

## SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 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 Sue Cameron  
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 Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Cameron to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2013 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 Cameron and was seconded by Commissioner LaFoilie to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2013 Special 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. Commissioners asked that Gulliver Lake Dam be deleted from the Agenda. **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoilie 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 Zellar to index the following nineteen items from the Audit Finance Meeting of February 9, 2012. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**1) It was moved by** Commissioner Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Zellar to adopt the Resolution of Support for the Promotion and Development of a Southern U.P. Route Trail,

with possible revisions of the sample resolution to better fit Schoolcraft County. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

2) **It was moved** by Commissioner Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Grimm to approve a purchase requisition from the Public Transit in the amount of \$733.00 for a complete condenser and housing for Bus 3 and an estimated \$75.00 for shipping the part. 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 Cameron to approve a purchase requisition from the Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$275.00 for Deputy Herlik to attend the 2013 Annual DARE Conference, with payment coming from DARE funds. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

4) **It was moved** by Commissioner Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Grimm to approve a purchase requisition from the Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$192.24 for lodging at the Comfort Inn & Suites in Mt. Pleasant, MI for Deputy Herlik to attend the 2013 Annual DARE Conference with payment coming from DARE funds. 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 Grimm to approve a purchase requisition from the Treasurer's Office in the amount of \$129.92 for various office supplies paid from the DTR Fund. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

6) **It was moved** by Commissioner Zellar and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to approve the claims and vouchers numbered **5747** through **5839** and **5841** through **5912**, **denying voucher 5840**. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

7) **It was moved** by Commissioner Zellar and was seconded by Commissioner Cameron to allow Schoolcraft County Prosecutor's Office employee Robin Barker to rollover 14 hours of vacation time, to her next anniversary year, to be used within 60 days. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

8) **It was moved** by Commissioner Grimm and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to authorize Equalization Director, Paul Wood to increase the addressing fee, for assignment and installation of an address, from \$31.00 to \$43.00 to sufficiently cover costs. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

9) **It was moved** by Commissioner Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Zellar to allow Sheriff Norrington to apply for an ORV Law Enforcement Grant, for the year 2013/2014, in the amount of \$6,352.00. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

10) **It was moved** by Commissioner Grimm and was seconded by Commissioner Cameron to allow Sheriff Norrington to apply for a Snowmobile Law Enforcement Grant, for the year

2013/2014, in the amount of \$11,311.00. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

11) **It was moved** by Commissioner Cameron and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to approve the 2013 Schoolcraft County Folk Fest Proclamation naming Lynn M. Norton the 2013 “Folk Hero”. 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 Reiter to accept the bid from Manistique Oil for fuel for county vehicles in the amount of \$0.305 over rack price per gallon for gasoline and \$0.319 over rack price per gallon for diesel fuel. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Committee members present.

No further “Old and Unfinished Business”.

Under “New Business: Schoolcraft County Clerk Dan McKinney informed the Board that the Burt Township Clerk called to inform us that they are doing a Master Plan and she said Schoolcraft County can comment on the plan. Mr. McKinney said we have not received a copy of the master plan, but Commissioners can go to the township website [www.burttownship.com](http://www.burttownship.com) to review the plan.

Further under “New Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoilie and was seconded by Commissioner Reiter to approve a resolution in support of the UPCAP Multi-year Plan for FY 2014-2016. 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 Cameron to approve a resolution opposing unfunded mandates and fully funding revenue sharing. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “New Business”: **It was moved by** Commissioner Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Zellar to authorize the Chairperson to sign the Employee Benefits Business Associate Agreement. 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 Zellar to authorize the Chairperson to sign the Voluntary Benefits Solutions Disclosure Statement. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under “New Business”: Schoolcraft County Treasurer Julie Roscioli informed the Board that we have received three RFP’s for the proposed new telephone system. Julie said two of the proposals are basically the same, and one of them did not include voice mail. Julie related other factors of concern and reported that the committee is still gathering information.

