

Chairman Walls called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Brunn gave the prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Clerk Williams called the Roll with the following Commissioners present:

John Brunn, Chuck Vayda, Dan Sloan, Karl Walls; absent and excused were Barb Stenger, Colleen Carrington Atkins and John Fairbanks.

Commissioner Brunn moved that the agenda be approved; seconded by Sloan. There was a Voice Vote and it was approved.

Commissioner Sloan moved that the minutes from June 8, 2016 be approved; seconded by Brunn. There was a Voice Vote and it was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT— Limited to a maximum of two (2 minutes per person)

Joshua Miller stated that he is having a minor issue with some of the leadership at the Webber Fire Department. He stated that the Assistant Chief, Interim or not, got a promotion by bad mouthing his department. He stated that Jeremy Anderson's girlfriend or wife had a lot to say about the Baldwin Fire Department on Face book and caused a lot of pain. He was fired by the Chief of the Webber Fire Department over a text message he had sent, or at least that is what he believes, because he spent the Blessing of the Bike's weekend with the Baldwin Fire Department instead of the Webber Fire Department.

FINANCE

Commissioner Sloan moved to approve the semi-monthly detail analysis dated June 22, 2016 totaling \$132,468.97; seconded by Brunn.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Sloan, Vayda, Brunn, Walls

Nayes: None

Absent and excused: Atkins, Fairbanks, Stenger

Commissioner Sloan moved to approve BA#14822 to move money forward from 2015 to 2016 in the Road Patrol Fund for the Auto Insurance Claim in the amount of \$24,443; seconded by Brunn.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Brunn, Sloan, Walls

Nayes: Vayda

Absent and excused: Atkins, Fairbanks, Stenger

Commissioner Sloan reported that there was an accident with one of the Deputy's on the Road Patrol and the vehicle was damaged and repaired. By the time the time the claim was paid it straddled to different years and this is a means to balance the books.

Commissioner Vayda wanted more clarification on how much the insurance company paid vs. what we would pay. He was concerned if the Officer was hurt in the accident. He asked if the Officer needed more training. He also wanted to know what the Officer hit and if the insurance company would help with more officer training. Commissioner Sloan stated that this was not the proper time to talk about these questions.

Commissioner Sloan moved to reconsider this motion until the next regular meeting.

Commissioner Atkins arrived at 6:15 p.m.

Commissioner Sloan moved to approve the job description for the IT Coordinator and authorize the County Administrator to advertise and hire to fill the position with a hourly wage up to the 2016, 8 year step for the Supervisory employee (\$20.94) based on the performance, and to take the necessary steps to create a County IT Department and Budget; seconded by Brunn, with a Friendly Amendment by Sloan to remove the word “hire” and replace it with the words “recommend candidates to the Board.”

Commissioner Sloan indicated that this issue has been dealt with in the Personnel Committee. He stated that he has spoken with surrounding counties and the local school district regarding collaboration and there was no interest.

Commissioner Vayda questioned if it would be up to the County Administrator to be responsible to hire someone for this position and if the Board has any say in the matter. Commissioner Brunn stated that the Board has to approve full-time hires. Commissioner Vayda feels more comfortable if the Board has more say so in the hiring process. Commissioner Walls affirmed. Commissioner Walls stated that he wants the Board to be more active when it comes to hiring in the County.

Commissioner Sloan stated that this Board does not have extensive personnel or computer experience, and doesn't know how this Board can evaluate a candidate based on their ability to do this job. He stated that the only thing the Board could do is judge someone's character.

Commissioner Vayda disagreed by stating Commissioner Walls deals with employees and he himself deals with employees all the time.

Commissioner Atkins wanted to know what role the Board would play in the evaluation process. She doesn't want new hires to feel that everything stops with one person and that there is no recourse.

This topic will be discussed further at a later date.

Commissioner Sloan moved to approve the amendment of Resolution #1341 Hiring Freeze to extend the hiring freeze until the end of the fiscal year; seconded by Atkins.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Brunn, Sloan, Atkins, Walls

Nayes: Vayda

Absent and excused: Stenger, Fairbanks

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Webber Township Hall

Commissioner Sloan stated that this topic was discussed at a previous Personnel Committee meeting and he recommended a yes vote.

Commissioner Atkins moved to change the Clerk's Office hours from 37.5 to 40 hours per week effective June 27, 2016; seconded by Walls.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Vayda, Atkins, Walls

Nayes: Brunn, Sloan

Absent and excused: Fairbanks, Stenger

Commissioner Sloan stated that Clerk Williams requested time on the Personnel Agenda a couple months ago. He said he responded back by asking what the nature of the request was and to provide supporting documentation. He stated that at the last Personnel meeting, his two colleagues had the item placed on the Personnel Committee and then passed it by a 2 to 1 vote, to move to the Full Board. He stated that he hasn't had the time to look at any documentation. He stated that he will not be supporting this motion.

