

LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Walls called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m.

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

Deputy Clerk Williams called the Roll with the following Commissioners present: Colleen Atkins, John Fairbanks, Barb Stenger and Karl Walls.

Dan Sloan arrived at 10:27 a.m. and John Brunn arrived at 10:31 a.m.

Absent and excused: Chuck Vayda

Commissioner Fairbanks moved that the agenda dated October 26, 2016 be approved; seconded by Commissioner Stenger. There was a Voice Vote and it was approved with additions.

Commissioner Stenger moved that the minutes from October 12, 2016 be approved; seconded by Commissioner Fairbanks. There was a Voice Vote, and it was approved with corrections.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

Additions - There was lengthy discussion regarding the filling of the vacancy in the Friend of the Court. Carol Wallace and Jeff Nadig were present to answer questions regarding the vacancy. Wallace wants to fill the vacancy with someone with experience, and reclassify the position as a deputy position. Tobi Lake expressed concerns that starting someone out in a supervisory role would mean that the starting salary would be at the rate of a supervisor and it would grow over the course of each year. Commissioner Stenger stated that Commissioner Sloan was opposed of this position being classified as a deputy. Wallace raised concerns that when she is gone, everything sits until she comes back or they call her where ever she may be. Her main concern was there is no one able to do Parenting Time, which she stated is a hard thing to deal with, and she wants to give that responsibility to someone else. Jeff Nadig stated that they have a candidate with not only more than 15 years of experience, but also has experience with the State as well.

Commissioner Sloan stated that there is no job description for this new position. He also stated that no information was provided to Board Members prior to the Board meeting and that this is an issue that should be dealt with at the next Personnel meeting. He also stated that this is not revenue neutral, and it negatively affects the retirement system. He also stated that the Personnel Committee process was subverted by bringing this to the Board meeting today. Commissioner Walls stated that we need to figure out a way to fill the position if we have someone with experience.

Commissioner Stenger stated that we here in Lake County are in a position to get quality people. She also stated that she is not interested in the bottom dollar. She stated that we need to hire quality people to serve the citizens of Lake County. Commissioner Atkins questioned the reimbursable portion of this. Nadig recommended making classifying the position as a Friend of the Court Specialist.

Commissioner Stenger moved to authorize the Friend of the Court to fill the vacancy in the Friend of the Court, at the 4-step rate at \$15.12 with forthcoming review from the Personnel Committee on the Hiring Policy; seconded by Brunn.

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Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Atkins, Stenger, Brunn, Fairbanks, Walls

Nays: Sloan

Absent: Vayda

Motion Carried

Commissioner Sloan moved to table the motion until the next meeting; there was no second.

Motion Failed

Commissioner Sloan stated that he plans to submit a letter 24 hours before the next meeting to ask for a reconsideration of this vote. He also requested from the Friend of the Court Supervisor a report on what Parenting Time is so that the Board can make an informed decision.

Commissioner Sloan left the meeting at 11:01 a.m. and returned at 11:03 a.m.

FINANCE

71a: Commissioner Atkins moved to approve the semi-monthly detail analysis dated October 26, 2016 totaling \$240,564.36; seconded by Commissioner Fairbanks.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Brunn, Atkins, Fairbanks, Sloan, Stenger, Walls

Nays: None

Absent: Vayda

Motion carried

71b: Commissioner Atkins moved to approve of the 9 Departmental Purchase Requisitions in excess of \$1,000 dated October 26, 2016; seconded by Commissioner Fairbanks.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Brunn, Sloan, Atkins, Fairbanks, Stenger, Walls

Nays: None

Absent: Vayda

Motion carried

71c: Commissioner Atkins moved to approve of the County Administrator doing FY 2016 year end budget amendments; seconded by Fairbanks.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Stenger, Brunn, Sloan, Atkins, Fairbanks, Walls

Nays: None

Absent: Vayda

Motion carried

71d: Commissioner Atkins moved to approve of filling the full-time Deputy position under the Hiring Freeze at the Sheriff's Department; seconded by Commissioner Fairbanks.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Fairbanks, Stenger, Atkins, Brunn, Sloan, Walls

Nays: None

Absent: Vayda

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Motion carried

7le. Commissioner Fairbanks moved to authorize the County Administrator to hire a Temporary employee in his office; seconded by Sloan.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Stenger, Fairbanks, Sloan, Atkins, Brunn, Walls

Nays: None

Absent: Vayda

Presentations – Equalization Director presenting the 2016 Apportionment Report

Commissioner Fairbanks questioned why the Special Assessment District on Big Bass Lake was not put on the tax rolls, even though there has been a standing order with the Equalization office for seven years to put it on. The Equalization Director Al Enciso stated that every year, he sends out a letter in July to all Treasurers to get to him their authorizations for special assessments. He stated he was unaware of any special assessments previous to him starting here in 2015.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Properties & Safety-There is a sink hole at the Mental Health building that needs to be addressed. The backside of the parking lot needs to be opened up before the snow comes. It is believed that there is an old gas tank still there.

7ld. Commissioner Fairbanks moved to authorize the Maintenance Department to open up the parking lot at the Community Mental Health Building and do an investigation on why the parking lot is still sinking; seconded by Commissioner Stenger.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Atkins, Stenger, Fairbanks, Brunn, Sloan, Walls

Nays: None

Absent: Vayda

Motion Carried

Lake County Parks & Recreation Commission-Will be finalizing their bylaws and the officers will be Colleen Atkins, Chair; Dan Cousar, Vice Chair and Bobbi Keefer, Secretary. There was discussion on when and how to amend the budget so that members can receive their per diems and mileage for attending meetings.

Area Agency on Aging-There was a presentation by the Michigan Medicare & Medicaid Assistance Program. They are doing a lot with the Part D open enrollment because premiums have gone up. The Michigan Health Endowment Fund is developing a subsidy program to help lessen the financial impact on beneficiaries, but there are income requirements.

Economic Development Alliance-There will be another broad ban meeting today. ACD.net will be hooking up Peacock Limited, the library in Luther at the current rate within 9 months along with other businesses in Luther. They are also coming to the Baldwin area.

Commissioner Sloan left the meeting at 11:35 a.m. and returned at 11:38 a.m.

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Correspondence – Update 2017 health insurance

Someone from the Hartford will be here in the middle of November to discuss post 65 retiree health insurance.

Commissioner Walls left the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

Administrator's report –There was lengthy discussion regarding the GEO prison and the State taking it over.

There was also discussion regarding e-benefits for retirees and salary increases for Elected Officials.

It was also stated that Officer Hurley's house burned down last week. Commissioner Fairbanks wanted to know if there was a fund going around for him and his family.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Chris Balulis wished everyone good luck in the upcoming Election. She said District 6 should be proud of its candidates because they made a great effort to come to meetings and keep up and know what's going on.

COMMISSIONER'S PRIVILEGE:

Commissioner Fairbanks thanked the Candidates for showing up to the meetings and educating themselves on how meetings are run.

Commissioner Stenger reminded the Board that the Regular Board Meetings start at 10:00 a.m.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Williams, Clerk to the Board

Karl Walls, Chairman of the Board