

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
November 13, 2024

The regular meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners was held on November 13, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., at the Courthouse in Eagle River, MI and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was posted on the door of the Courthouse and on the Website.

Commissioner's present: Bob DeMarois, Randy Eckloff, Del Rajala and Don Piche. Absent: Jim Vivian

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the October 16, 2024, Regular Monthly Meeting and the November 1, 2024 Special Meeting minutes as written.

The following reports were available: Sheriff, and Maintenance.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts: General Fund=\$162,314.73, Construction Codes Fund=\$2,004.46, 911 Fund=\$932.13, Houghton County MCF Fund=\$1,392.78, Veteran's Affairs=\$432.31, FRF Fund=\$134.71, Courthouse Imp Fund=\$27,937.50, Indigent Defense Fund=\$3,992.24. Board polled. Ayes: DeMarois, Rajala, Eckloff, Piche. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to Approve TNC's Master Plan Grant in the amount of \$75,000.

John Parsons spoke about placement of Large-Scale Alternative Energy Facilities Ordinance. He says the deadline is not November 29th. We can work on it and work it into the existing zoning, that is more suited for Keweenaw County. They will have a work session in the future to work on it.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to adopt the National Incident Management System Resolution as follows: **(#24-5)**

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of the County of Keweenaw, Michigan, does hereby find as follows: WHEREAS, the President in Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5, directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS), which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, and local governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity;

WHEREAS, the collective input and guidance from all federal, State, and local homeland security partners has been, and will continue to be, vital to the development, effective implementation and utilization of a comprehensive NIMS; WHEREAS, it is necessary and desirable that all Federal, State, and local emergency agencies and personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest levels of incident management;

WHEREAS, to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management it is critical that Federal, State, and local organizations utilize standardized terminology, standardized organizational structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, unified command structures, uniform personnel qualification standards, uniform standards for planning, training, and exercising, comprehensive resource management, and designated incident facilities during emergencies or disasters;

WHEREAS, the NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communications, facilities and resources will improve the county's ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local agency readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management processes; WHEREAS, the Incident Command System components of NIMS are already an integral part of various county incident management activities, including current emergency management training programs; and

WHEREAS, the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks (9-11Commission) recommended adoption of a standardized Incident Command System.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to adopt the Emergency Management Resolution. The resolution is to provide for the mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from natural and human-made disasters within Keweenaw County by being part of the Keweenaw County Emergency Management Program; to appoint the County Emergency Management Coordinator as the Keweenaw County Emergency Management Coordinator and Director of the Keweenaw County Office of Emergency Measures; to provide for a means for coordinating the resources of county; and to provide a means through which the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners may exercise the authority and discharge the responsibilities vested in them by this resolution and Act No. 390 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended. **(#24-6)**

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff, Rajala opposed, motion carried by majority, to table the hiring of a Zoning Administrator until after the budget meetings.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to request Departments to update their list of fees for the December meeting to be effective January 1, 2025.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the MSHDA Grant Agreement - \$50,000.00 for update of Zoning Ordinance which will occur after Master Plan.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the Colligo GIS Annual Contract in the amount of \$4,300.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the Office Planning Group Term of Service and Supply Agreement for the new copier in the hallway, Kyocera MA4500ifx which includes parts, labor, maintenance kits and toners in the amount of \$394.56.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to accept Tess Ahlborn's resignation letter from the KEDA, the Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance, as the County ex-officio member.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to schedule a budget meeting for Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 2:00 pm at the Courthouse in Eagle River.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to set public hearings on December 18, 2024 at 6:15 pm for proposed budgets and at 6:30 for the proposed Recreation Plan.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution regarding cost sharing for the 97th District Court Administrator: **(#24-7)**

WHEREAS, the 97th District Court, is a district of the first class and its jurisdiction extends to the boundaries of the Counties of Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw, in the State of Michigan;

WHEREAS, each county comprising the district is responsible for maintaining, financing and operating the district court within its respective county, pursuant to MCL 600.8103(1);

WHEREAS, one or more district funding units within any district may agree among themselves to share any or all of the expenses of maintaining, financing, or operating the district court, pursuant to MCL 600.8104(3);

WHEREAS, the 97th District Court Administrator provides comprehensive service to the Court in Keweenaw County, by hiring and training personnel, overseeing compliance with the State Court Administrator's Office, Secretary of State, and other governmental entities, maintaining financial integrity, ensuring consistency amongst the three courts, and supervision of all court employees, amongst various other official responsibilities;

WHEREAS, since the creation of the position, the County of Houghton has solely borne the financial obligations of the salary and benefits of the District Court Administrator, despite the position's duty to oversee operations in both Baraga and Keweenaw counties;

WHEREAS, in the interest of fairness, the respective funding units desire to share the costs of the salary and benefits of the District Court Administrator in the following percentages:

Houghton County 91%

Baraga County 7%

Keweenaw County 2%

WHEREAS, the Administrator's salary and benefits shall be determined by the Houghton County Managerial/Professional Compensation Schedule;

WHEREAS, each County funding unit has already provided for this financial commitment in its approved 2024-2025 budget for the 97th District Court;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Keweenaw, funding unit for the 97th District Court, hereby agrees to henceforth assume 2% of the financial responsibility for the salary and benefits of the 97th District Court Administrator.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the letter of support for The Nature Conservancy in their application for a U.S. Forest Service Wood Innovations Grant.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to approve the project proposal for lighting replacement in the 1990's addition at the sheriff department. Seven 2'x4' lights, three can lights and a dimmer switch for the can lights will be done in the amount of \$1,750.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to approve the project proposal for moving the maintenance office to another cell making room for a workout area for deputies. Three new lights and four outlets all connected with surface mount conduit will be \$2,000.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business, motion by DeMarois to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Donald Piche
Keweenaw County Board Chairman

Roxanne Billing
Deputy Clerk