

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
September 21, 2022

The regular meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held on September 21, 2022, 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.

Sheriff Pennala presented Deputy Matt Eberly with a Lifesaving award for his selfless service to saving a man in Eagle Harbor on the county jet ski. The man had been fishing in a canoe and a storm rolled in and his canoe capsized. Deputy Eberly heard the call and sprang into action. Others had tried to reach the man but had to turn back but Deputy Eberly was able to locate him and was able to scoop the man up under his arm and bring him to medical personnel on the shore. The man had been in the water for about 45 minutes and was treated for hypothermia and water intake. Keweenaw County is proud to have Deputy Eberly on the police force.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to accept the agenda with the following items added: k) The Fitz in Eagle River and l) Resignation of Mark Niemela as Maintenance and Building Codes Clerk.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the August 17, 2022, regular monthly meeting minutes and the August 26, 2022 special meeting minutes as written.

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

Piche read Mark Niemela's resignation letter from Maintenance and Building Codes Clerk. Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to accept the resignation.

Mike Bach, Copper Country Mental Health Executive Director came to the meeting to introduce himself and to give some information about CCMH. He gave some background about how CCMH came to be and what is being done now. CCMH has grown into serving many clients throughout the area.

Time was allowed for public comment. Charlie Hopper spoke and said that they are willing to do anything to expedite the pasty.net upgrade because they would like to have it done before the weather turns.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$272,091.29 Construction Codes Fund=\$6,944.93 911 Fund=\$11,407.03 Houghton County MCF=\$1,034.16 Veterans Affairs=\$2,800.00 Child Care Fund = \$2,172.66 ARPA Fund=\$22,810.00 Board polled. Ayes: DeMarois, Eckloff, Vivian, Rajala, Piche. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the Sheriff union contract as presented.

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

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to table the purchase of the garage owned by Allouez Township until October and to allow Rajala to attend the Allouez Township board meeting to figure out the finer details of the proposal.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the bid from Taivalkoski Excavating LLC in the amount of \$282,433.70 to build a sheriff department garage on county grounds.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to have the clerk look into pricing to replace 9 computers that are on the computer replacement schedule. The clerk will bring back information in the October meeting.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to purchase a new copier that is in the clerk's office. There is \$8,000 in the 2022 budget for this.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois to not approve payment for mileage to a conference on Drummond Island for the former equalization director.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to the request from 97th District Court to NorthCare Network for regional drug court efforts. Keweenaw County funding goes to NorthCare Network and their board distributes the funding to those that request money for substance abuse purposes.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to allow Piche to work with the Houghton Township Supervisor to see what needs to be done to get the dry fire hydrant working properly. The dry hydrant is across from the Courthouse.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to approve the following budget amendments:

GENERAL FUND

Account	Description	Amount
148-755	New AC Unit	550
215-808	Intuit Increases	850
265-922	Propane	4,000
286-808	Copier Services	1,500
721-957	Training-New Zoning Admin	800
756-776	Gratiot Park Supplies	1,800
851-913	Property Insurance	4,000
851-913	Catastrophic Fund Dividend	-2,800
851-714	HRA Usage Decrease with Radion	-28,000

OTHER FUNDS

911 FUND

261-934	Pagers/New Radios	72,000
261-755	Every Other Year Regional Expense	5,000
261-755	Office Chair	600
261-977	Computer to Program Radios	3,000

CRTHSE IMPROVEMENT FUND

248-932	Add'l Expenses Bathroom Sheriff	400
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KERMITS

296-742	Gas	350
296-935	Bus Storage	1,000

MEDICAL CARE FUND-REVENUE AMENDMENT

664	Lower Interest Made	-3,350
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Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the Register of Deeds to move forward with Fidlar for software.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to approve Margaret "Marie" Butala to attend training/classes as needed for being a medical investigator.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to have Piche and Eckloff on the interview team for the Equalization Assistant position.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to begin gathering information about the sequence of events for the building addition at the Fitz in Eagle River.

Time was made for public comment.

There being no further business, motion by Rajala to adjourn at 7:51 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Don Piche, Chairman

Julie Carlson, Clerk