

SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 in the District Court Room of the Schoolcraft County Building, City of Manistique, Michigan, commencing at 7:00 P.M. Chairperson Allen Grimm called the meeting to order. The roll was called with the following members present and/or absent:

Present: Chairperson Allen Grimm
Commissioner Daniel J. LaFoilie
Commissioner George Ecclesine
Commissioner Gerald L. Zellar
Commissioner Craig Reiter
Schoolcraft County Clerk Daniel R. McKinney

Absent: None

Also present: Schoolcraft County Treasurer Julie Roscioli

Chairperson Allen Grimm led the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners and the members of the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

It was moved by Commissioner Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner Zellar to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2011 Audit/Board meeting of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners as printed. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of all Board members present. [Copies of minutes are available at the Office of the Schoolcraft County Clerk.]

Chairperson Allen Grimm asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the printed agenda. Chairperson Allen Grimm asked that Resolution of Recognition for Tom Kitzman be deleted from the agenda. **It was moved by** Commissioner Ecclesine and seconded by Commissioner Reiter to adopt the amended agenda. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

“Public Hearings”: None

“Brief Public Comment”: None.

“Old and Unfinished Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to index the following six items from the Audit Finance Meeting of August 11,

2011. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

1) **It was moved** by Commissioner Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Grimm to approve an purchase requisition from the Airport in the amount of \$37.00 for a mailbox. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

2) **It was moved** by Commissioner Grimm and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to approve a purchase requisition from the Airport in the amount of \$825.00 for circuit board lights. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

3) **It was moved** by Commissioner Grimm and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to approve the claims and vouchers numbered 3437 through 3591 inclusive. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

4) **It was moved** by Commissioner Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to submit the Community Corrections Grant Funding Resolution for FY 2012. Commissioner Ecclesine asked if this was approved could the board turn it down if things change. Michelle Allsteadt, Community Corrections Director, said yes they could. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

5) **It was moved** by Commissioner Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to approve placement of millage language for Economic Development on the November, 2011 ballot as requested by the EDC Board. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

6) **It was moved** by Commissioner Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to approve a purchase requisition from Community Corrections in the amount of \$1,999.00 for a riding lawn mower in Alger County with the understanding that this mower is owned exclusively by Community Corrections and can be used only for Community Corrections duties. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

Further under “Old and Unfinished Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to adopt the following changes to Policies and Procedures under 15.1 “Holidays”;

15.1 Holidays:

A. All full-time and part-time employees shall be granted time off with pay on the following days, subject to the provisions below:

New Year's Eve Day (December 31st) New Year's Day (January 1st) Martin Luther King's Birthday (Monday closest to January 15) President's Day (Third Monday in February) Memorial Day (Last Monday in May) Independence Day (July 4th) Labor Day (First Monday in September) Columbus Day (Second Monday in October) Veteran's Day (November 11th) Thanksgiving Day (Fourth Thursday in November) Day after Thanksgiving (Friday after Thanksgiving) Christmas Eve Day (December 24th) Christmas Day (December 25th) Good Friday Employee's Birthday.

B. Whenever one of the holidays occurs on a Saturday, Friday shall be considered the holiday. Whenever the holiday occurs on a Sunday, Monday shall be considered the holiday.

C. To be eligible for holiday pay, employees must be regular full time employees or regular part time employees who have completed their probationary period, must have earnings during the pay period for hours actually worked (or be on vacation or paid leave), must actually work their last regular scheduled shifts prior to and immediately following the holiday, and must actually work the holiday as scheduled, unless they have failed so to work their shifts before, after, or on the holiday because of vacation or paid leave. Substantiation may be required by the Employer.

[THE PROPOSED CHANGE BELOW IS SAME LANGUAGE CURRENTLY IN THE AFSCME CONTRACT]

D. (1) Should a holiday fall on Saturday, Friday, but not Saturday, shall be considered as the holiday for pay purposes under this Article 35. Should a holiday fall on Sunday, Monday, but not Sunday, shall be considered as the holiday for purposes of paid holidays under this Article 35.

