

SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 in 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 Craig Reiter
 Schoolcraft County Clerk Daniel R. McKinney

Absent: Commissioner Gerald L. Zellar

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 LaFoilie and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to approve the minutes of the December 29, 2010 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.]

It was moved by Commissioner Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2011 Organizational 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. **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 LaFoilie and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to index the following five items from the Audit Finance Meeting of January 13, 2011. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

1) It was moved by Commissioner George Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner Allen Grimm to approve an purchase requisition from the Schoolcraft County Clerk in the amount of \$ 120.00 plus shipping and handling for 60 rolls of receipt paper. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

2) It was moved by Commissioner George Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner Allen Grimm to approve the claims and vouchers numbered 935 through 1150 inclusive. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present

3) It was moved by Commissioner George Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner Allen Grimm to increase Pine Park fees from \$30 to \$75. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

4) It was moved by Commissioner George Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner Craig Reiter to make the repair of the crash sensor on the Ford Expedition in the amount of \$180.03. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

5) It was moved by Commissioner George Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner Allen Grimm to allow Sheriff Harris to use funds from the En-Bridge grant to purchase plywood to make improvements to the ORV/Rescue trailer. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

Further under “Old and Unfinished Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoilie and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to deny raises for non-union employees and department heads for FY 2011. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “Old and Unfinished Business”: Schoolcraft County Treasurer Julie Roscioli recommended that the Board retain Tom Enright of Leonard Capital Markets as the financial Advisor for the Jail Building Project. **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoilie and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to follow the recommendation of Schoolcraft County Treasurer Julie Roscioli to retain Tom Enright of Leonard Capital

Markets as the financial Advisor for the Jail Building Project. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “Old and Unfinished Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoille and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to approve an amendment to the Letter of Intent with GS&M, allowing them to be project manager throughout the Jail Building Project. 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 LaFoille and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to appoint Allen Grimm to the 911 Telephone Committee replacing Gerald Zellar. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “New Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoille and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to appoint Allen Grimm to the UPCAP Board of Directors replacing Gerald Zellar. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “New Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoille and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to make the seven hours of employment in Building Codes currently covered by Marilyn Benish, which is currently non-union, a union position. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “New Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner Ecclesine and was seconded by Commissioner LaFoille to approve the request for rollover of 16 hours of vacation time by Sheriff’s Department Employee, Angela Pierce, to be used within thirty days. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “New Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoille and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to check with the Townships to see if there is any interest on their part in obtaining the Pines Park and Bishop Baraga Park, and to explore any opportunity to sell the “South Town Creek” property. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “New Business”: Commissioner LaFoille noted that the Board received a letter of response from the Sheriff’s Department Union Employees to the request for concessions and they have not offered any concessions, but are willing to meet to discuss options. Commissioner LaFoille noted that the Board may want to set up a meeting with the Sheriff’s Department Union.

Further under “New Business”: Commissioner LaFoille noted that the Board received a letter of response from the AFSCME Union Employees to the request for concessions. The Board reviewed each suggestion made by the AFSCME Union and noted the following; 1) The County Airport cannot be closed because the County is committed to stay open for twenty years due to grants received at the the airport. 2) EDC has already been informed of the potential loss of appropriation for next year. 3) Commissioner LaFoille noted that he is not in favor of changing all employees to a B-3 retirement package. 4) The Board will be discussing tonight the option of selling the “old Public Transit building”. 5) The Board discussed tonight the option of selling the “South Town Creek” property. 6) The suggestion of a Headlee Override has been discussed before and may be something the Board should consider. 7) Regarding the matter of extra pay for extra duties for department heads, Commissioner LaFoille asked what employee would be willing to step up and handle these duties for free? 8) Regarding privatizing the County Jail, Commissioner LaFoille noted that he does not believe, given the Sheriff is an elected official, a viable option. Commissioners thanked the AFSCME Union for offering suggestions and their willingness to explore cost savings measures.

Further under “New Business”: Commissioner LaFoille stated that he is going to give up his retirement with the County. Commissioner LaFoille said once the process and required paperwork is understood he will be signing off on the retirement. Commissioner LaFoille noted that this will likely not be much of a savings. Likewise, Commissioner Ecclesine stated that he too is willing to give up any right to retirement with the County. Commissioner Ecclesine noted that this will not save the County much because we still have to fund those former Commissioner who are already collecting retirement benefits. Commissioner Reiter noted that he too would be willing to join in giving up retirement. Chairperson Grimm said he has no problem in joining in with this and giving up his right to retirement.

Further under “New Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoille and was seconded by Commissioner Ecclesine to entertain any offers by intergovernmental entities for purchase of the “Old Public Transit” Building. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “New Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoille to pay Deputy Herlik’s wages and

benefits for DARE Work out of DARE funds. After discussion and no support Commissioner LaFoille withdrew his motion.

No further “New Business”:

“Committee and Department Reports”:

Commissioner George Ecclesine: Attended the LMAS Board Meeting.

Commissioner Craig Reiter: Met with the Sheriff, the Ministerial Association, the Merchants, Doyle Township, Germfask Township and the Fair Board.

Commissioner Daniel J. LaFoille Sr.: No report.

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Commissioner Al Grimm: Along with Commissioner Reiter, met with the Sheriff and they will be meeting every two weeks. Attended the Senior Citizens, Road Commission, Jail Committee, and Public Transit board Meetings. Also attended a training along with Commissioner LaFoille regarding New Commissioner Training.

“Announcements and Notices”: Commissioner Reiter noted that he has set up a Town Hall Meeting for February 7th beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the High School, to be attended by Senator Casperson and Representative Lindberg.

Further, under “Announcements and Notices”: Chairperson Grimm read a letter received by the Board from Undersheriff Mike Gierke regarding a request for a pay increase.

“Public Comment”: Paul Olson of Manistique addressed the Board regarding the Jail Building Project and selection of a Project Manager.

Further under “Public Comment”: Doug Erickson of Manistique addressed the Board regarding the Jail Building Project and selection of a Project Manager, “Old Public Transit” building sale and the County Attorney.

No further “Public Comment”.

“Communications”: Schoolcraft County Clerk Dan McKinney informed the Board that the mileage rate went up to \$0.51 cents per mile as of January 1, 2011.

Further under “Communications”: Schoolcraft County Clerk Dan McKinney informed the Board that the Regional Jail Study by Rod Miller is complete and available for review in the County Clerk’s Office.

“Communications”: Schoolcraft County Clerk Dan McKinney informed the Board that Rudy Evonich has requested old computer monitors. Computer Contractor, Dan Edwards, has indicated that there are three old monitors which will be disposed of in the near future and these monitors are not worth any money. Commissioners noted that they do not oppose giving these monitors to Rudy Evonich.

“Communications”: Schoolcraft County Clerk Dan McKinney informed the Board that he was informed late this afternoon by Dickinson County Clerk Dolly Cook that she has had significant problems with the conversion of her Register of Deeds Automation System with Trimin Government Solutions. Mr. McKinney said he has informed Trimin that he will not proceed with conversion in Schoolcraft County until he is sure that they have solved the problems associated with converting the Register of Deeds systems in Michigan, and that they will not receive any payment until we are sure things are running smoothly.

No further “Communications”.

Chairperson Allen Grimm adjourned the meeting of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners at 7:59 P.M.

Allen Grimm, Chairperson County Board

Daniel R. McKinney, County Clerk