

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 16, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held March 16, 2011, 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI, opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioners present: Frank Stubenrauch, Don Piche, Del Rajala, Randy Eckloff. Absent: Ernie Mooney.

Motion by Rajala supported by Piche and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

The minutes from the February 16, 2011 regular board meeting stood as presented.

The Treasurer, Sheriff and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Truman Obermeyer was present on behalf of the Houghton Keweenaw Trails Task Force. The Task Force has been meeting and is now working on securing motorized and non motorized trails connecting Houghton and Keweenaw Counties. One of the goals of the Task Force would be writing grants and finding funds to purchase right of ways across private property. The Task Force requested that someone from Keweenaw County be appointed to the Task Force in order to report back to the County Board. Motion by Piche supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried to appoint Ray Chase to the Houghton Keweenaw Trails Task Force.

Gina Nicholas came forward to ask for support for the Eagle Harbor Township Brockway Mountain grant proposal. Eagle Harbor is in the process of working with area conservation agencies to acquire a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant in order to purchase 320 acres of Brockway that is now privately owned. Questions were raised about the existing motorized trail that goes over the mountain and whether this would remain and the board was supportive if the trails and access remained the same as today. Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Piche and unanimously carried to write a letter of support.

There was extensive discussion about the finances of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge. There were many different ideas and opinions shared about what to do now and in the future. Currently, the Lodge is running in a deficit situation and because of that, it was decided that the bills will now come before this Board of Commissioners for approval. The state auditors will be here at the beginning of April and they will be approached concerning what would be best for accounting purposes at the Lodge. Motion by Piche supported by Stubenrauch for the following; No checks are to be written for Keweenaw Mountain Lodge bills until approved by the Board of Commissioners. This excludes payroll for the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge. Board polled. Ayes: Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Eckloff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rajala supported by Piche to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$107,077.98 Construction Codes Fund=\$406.00 911 Fund=\$1,760.93 EDC Fund=\$1,340.48 Law Library=\$0 Child Care Fund=\$0 County Veterans Trust Fund=\$25.00 Register of Deeds Automation Fund=\$0. Board polled. Ayes: Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Eckloff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Donna Jaaskelainen was present to talk about the tower updates. Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Piche and unanimously carried to allow Donna to offer/negotiate with the Federal Government for an amount of \$900 per month for the tower for Isle Royale.

Motion by Rajala supported by Piche and unanimously carried to adopt the updated Plan Document which includes federal regulation changes provided by Nationwide Retirement Solutions.

Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Piche and unanimously carried to allow Ken Rowe to advise Jim Yoder at Rural Development that there could be changes made with the financials at the Mountain Lodge and to hold off on any changes to paperwork for the revenue bond issue until a decision is made about how to deal with the finances.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business motion by Stubenrauch to adjourn at 8:33 p.m. Meeting adjourned sine die.