(2) This paragraph shall cover the Christmas and New Years holidays exclusively. Should a holiday fall on a Saturday and Friday is also a holiday, Monday shall be considered the holiday for pay purposes under this Article 35. Should a holiday fall on Sunday and Monday is also a holiday, Friday shall be considered the holiday for pay purposes under this Article 35.

E. To be eligible for holiday pay, employees must be regular full-time employees or regular part time employees who have completed their probationary period, must have earnings during the pay period for hours actually worked (or be on vacation or paid leave), must actually work their last regular scheduled shifts prior to and immediately following the holiday, and must actually work the holiday as scheduled, unless they have failed so to work their shifts before, after, or on the holiday because of vacation or paid leave.

F. Holiday pay for regular full-time employees will be based upon their normal scheduled workday (excluding overtime) and their base rate of pay exclusive of overtime or other premiums.

G. Regular part-time employees will receive prorated holiday pay (paid on the regular payday for the first full pay period following the end of their anniversary year), such pay to be prorated by multiplying the number of holidays for which they were eligible in their prior anniversary year by the number of hours paid to them (excluding overtime) during such anniversary year and dividing by 260 (but such total hours not to exceed the number of hours

for which regular full-time employees would be eligible), and multiplying by their base rate of pay exclusive of overtime or other premiums.

The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “Old and Unfinished Business”: Commissioner LaFoilie informed the Board that, as discussed several times previously, our auditors at Anderson Tackman are recommending that we forgive the \$500,000.00 loan that was made to the General Fund from DTR in 2007. Commissioner LaFoilie said that originally this was done as a loan with the intention of the Board at that time to repay the money to DTR. Commissioner LaFoilie said it has become quite evident that the County is not going to be able to repay this loan. Currently this is tracked as a deficit in the General Fund as debt owed. Commissioner LaFoilie said if the debt is forgiven it will then show up as a credit in the General Fund and will appear as though we have an additional \$500,000.00 in fund balance which will not be a true picture. There is no transfer of money, Commissioner LaFoilie said, so there will not be \$500,000.00 in fund balance, but will appear so. **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoilie and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to forgive the loan owed by the General Fund to the DTR in the amount of \$500,000.00 and remove it from the books as accounts owed to DTR. Commissioner Reiter asked why we are doing this. Commissioner LaFoilie noted it is a recommendation from our auditors who will provide a letter to keep on file noting their recommendations and will remove from the books an outstanding debt owed. This will clean up the books as recommended by our auditors Commissioner LaFoilie noted. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

No further “Old and Unfinished Business”.

Under “New Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner Zellar to renew the lease for office space with Great Lakes in the amount of \$11,908.96 per year to be paid monthly in the amount of \$992.41. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “New Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoilie and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to appoint Nichole Hoholik to the Library Board to replace Jan Jeffcott with a term ending date of July 29, 2012. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

No further “New Business”.

“Committee and Department Reports”:

Commissioner Daniel J. LaFoilie Sr.: Reported that Dixie Anderson of the Housing Commission called regarding the indirect charges for FY 2012. Commissioner LaFoilie said he explained that these charges are calculated by Maximus through actual events which occur throughout the year for services provided to various entities. Commissioner LaFoilie noted that we only charge Housing for Clerk and Treasurer costs even though there are other costs calculated. Commissioner LaFoilie said he offered to set up a meeting between the Housing Commission and Maximus so the process can be explained. Commissioner LaFoilie noted that he attended a DDA Meeting today where it was announced that the DDA will suspend any further projects until such time as the closure of Manistique Papers is resolved. Commissioner LaFoilie also noted that there will be a court hearing on August 26th to determine if Manistique Papers will be changed from Chapter 11 Bankruptcy to Chapter 7 which would call for liquidation of all assets. This is at the request of one of the creditors of Manistique Papers. Commissioner LaFoilie noted, as for the County Budget, we will have to wait and see where we end up with fund balance in October and what our medical insurance premium increase is before we determine if our actions will be required.

Commissioner George Ecclesine: No report.

