issue. The Zoning Department issued a letter in response to the

complaints. The letter stated that things were in compliance as well as two issues that were not in compliance. A copy of the letter is available in the Zoning Department.

Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to allow Langdon to meet with the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge manager and the County Treasurer to address the audit response that the State is requiring from the County. A copy of the letter will be received by this Board.

Langdon will work with Courthouse employees regarding a policy for class reimbursement. Ideas will be brought back to this Board for input.

Motion by Keith supported by Eckloff to pay Houghton Township \$1,394.71 from the EDC Fund for the installation of the dry hydrant across from the Courthouse. Houghton Township should be awarded half of the original cost from a grant, Houghton Township will pick up the same amount as the County. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, Stubenrauch, Keith, Fouts, Langdon. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Fouts and unanimously carried to allow Langdon, Jon Soper and the Equalization Director to select a candidate for the Equalization Assistant position.

Motion by Keith supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried to appoint Steve Siira to the UP RC&D for the same term as his Planning Commission term which expires 12/31/2012.

Langdon stated that someone from Verizon contacted him today regarding putting up a tower near the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge on property owned by the County. This Board is not aware of any reason why Verizon couldn't proceed with the process even if it is County owned property. Langdon will contact Verizon with this information.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business motion by Stubenrauch to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Meeting adjourned sine die.

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Joseph Langdon, Chairman

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Julie A. Carlson, Clerk