Further under “New Business”: Commissioner LaFoilie made a brief statement regarding Medical Care Facility’s request for cash flow assistance stating that; the Finance Committee has met several times. Commissioner LaFoilie said we have been in contact with Michigan Association of Counties, the President of Medical Care Facilities in Michigan, MCF Director and Board and various other individuals to gather facts regarding this matter. Commissioner LaFoilie noted that our data shows that MCF has been losing money for the last two and a half years, \$700,000.00 loss in FY 2010, a \$1,100,000.00 loss in FY 2011 and a loss of over \$400,000.00 so far this year. Commissioner LaFoilie noted that the Schoolcraft County Treasurer Julie Roscioli contacted Jerry Hubbard, Director of MCF, several times over the last two and a half years with concerns over dwindling cash balances and Mr. Hubbard repeatedly reassured Julie that this was a temporary problem. Commissioner LaFoilie said then on June 25, 2013, Mr. Hubbard contacted him and indicated that MCF was having grave financial issues and asked for the county’s help. Since that time, Commissioner LaFoilie said, the Finance Committee has met several times gathering facts and information. Commissioner LaFoilie said we have been told that MCF could be out of cash in August. Commissioner LaFoilie said the short time line makes any solution very difficult. Commissioner LaFoilie then opened the floor to Mr. Hubbard and the MCF Board. Jerry Hubbard said he has been here three years and has had several issues to contend with since becoming director. Mr. Hubbard described the issues that have put MCF in this financial position and things they have done up to this point to address the decline in revenues, primarily related to decreased census. Mr. Hubbard said since May it has become clear that action they have taken up to this point has not been enough to fix the problem. Mr. Hubbard said they have eliminated some positions, reduced hours in other positions and are now proposing a 7.5% across the board wage reduction for all employees. Mr. Hubbard said a drop in census has such a large impact that you can’t fast enough to keep up. He said the drop in census also impacts the funding formulas established at the beginning of the year. Mr. Hubbard related that when the new hospital opened MCF’s new Medicaid referrals essentially dried up, and these are high paying referrals. Mr. Hubbard said MCF will be changing there Medicaid reimbursement from an estimated amount to a fee for service type reimbursement, but this will not take effect until October 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Hubbard said at some point MCF is going to need assistance in addition to making the proposed cuts in order to make it through. Commissioner LaFoilie asked if the point in time for needing assistance is roughly mid to late September. Mr. Hubbard said “yes”. Commissioner LaFoilie said MCF is looking at running a millage in November, but this money

may not be paid by taxpayers until the end of February if approved. Commissioner LaFoilie said it appears that MCF needs cash flow assistance in the short-term and creation of options for the long-term. Chairperson Grimm asked about Mr. Hubbard's background. Mr. Hubbard said he was assistant administrator at Pinecrest before coming here. Chairperson Grimm said MCF had a one million dollar capital improvement fund and planned an expansion. Chairperson Grimm said the expansion was not done and now this money is gone. Mr. Hubbard said he felt the expansion was need for safety of Alzheimer's patients. Chairperson Grimm asked about not taking referrals on the weekend or referrals of veterans. Mr. Hubbard said they do take referrals on weekends, but they require paperwork to be done by 2:00 p.m. on Fridays because of lack of administrative nursing staffing on weekends, and they do take referrals of veterans. Commissioner Zellar asked if everyone will be taking a 7.5% cut in pay and Mr. Hubbard said yes. Commissioner Reiter related his discussion with Munising Nursing Home and Marquette General Hospital who both said it is very difficult to refer patients to MCF. Mr. Hubbard said Tender Care in Munising has a physician who can come in to do a physical within 24 hours and we do not and that is a holdup for us with referrals. Commissioner Cameron asked if there is a difference between private and public facilities. Mr. Hubbard said not really. Commissioner LaFoilie noted that we are working together to try to come up with solutions, but there are lots of hoops to jump through. Commissioner Grimm asked if Mr. Hubbard or the MCF Board had any further comments. Gary DeMers, Chairman of the MCF Board said his father-in-law came to MCF from a veteran's facility and things went smooth. **It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoilie and was seconded by Commissioner Zellar to ask for an Attorney General's Opinion as to the county's responsibility to Medical Care Facility. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Further under "New Business": **It was moved by** Commissioner Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Cameron to authorize the Chairperson to sign the Business Associate Agreement with Putvin Drug Store. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

No further "New Business":

"Committee and Department Reports":

Commissioner Sue Cameron: None.

Commissioner Daniel J. LaFoilie Sr.: None.

Commissioner Gerald L. Zellar: Stated that with the new grills and all Pines Park is looking very nice. Also, noted that at the last meeting Brownfield did not have a quorum so they did a telephone conference in order to have enough members to approve payment of bills.

Commissioner Craig Reiter: noted that the Commission on Aging approved new bylaws.

Commissioner Al Grimm: None.

“Announcements and Notices”: None.

“Public Comment”: Nancy DeMers of Manistique spoke regarding the positive experience she had at MCF with her mother and father being residents there.

Further under “Public Comment”: Crystal Goudreau, former MCF employee asked several questions regarding operations and administration at MCF.

Further under “Public Comment”: Suzanne Ray, Director of Nursing at MCF spoke regarding the quality of care at MCF and stated that employees truly care. She invited all to walk through the admission process at MCF.

Further under “Public Comment”: Dixie Anderson, MCF Board member, stated that she understands the need to look at options and that cuts don’t settle well with employees. She praised the employees at MCF for the fine job they do and encouraged all to visit MCF to see how well it is run.

No further “Public Comment”.

“Communications”: None.

**It was moved by** Commissioner LaFoilie and was seconded by Commissioner Cameron 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 was adjourned at 8:12 P.M.

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Allen Grimm, Chairperson County Board

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Daniel R. McKinney, County Clerk