Commissioner Gerald L. Zellar: Attended the Six County Employment Alliance Meeting with Commissioner LaFoilie where it was noted that there is a proposal to combine Michigan Works with MEDC. Commissioner Zellar noted that this could threaten Michigan Works which has been a role model for our agencies throughout the state. Commissioner Zellar also noted that the Paper Mill is trying to find potential buyers and is working with Mbank for loans.

Commissioner Craig Reiter: Attended meetings in Mueller and Seney Townships as well as the Senior Center.

Chairperson Al Grimm: Reported that he attended the DHS Meeting and they advise all displaced Manistique Papers Employees to sign up for benefits now, such as medical care for children, because the requirements will change October 1st to include account of assets and not just income as it is now. Attended the Road Commission Meeting and they are hiring a mechanic.

“Announcements and Notices”: Schoolcraft County Treasurer Julie Roscioli reported that her printer

crashed. Julie also indicated that Prosecuting Attorney Tim Noble is badly in need of a new computer and monitor. Julie said she can purchase all three from the Foreclosure Fund and give her old computer and monitor to Mr. Noble. Julie noted that this Foreclosure Fund money is earmarked for such purchases. The cost for all three is approximately \$1,500.00. **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoilie and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to approve the purchase of a computer, monitor and printer by the Treasurer's Office in the approximate amount of \$1,500.00 (Julie will seek best price), with the old computer and monitor going to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under "Announcements and Notices": Sheriff Grant Harris informed the Board that he received a call last week from Marilyn Booker regarding the Federal Forest Patrol Agreement. Ms. Booker said the previous approval of increasing allocation by \$4,764.21 from money paid back by Schoolcraft County was found to not be allowed and therefore the agreement will be reduced back to \$2,500.00. Sheriff Harris said the issue is that the Sheriff's Department has already billed for approximately \$1,000.00 more than this. Sheriff Harris said Marilyn Booker is going to try to get the full payment to Schoolcraft County. Sheriff Harris also noted that part of the billing was for millage and Bob Madden's wages which he will not be paid, so we will not be out the entire \$1,000.00 even if full payment is not made.

Further under "Announcements and Notices": Commissioner Reiter noted that the Historical Society is holding a fund raiser on August 27th at Little Bear West arena.

Further under "Announcements and Notices": Sheriff Harris informed the Board that he will be going to a Jail Administrator Training in Colorado with all expenses paid.

No further "Announcements and Notices".

"Public Comment": None.

"Communications": Schoolcraft County Clerk Dan McKinney informed the Board that he spoke with Marlaine Taylor of MERS regarding the Blended rate issue and Ms. Taylor said the Board can take action on this at any time. Ms. Taylor said the Board, in fact, could decide to go to a blended rate in December and have it retroactive to October 1st. Mr. McKinney said by his calculations the difference in charges would be approximately \$2,000.00 more for the Department Heads Division and approximately \$16,000.00 for the Deputy Sheriff's Division for the year.

Further under “Communications”: Schoolcraft County Clerk Dan McKinney informed the Board that he received a call from Jennifer Michelin at Mazzali Insurance Agency today in response to his request for information regarding our experience rating. Mr. McKinney said Ms. Michelin informed him that we will be experience rated because Blue Cross is using the time period of February 2010 to January 2011 for our rating this year, and we still had our 50 covered employees up until June 2010. Ms. Michelin further stated that because Schoolcraft County still uses a WRAP we can expect a significant increase in premium. This is even though our utilization may not be as high as previous year, Mr. McKinney said. Mr. McKinney said he believes the County should shop around for all possible options for medical insurance for the upcoming year. Commissioners discussed this and were in agreement to pursue options for medical insurance and to involve the Medical Insurance Committee as noted by Sheriff Harris. No further “Communications”.

It was moved by Commissioner Zellar and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to adjourn the Meeting of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present. The meeting of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners was adjourned at 7:58 P.M.

Allen Grimm, Chairperson County Board

Daniel R. McKinney, Deputy County Clerk