

**OSCEOLA COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
MAY 21, 2019**

The Committee meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Chairman Nehmer.

Present: Commissioners Jack Nehmer, Larry Emig, Mark Gregory, Jill Halladay, Tim Michell, James Custer, and Roger Elkins.

Also present: Shane Helmer-E.M.S. Assistant Director, Kaye Frederick-Probate & Family Court Administrator, Michelle Kuz-Animal Control Director, Justin Halladay-Sheriff, Tony GaGliardo-Building Official/Inspector, Susan Vander Pol-County Coordinator, Karen Bluhm-County Clerk and several members of the public.

Motion by Commissioner Emig, seconded by Commissioner Elkins, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Brief Public Comment: Dave Kozminski, Hersey Township, read a statement regarding leadership at the Evart meal site.

Employee/Board Comments: Commissioner Michell asked questions about outside security for the C.O.A. sites. A brief discussion was held.

Moved by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Custer, to approve the minutes of May 7, 2019 as presented. Motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Recommended by Commissioner Halladay, seconded by Commissioner Custer, to approve the claims of the County in the amount of \$75,406.25. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

E.M.S. USDA Grant Acceptance for Rescue Task Force Equipment

Shane Helmer, E.M.S. Assistant Director, asked for acceptance of a grant for Rescue Task Force Equipment by the Board, of a previously submitted grant application. A brief discussion followed.

Recommended by Commissioner Michell, seconded by Commissioner Gregory, to approve the USDA Grant for Rescue Task Force Equipment and authorize the Chairman to sign. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Youth Attention Center Services Agreement

Kaye Frederick, Probate & Family Court Administrator, spoke to Board members about changes in the Youth Attention Center structure. Instead of serving just Mecosta and Osceola Counties, they have branched into other counties to provide their services. She shared information how the program works and the savings to the County. A brief discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Elkins, seconded by Commissioner Gregory to approve the Youth Attention Center Services Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Health Safety & Grounds Committee Report

Commissioner Gregory reported to Commissioners that their recent committee meeting discussed the proposed meeting/training room for E.M.S. The previous bid estimate was much higher than expected, so now after further discussion they would like to look at a different option. They would like the Board to approve Landmark Design Group, P.C. preparing these new drawings. Discussion was held, but no action taken at this time.

Commissioner Gregory, along with Sheriff Halladay, spoke about doing a RFP for private security services for our building security needs. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Michell, to approve issuing a Request for Proposals for security services. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Budget Amendments, Cash Transfers and Journal Register Reports

Commissioner Halladay reviewed the budget amendments and cash transfer for approval. She also asked for the Journal Register from the Treasurer for April to be approved.

Recommended by Commissioner Halladay, seconded by Commissioner Michell, to approve the budget amendments, cash transfer and Journal Register for May of April budget adjustments as presented. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Court-Appointed Appellate Attorneys

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, spoke to Board members regarding previous information Judge Scott Hill-Kennedy had provided regarding the Court-Appointed Appellate Attorneys. Mecosta County has now approved being a part of a regional service group and Judge is requesting Osceola County do the same. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Michell, seconded by Commissioner Elkins, to approve that the Board of Commissioners concur with any decision by Chief Judge Hill-Kennedy to have the Court join the Northern Michigan Regional Assignment list and adopt the Michigan Appellate Assigned Counsel System Standard Attorney Fee and Expense Policy. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Animal Control/Livestock Claim

Michelle Kuz, Animal Control Director, asked the Board to approve the livestock claims submitted and explained the process to them. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Michell, to approve the payment for loss of livestock to Kenneth Major for \$105.00 and Floyd Ankney for \$182.00. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Animal Control/Vehicle Replacement

Michelle Kuz, Animal Control Director, shared three (3) bids received for the purchase of a new truck for their Department. She recommended the bid from Babb Ford and explained why she would like to obtain the vehicle from them. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Custer, to approve the purchase of 2019 F-150 XL 4x4 Pickup in the amount of \$25,841.00 for Animal Control. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Sheriff Sale of Firearm/Retired Deputy

Sheriff Halladay explained to Board members that past practice has allowed a retiring deputy to purchase their service weapons if they wish to do so. Someone recently has retired and has expressed interest, so he explained the amount charged to the retired employee will actually be the same amount needed to purchase a new weapon for department replacement. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Michell, seconded by Commissioner Gregory, to approve selling a firearm to a retired deputy as presented. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Building Department Backup Clerical Staff

Tony Gagliardo, Building Official/Inspector, requested the Board allow their department to utilize a former part-time contracted service provider to cover the office when their Office Manager is gone. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Elkins, to approve the use of a contracted service as available to fill in for benefit time when the Building Department Office Manager is gone. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

C.O.A. Senior Field Trips

Sandy Szeliga and Heidi Gillum, C.O.A. Social Services Coordinators, spoke to the Board about using MOTA transportation for some upcoming senior outings. They explained some of the ideas they have for field trips as well as a possible Health Fair for seniors. Sandy updated the Board on their successful Taste of Osceola where \$2,837.00 was collected. All the proceeds will go back into the senior meals program. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Michell, seconded by Commissioner Halladay, to approve two trips for the seniors through Commission on Aging for a TV9&10 tour and Ludington trip, activities of a Health Fair and the annual Taste of Osceola event (approved going forward as long as an annual event) as presented. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Veterans' Services Vehicle Purchase

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, spoke about another \$57,000 grant from the State for our Veterans' Services Program. She also advised a third Veterans' Officer has been hired to assist in our program using some of the additional funding. Susan spoke about using some of the money to obtain a vehicle for the Veterans' Services Program and some of the possible uses for the vehicle. She also reminded Board members if the grant money isn't used, it must be returned to the State. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Custer, to approve doing a Request for Proposal for a vehicle for the Veterans' Services department. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Board Meeting Date Changes

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, spoke to Board members regarding several upcoming Board meetings where we might have possible conflicts with other events. Discussion was held.

Recommended by Commissioner Emig, seconded by Commissioner Custer, to change the Board's meeting dates to Wednesday-August 21st, Wednesday-September 4th and Wednesday-October 16th. Recommendation was unanimously supported.

Update on State Veterans Incentive Grant

Susan Vander Pol, County Coordinator, updated the Board on a \$10,000 incentive grant from the State and some of the challenges being encountered in using the grant funds in the timeline given for their use. Discussion was held.

Employee/Board Comments: None.

Extended Public Comment: Alan Gingrich, Road Commissioner, updated Board members on some of their upcoming projects for 2019. He reported some new equipment is being obtained and that they are actively searching for property in the northern part of the County for a gravel source. Some discussion was held.

Sandra Keller, Hersey Township, thanked Board members who were able to attend the recent Taste of Osceola.

Moved by Commissioner Gregory, seconded by Commissioner Emig, to adjourn at 11:33 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.