

**SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING and AUDIT/FINANCE MEETING**

The Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners / Audit Finance Committee met on Tuesday, December 29, 2015, in the Circuit Courtroom of the Schoolcraft County Building, City of Manistique, Michigan. Chairperson Craig Reiter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The roll was called with the following members present and/or absent:

Present:           Commissioner Craig Reiter  
                  Commissioner Allan Ott  
                  Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick  
                  Commissioner Christine Rantanen  
                  Commissioner Patrick Carley  
                  Schoolcraft County Clerk Beth A. Edwards

Absent:           None

Chairperson Craig Reiter 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 Allan Ott and was seconded by Commissioner Patrick Carley to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2015 Board and Audit-Finance Meeting of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present. [Copies of minutes are available at the Office of the Schoolcraft County Clerk.]

**It was moved** by Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick and was seconded by Commissioner Patrick Carley to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2015 Closed Session Board Meeting of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Patrick Carley and was seconded by Commissioner Allan Ott to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2015 Special Board Meeting of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present. [Copies of minutes are available at the Office of the Schoolcraft County Clerk.]

**It was moved** by Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick and was seconded by Commissioner Allan Ott to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2015 Closed Session Board Meeting of the

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

Chairperson Craig Reiter asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the printed agenda. None stated. **It was moved** by Commissioner Allan Ott and was seconded by Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick to approve the agenda as printed. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

“Public Hearings”: None

“Brief Public Comment”: Sigrid Doyle addressed the Prudential Life Insurance and the new insurance being offered to the retirees.

Karen Klaus commented on talk in the community regarding Darrell Disxon resigning as undersheriff and the appointments to the Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital Board as to the letters of interest being submitted on time.

“Unfinished Business”: None

**“New Business”:** **It was moved** by Commissioner Allan Ott and was seconded by Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick to allow Beth A. Edwards, Schoolcraft County Clerk, to advertise for a compatible life insurance policy to include retirees if possible. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Christine Rantanen and was seconded by Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick to schedule the Annual Department Reports for January 28, 2016 and January 29, 2016. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Christine Rantanen and was seconded by Commissioner Allan Ott to appoint Ann Harrington to the U.P State Fair Authority Board with the term ending December 31, 2018. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Patrick Carley and was seconded by Commissioner Christine Rantanen to ratify the Union Contract with AFSCME Union as offered and accepted, and also, authorize Craig Reiter, Chairperson, to sign the contract. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Allan Ott and was seconded by Commissioner Patrick Carley to approve for 2016 in lieu of a raise a one-time performance pay of \$600 for Full-time and \$300 for Part-time Non-Union County employees. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick and was seconded by Commissioner Patrick Carley to Opt out of PA 152 maintaining the 15% contribution by employees of the premiums and 85% contribution by the county of premiums for medical, dental, and vision insurance. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Commissioner Craig Reiter asked to move the Carpenter Dam Agenda item to the first regular board meeting in January.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick and was seconded by Commissioner Allan Ott to approve the contract with Country Mile Document Destruction, Inc. for a bi-monthly service in the amount of \$53.00 per 64 gallon container and authorize Craig Reiter, Chairperson, to sign the service agreement. There was discussion. Beth Edwards, County Clerk clarified that even on the first dump it would be \$53.00 per 64 gallon container. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Commissioner Christine Rantanen stated that the appointments to the Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees have been in controversy as Jennifer Watson had not submitted her letter of interest as of the deadline date that was posted in the paper. Don Perigo from the hospital board stated that according to their by-laws they did not have to advertise but they did and there was a deadline stated, however, there were other avenues for recruitment to the board. The vote of the Schoolcraft Memorial Board was not unanimous merely on the basis of protocol not necessarily as to who the individuals were. Commissioner Patrick Carley stated there even if it was proper there is still the appearance of impropriety there. **It was moved** by Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick and was seconded by Commissioner Allan Ott to approve/confirm the appointment of James Harmes to the Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees with the

term expiring December 31, 2016. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Christine Rantanen and was seconded by Commissioner Patrick Carley to not approve/confirm Jennifer Watson at this time to the Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees allowing time to correct the appearance of impropriety in the selection process and resubmit to the County Board for approval. **Roll call vote as follows: Christine Rantanen, yes; Patrick Carley, yes; Larry F. Mersnick, yes; Allan Ott, no; Craig Reiter, yes. The motion carried by majority aye vote of the Board members present.**

**It was moved** by Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick and was seconded by Commissioner Allan Ott to approve John Stapleton, Public Transit Director, to hire and maintain a sufficient number of temporary employees as needed. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick and was seconded by Commissioner Patrick Carley to send the Public Transit Authority By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation to Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC for review. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**Under Committee and Department Reports, the following matters were heard:**

**Commissioner Craig Reiter:** None.

**Commissioner Allan Ott:** None

**Commissioner Larry Mersnick:** attended LMAS and Six County meetings.

**Commissioner Christine Rantanen:** None.

**Commissioner Patrick Carley :** None.

Sheriff J. Norrington stated his department is busy, they had an unscheduled transport to Marquette General on Christmas Eve and he has not advertised or approached anyone regarding the undersheriff's position.

Lisa Kleman, Road Commission, stated that Craig Kelso's last day of work was December 18, 2015.

**Announcements and Notices:** None

**Public Comment:** None.

**Communication:** Beth Edwards, County Clerk, read a letter from Manistique Elks Lodge #632 thanking the 93<sup>rd</sup> District Court Community Service Program and the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners for donating 45 homemade blankets and 6 bear chairs to the Annual Elks Community Kids Christmas Party and the continuance of the Community Service Program. Beth Edwards also stated that there will be a letter put in all their baskets regarding MERS and rehire parameters after retirement.

At 5 p.m., the meeting was turned over to Audit-Finance Chairperson Larry F. Mersnick.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Allan Ott and was seconded by Commissioner Craig Reiter to approve partial payment in the amount of \$335.82 for the Sheriff's Department to purchase tires from 661-305-936.000/motor pool line item. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Craig Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Allan Ott to approve budget adjustments numbered **JR-49-15** through **JR-79-15**, inclusive. Commissioner Christine Rantanen addresses adjustment number JR-72-15, transfer in the DTR Fund. Verbal Vote as follows: Craig Reiter, yes; Allan Ott, yes; Christine Rantanen, no; Patrick Carley, yes; Larry F. Mersnick, yes. The motion carried by majority aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Craig Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Christine Rantanen to approve the claims and vouchers numbered **4688 through 4857**, inclusive. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Chairperson Craig Reiter asked if there was any further business to come before the Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Allan Ott and Commissioner Larry F. Mersnick to adjourn. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of all Board members present.

Chairperson Craig Reiter adjourned the Board and Audit Finance Meeting at 5:08 P.M.

  
Craig Reiter  
Chairperson County Board

  
Beth A. Edwards, County Clerk

  
Larry F. Mersnick  
Audit-Finance Chairperson