

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
January 15, 2025

The regular meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners was held on January 15, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was posted on the door of the Courthouse and on the County website.

Commissioners present: Bob DeMarois, Randy Eckloff, Del Rajala, Don Piche. Absent: Mike LaMotte.

The organizational meeting was called to order by the Clerk. Carlson opened nominations for the chairman for 2025-2026. DeMarois nominated Piche for chairman which was supported by Eckloff. Clerk asked for further nominations and there being none, a unanimous vote was cast for Piche as chairman. Chairman Piche took over leading the meeting.

Chairman Piche opened the floor for nominations for vice chairman for 2025. DeMarois nominated Rajala for vice chairman which was supported by Eckloff and there being no further nominations, a unanimous ballot was cast for Rajala as vice chairman for 2025.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to hold county board meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Piche appointed commissioners to the following committees. Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to accept the following committee appointments.

Building & Grounds	Piche	Mental Health	Eckloff
Building Codes	Piche	NorthCare	Eckloff
Community Action	Piche	Planning Commission	DeMarois
Finance & Budget	Piche	Road Commission	Piche
Freedom of Information	Carlson	UPCAP	Eckloff
Head Start BHK Program	Eckloff	UP Fair Authority	Langdon
Western UP Health Dept	Rajala/DeMarois	Hoton/Kew Conservation	LaMotte
Historic Highway/Byway	DeMarois	UP Michigan Works	Eckloff/DeMarois
Human Services	Piche	Veteran Affairs	Rajala
KEDA Board	LaMotte	WUPPDR	DeMarois/LaMotte
KORC Advisory	Piche/DeMarois	911 Committee	Rajala

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to designate the following as depositories for County funds: IncredibleBank, Range, Superior National and Huntington Banks.

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

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the December 18, 2024, regular monthly meeting minutes as written.

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

Time was allowed for public comment.

Commissioners did report on various committee meetings.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$274,157.69 Construction Codes Fund=\$573.80 911 Fund=\$ 3,076.27 Veterans Affairs=\$546.60 ARPA=\$1,896.12 Medical Care Fund=\$1,067.52 FRF Fund=\$9,578.42 Courthouse Improvement Fund=\$2,130.50 Kermit's Youth Fund=\$855.00 Board polled. Ayes: DeMarois, Eckloff, Piche. Nays: None. Abstain: Rajala. Motion carried.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to hire Susan Hockings as the full-time zoning administrator starting on February 1, 2025 at the salary of \$59,000 plus benefits.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to increase the mileage to \$.70 per IRS guidelines.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to appoint Donald Simila and Rob Middlemis-Brown to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the Request for Proposal for fencing around the lagoons at Mount Horace Greeley.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to table the rezoning request from Black Bear because the Planning Commission was unable to vote on it after a public hearing was held because of a lack of a quorum.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to have all departments look at the county website and see what needs to be updated. Send all requests for updates to the Clerk who will work with OPUS to get the website up to date. The deadline for this is the next meeting, February 19th.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business, motion by Rajala to adjourn at 6:47 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Donald Piche, Chairman

Julie A. Carlson, Clerk