Commissioner Walls disagreed with Sloan that although he believes that the Board should establish a policy to go through the Administrator's office with these types of issues, he also stated that when the two Commissioners felt as strongly as they did to bring this to the attention of the Personnel Committee, at that point, it should be addressed. He was not comfortable as to how it came to the Full Board initially, but that he supports 100% that the Clerk's office move from 37.5 hours to 40 hours a week.

Commissioner Atkins stated that only one member from the Personnel Committee was here to address the issue today and that the only other person presently involved in this issue has been silenced. She also brought up the documentation that the Clerk emailed to the Personnel Committee to justify her request.

Commissioner Walls stated that it would have been nice if the two Commissioner's that supported this move would have been here for this meeting to defend themselves, but reiterated that if they felt this strongly about this issue to have it placed on the Personnel agenda, and then proceed to move it on with a 2 to 1 vote to approve it, that it should be addressed regardless if the Chair of that Committee said that he did not have enough information. He also stated that the two board members did not express any concerns at the Finance meeting they attended, earlier today.

Commissioner Vayda moved to reconsider this motion to the next regular meeting.

Commissioner Atkins moved to raise the full-time cleaning employee two levels on the pay scale, effective June 27, 2016; seconded by Vayda.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Atkins, Vayda, Walls

Nayes: Sloan, Brunn

Absent and excused: Fairbanks, Stenger

Commissioner Walls stated that this employee has been with the County part-time for eight years, with little to no raises. He stated that now that she is full-time, this raise would make up for some lack of attention for all of those years. He talked about her service to the County over the last eight years with no raises and feels compelled to afford this to her.

Commissioner Brunn was concerned about the animosity within the courthouse. He believes that other employees will feel that they too deserve this. Commissioners Atkins wants to see more consistency when making these kinds of decisions. Commissioner Sloan agreed with Atkins in that everyone should be treated evenly and fairly. Commissioner Sloan stated that Commissioner Fairbanks brought this up and it was supported by Commissioner Stenger at the last Personnel meeting by a 2 to 1 vote to move this to the Full Board, where Sloan did not support it. Commissioner Atkins stated that she was under the impression something like this would be by the recommendation of the County Administrator because this is something that affects the budget.

Administrator Lake stated that he did not believe that anybody would disagree that a discussion could be had if that employee should be moved once she went from part-time to full-time. He also stated that her current rate is pretty good for a cleaning person along with the increased hours and benefits she is receiving. He also stated that this process should have been started by her Department Head, Chief Deputy Dagen. He further stated that Commissioner Fairbanks talked about throwing her a bone, and replied to him that this should have come from her boss and that there should be a procedure in place.

Commissioner Walls stated that he spoke with Chief Deputy Dagen and that he did not indicate any issues with this.

Commissioner Atkins wanted clarification on the process moving forward. Administrator Lake stated that we do have a system, though he does not necessarily think it is a good one. Commissioner Brunn stated that if Chief Deputy Dagen recommends it, he would consider it.

Commissioner Atkins moved to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to authorize the maintenance supervisor to advertise an anticipated vacant full-time maintenance position and to work with the County Administrator to present candidates to the Board of Commissioner's; seconded by Sloan with a Friendly Amendment added to the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Vayda, Brunn, Sloan, Atkins, Walls

Nayes: None

Absent and excused: Fairbanks, Stenger

Commissioner Atkins moved to recommend to the Board of Commissioner's to approve the Lake County Fund Balance Policy as presented; seconded by Walls.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Brunn, Atkins, Sloan, Vayda, Walls

Nayes: None

Absent and excused: Stenger, Fairbanks

Commissioner Sloan stated that this motion and the next three were specifically related to exceptions in last years' audit, and that they were remiss policies that are required by law. The fourth policy that will be presented last, relates to the aforementioned three policies in order to implement them. He also encouraged a yes vote on all of them.

Administrator Lake stated that the Fund Balance Policy is not required by the auditors and it is not required by law. He went on to explain the five categories listed in the policy which include: Fund Balance, Non-spendable, Restricted, Committed and Assigned.

Commissioner Atkins moved to approve the Lake County Accounts Payable Dailies Policy as presented; seconded by Sloan.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Atkins, Vayda, Brunn, Sloan, Walls

Nayes: None

Absent and excused: Fairbanks, Stenger

Commissioner Atkins moved to approve Resolution #1351, the Lake County Automated Clearing House (ACH) Policy; seconded by Sloan.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Atkins, Brunn, Sloan, Vayda, Walls

Nayes: None

Absent and excused: Stenger, Fairbanks

Administrator Lake stated that this was 1 of 5 policies required by the auditors. He stated that state law requires a policy be in place when spending funds outside of a check.

