

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 20, 2011

A public hearing was held beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River, MI with all commissioners present. The public hearing was held for the purpose of truth in taxation. John Partanen, the County Equalization Director gave a quick synopsis of truth in taxation and then answered many questions. Those present were confused with the wording of the ad that was published. Motion by Mooney supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried to close the public hearing at 6:53 p.m.

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held July 20, 2011, immediately followed the public hearing beginning at 6:54 p.m. at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI, opened with the pledge of allegiance.

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

Motion by Mooney supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the following additions: Mooney-Repair of road to sewage ponds at Mt. Horace Greeley, Piche-update from OHM regarding Courthouse repairs, Eckloff-Lodging for the State Fair representative.

Motion by Rajala supported by Mooney and unanimously carried to accept the minutes from June 15, 2011 as presented.

Motion by Mooney supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to enter into the contract with at&t presented by Donna Jaaskelainen. The contract amount has increased by \$600 per month.

The Treasurer, Sheriff and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by Rajala supported by Mooney and unanimously carried to allow the Sesquicentennial Committee to spend up to \$500 for activities concerning the County celebration on July 24, 2011.

Mooney went through the financials of the County as well as on the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge. Mooney stated that he will have numbers for the August meeting for everyone to see and decisions will be made about the operations of the Lodge for 2012. Mooney stated that the decisions will be made on actual numbers, not on projections and opinions.

Motion by Mooney supported by Rajala to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners has the authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate, and

Whereas, the additional millage rate will increase revenue from Ad Valorem Taxes by \$92,343, while the Convention Facility, Cigarette, and Liquor Taxes will increase revenues by \$11,671, for a total increase of \$104,014, over such revenues generated by levies permitted without holding a public hearing,

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the operating rate for the County of Keweenaw will increase by 0.6616 mill in 2011, in accordance with Act 5, P.A., 1982, Act 2, P.A., 1986 and Act 264, P.A., 1987.

Board polled. Ayes: Mooney, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Eckloff. Nays: None. Motion Carried. (#11-6)

Motion by Mooney supported by Piche to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, UPCAP, which serves as the U.P. Area Agency on Aging, has developed and is operating under a Multi-Year (FY 2010-2012) Area Plan that provides funding for programs for services to older adults in the Upper Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, the Multi-year Area Plan has been approved by all 15 counties of the Upper Peninsula; and
WHEREAS, the U.P. Area Agency on Aging is required to submit an Annual Implementation Plan which updates the Multi-Year Plan; and

WHEREAS, the UPCAP Board of Directors unanimously approved the proposed, updated Annual Implementation Plan; and

WHEREAS, each U.P. county is represented by a county official on the UPCAP Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Implementation Plan also requires review by individual county boards.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners has received and hereby supports the U.P. Area Agency on Aging FY 2012 Annual Implementation Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be submitted to UPCAP and placed on file.

Board polled. Ayes: Mooney, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Eckloff. Nays: None. Motion carried. (#11-7)

Piche reported that he had spoken to OHM about the repairs. There are options to look at for the siding and they found a color to match the roof. They will begin searching for grants and will get back with Piche soon.

Motion by Mooney supported by Rajala to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$127,828.61 Construction Codes Fund=\$3,913.42 911 Fund=\$1,999.56 EDC Fund=\$44,038.34 Law Library=\$111.46 Child Care Fund=\$950.31 County Veterans Affairs Fund=\$50.00. Board polled. Ayes: Mooney, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Eckloff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The repair to the road to the sewage lagoons at Mt. Horace Greeley will be looked at by Piche.

Ray Chase was present with proposal from the EDC. This proposal is for a cost analysis for a bio-fuel project at Mt. Horace Greeley. Chase said that they cannot proceed any longer until this feasibility study is done. The proposal is in three phases and deals with creating dried chips. Motion by Mooney supported by Stubenrauch to support the EDC and the proposal brought forth to begin a feasibility study with the understanding that the County can pull out after each phase if they so choose. Board polled. Ayes: Mooney, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Eckloff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Eckloff brought up the lodging for the U.P. State Fair liaison which is Joe Langdon. A decision will be made at the August meeting. The County did cover this cost in 2010.

Aaron Rogers from the Copper Country Trails Club asked if the Club could proceed with three trail projects and a trail renovation on County property. The Club is not asking for anything financially, just for the permission to create the trails on county property. Rogers stated that Donna Jaaskelainen has looked at the insurance policies and does not have concerns. Motion by Mooney supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to allow the Copper Country Trails Club to create and renovate trails on County property as long as the Club is fully insured.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by Rajala supported by Mooney and unanimously carried to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Meeting adjourned sine die.

Randy Eckloff, Chairman

Julie A. Carlson, Clerk