Commissioner Atkins moved to approve the Lake County Conflict of Interest Policy; seconded by Walls.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Sloan, Brunn, Atkins, Walls

Nayes: Vayda

Absent and excused: Stenger, Fairbanks

Commissioner Sloan strongly encouraged a yes vote on this. He stated that he has been hearing that there is an old boy network in the county and thought it was time to put a policy in place to prevent this type of stuff. He believes that with this policy, no one will talk about a good old boy's network in the county anyone.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel — Commissioner Sloan wants to revisit the wage scale for employees

Lake County Parks Commission — there has been another add placed in the paper for these positions

Area Agency on Aging — there is a meeting on Monday and Commissioner Atkins educated the audience on the role of the agency

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Building Authority — they are working through issues regarding the door locks and stairway in the new Sheriff's building

District Health Department — there will be a meeting on Friday and there was discussion regarding the Michigan Food laws as it relates to allergy awareness

Michigan Association of Counties Sub-Committees

Economic and Taxation — the next meeting will be in October

Environmental and Regulatory Affairs — there was discussion regarding underground pipelines that did not affect Lake County

Health and Human Services — there will be a meeting on Monday

MSU District 5 Extension Council — there is still work being done on the Lake County Community Food Council

ORV Promotional Grant Committee — the grant is set to be completed by the end of August

CORRESPONDENCE

There were two letters from the Lake County Community Foundation denying requests for funding for portable two-way radios for the Lake County Sheriff Reserve Unit and for the Juvenile Court Fatal Vision Experience.

New Business — None

Old Business — None

Administrator's report

Administrator Lake reported on the auditor's requirement to have more policies be put in place. He further stated that the auditor's would not put these as a repeat comment in the next audit as long as we move forward to put the policies in place.

Lake stated that he is working with 911 regarding a labor issue. He received some disciplinary stuff with regard to an employee.

Lake stated that the preliminary audit is in, and the Management Discussion and Analysis is being finalized which will be the executive summary. He further stated that the F-65 report has already been submitted to the state. He stated that Gasby requires that pension liabilities be moved into the financials at the beginning of the year.

Lake ended by stating that he is still working on the Lake-Level Revolving Fund issue with the Lake County Road Commission.

Public Comment

Lori DeWolf commented that she believes that it is important for new hires to know who their Board of Commissioners are and that Board of Commissioners know who they are as well. She further stated that as a past employee of the County, her office had the opportunity to work very closely with the Commission and thereby new who everyone was, but that other offices in the County did not know who you were and you didn't know who they were. She said everybody in the courthouse works for the taxpayers, and that the taxpayers are the ones whom pay their wages. She went on to state that she was upset to hear that the vote to move the Clerk's office to 40 hours a week did not pass. She commented on having worked in the Clerk's office for 19 years and stated that there is a lot of work for just 3 employees. She then stated that it was unbelievable that the Custodian did not get the 2-step increase. She ended by saying that it is getting old to keep hearing about the previous CFO and she wants everyone to move on. She said that it is sad to hear about things that happened in the past and that people are getting tired of hearing about it.

Betty Dermeyer stated that everyone moving forward that applies for a position should receive a background check. She also asked if Tobi Lake would be getting a new assistant.

Bruce Austin introduced himself as a candidate for Sheriff of Lake County.

Jessie Johnson addressed Commissioner Vayda as "Smiley." He commented on the County being messed up and kid's getting into trouble because they have no place to go. He would like to see more activities for kids to keep them out of trouble and stop them from carrying guns. He wants to know what, as Sheriff, Vayda or Austin will do to bring more business to town.

Belinda Barbier stated that there is a town hall meeting at the Irons Union Church for all the county candidates next Thursday June 30th starting at 6:30 p.m. She said that candidates will be given 5 minutes to introduce themselves and then it will be opened up for the public to ask questions. She further stated that Shawn Coffee is working on a Sheriff's Meet and Greet at the Idlewild Lot Owners Club, July 15th at 6:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONER'S PRIVILEGE

Commissioner Sloan stated that he was approached by one of his constituents regarding a tree that had almost falling in the road in his District. He left a message for Steve Leonard about the problem and he saw that the tree had been removed. He commended the Road Commission for removing that tree, and for all the work they do on keeping our roadways open and safe.

He addressed the rumors that he is not seeking re-election and is retiring from public life at the end of this year.

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He ended by saying that the Luther Lyons is a very active club that provides services in many areas for the County. He wanted everyone to know that he has raffle tickets for a grill to be given away on July 4th.

Commissioner Vayda thanked everyone that attended the meeting. He appreciates people taking the time to come out and give their opinions.

Commissioner Atkins stated that the District Health Department #10 is starting a group called “Choosing Health in Lake County,” and that tomorrow from 9 to 4 there will be a farmers market available to anyone that wants to attend. They will be accepting WIC and Senior Project Fresh Coupons. This will take place at the Health Department.

Commissioner Brunn thanked Tony Gagliardo, Webber Township Supervisor, for hosting the meeting at the Webber Township Hall. He also thanked all of his constituents for showing up. He commented that he enjoys seeing people here.

Commissioner Walls stated that there has been no discussion of hiring the Administrator an assistant. He reiterated that there has not been an official or even an unofficial conversation to create that position. He also stated that he liked having meetings at the townships because it gives the Commissioners an opportunity to meet the people and it also gives the people a chance to meet the Commissioners. He stated that most Commissioner’s make themselves available whether through email or by phone and at the township meetings. He stated that even though the Commissioner’s don’t have a say on what happens at the township level, it is nice to know what is going on. He ended by thanking everyone for coming.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 P.M.