

MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting
Monday, July 9, 2007
1:00 PM

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Carr at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverend Bob Goodenough from Nevins Lake Church in Stanton offered invocation.

Members present at roll call: Commissioners Walker, Petersen, Retzloff, Johansen, Paepke, Baker, Carr, Caris and McCrackin. Members absent at roll call: None.

Others present: Kristen Millard, Chris Hyzer, Sandy Raines, Carrie Wills and Shelly Strautz.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the June 25, 2007, regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Johansen to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Commissioner Paepke shared a newspaper article in the Grand Rapids Press regarding river restoration on the Rogue River. This is one of the projects sponsored by the Timerland RC&D.

Kristen Millard, County Clerk, provided the board with correspondence regarding the expiration of Anna Morse's term on the Board of Canvassers. The Montcalm County Republicans have supplied the board with three names of possible candidates for appointment to the Board. Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner McCrackin to re-appoint Anna Morse to the Montcalm County Board of Canvassers, term beginning October 1, 2007 and expiring October 1, 2011. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition regarding the current status of the RailAmerica Railroad corridor from Ionia to Lowell to Greenville. An appraisal for the property will cost approximately \$17,500. Currently \$15,875 has been pledged by local units of government to help with this appraisal. Commissioner Baker explained that the importance of this project is to protect the corridor so that it is not broken into several pieces. The property would be used as either a rail or a trail. He believes that funds earmarked for economic development should be used to help with the appraisal. Moved by Commissioner Baker, supported by Commissioner Johansen to approve \$1,000 from economic development funds to be used toward the appraisal of the RailAmerica railroad corridor from Ionia to Lowell to Greenville. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from Kevin Everingham, Office of Community Corrections, regarding the Community Correction Advisory Board's recommendation to appoint Belinda Chapin to the CCA Board. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Paepke to appoint Belinda Chapin to the Community Corrections Advisory Board. Motion carried.

Kevin Everingham also provided the board with the Comprehensive Community Corrections Plan and Application for Fiscal Year 2008. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the Comprehensive Community Corrections Plan and Application for Fiscal year 2008. Motion carried.

Discussion took place regarding letters received in opposition to the Krampe Park Fishing Pier scheduled to be constructed. Moved by Commissioner Walker, supported by Commissioner Paepke to refer the letters regarding the construction of the fishing pier at Krampe Park to the Law Enforcement and Courts Committee to see if there is something more that can be done to create a police presence in the park. Motion carried.

A letter was received from the Heartland Clubhouse Consumers in protest to the elimination of the Greenville to Stanton Transit. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Paepke to place the correspondence from the Heartland Clubhouse Consumers on file. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from the DNR regarding payments from the National Forest Revenues. In the past Montcalm County has opted to receive the full payment amount. Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Johansen to opt to receive the full payment amount for the National Forest Revenues. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Petersen to approve consent agenda items 8 through 17 and move stated action:

Kevin Weaver	Animal Control Report, May 2007	Place on file
Ionia Montcalm DHS Bd.	Minutes, May 17, 2007	Place on file
EightCAP, Inc.	Minutes, May 25, 2007	Place on file
Montcalm Center	Minutes, May 22, 2007	Place on file
Solid Waste Management	Minutes, June 20, 2007	Place on file
Veterans Relief Fund	Minutes, June 28, 2007	Place on file
Central Dispatch Authority	Minutes, June 14, 2007	Place on file
Scott Minard	Dodge Report, June 2007	Place on file
County Controller	Sheridan Comm. Fire Department Lease	Place on file
County Controller	Rules of the Montcalm County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority	Place on file

Motion carried.

At 1:30 p.m. Kim Singh, Health Officer, was in attendance to present the board with the 2006 Board of Health Annual Report. Ms. Singh went over the highlights in the report with the board and answered questions.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Walker to name the park located on Johnson Road the Flat River Nature Park, operated by the Montcalm County Parks & Recreation Commission. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Petersen to place the June 21, 2007 Parks & Recreation Commission minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Walker to place the July 9, 2007 Economic Development and Physical Resources Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Petersen to place the July 9, 2007 Law Enforcement and Courts Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to hire Dave Feldpausch as the new Emergency Services Director starting October 1, 2007. Motion carried with Commissioner Petersen voting no.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke that the evaluation of Kevin Weaver be place in his personnel file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the tuition reimbursement for Mark Belling in amount of \$250. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the purchase of a 250 gallon water heater from K.L. McCoy with amount not to exceed \$17,523.00 and funds coming from contingency and bypass the bid process due time constraints. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke allowing EMS to purchase the 2004 Explorer for \$13,985.00 for the replacement of Rescue 23 from Stanton Ford. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Retzloff to approve warrant number 070907 in the amount of \$179,780.90. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Baker to place the July 9, 2007, Finance and Personnel Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Kristen Millard informed the board of the directive county clerks' have received from the State Department regarding the processing of passport applications. County Clerks' are being asked to no longer process passport applications for individuals they issue birth certificates for. Instead, they would like those customers to be directed either to a post office that processes applications or to another county clerk's office. Ms. Millard explained that this directive could end up costing the county \$20,000 annually in revenue loss. She also informed the board that clerks throughout the state are contacting their congressmen asking for a reversal of this directive.

Chris Hyzer informed the board that signatures are needed on the New Vehicle Order Form for the 2007 MDOT van application for Commission on Aging and a Title V host agency agreement that must be submitted by July 10, 2007. Both documents arrived after the board packets were assembled and mailed out.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Caris to allow Commission on Aging to approve the 2007 MDOT New Vehicle Order Form for a Commission on Aging van and allow for the proper signatures. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the Title V Host Agency Agreement for Commission on Aging and allow Chairman Carr to sign the document. Motion carried.

Discussion took place on the motion on table regarding AmbuCab. Moved by Commissioner McCrackin, supported by Commissioner Paepke to reduce the Ambu Cab position from full time to part time and accept the proposed rate increase to be effective August 1, 2007. Roll call vote: Ayes: Commissioners Petersen, Paepke, Baker, Carr, McCrackin and Walker. Nays: Commissioners Retzloff, Johansen and Caris. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Sandy Raines and Carrie Wills from the Drain Office addressed the board regarding a situation in the Drain Building. They explained that since the boiler, located in the Drain Office basement, went down in the early spring and was repaired, they noticed strange odors and experienced headaches and nausea. They complained to the maintenance department regarding the odors and their symptoms but nothing was done. Unsatisfied, they called Lonnie Smith at the Health Department and had him come out, but he said that the odor was just the pipes.

Their symptoms and the odors continued, so last week they called the County Controller and had him come over but he did not smell anything. Carrie explained that last Friday a customer, who happens to own a heating and cooling business, came in and immediately detected the smell of natural gas. She informed Carrie that there was a natural gas leak and recommended they immediately evacuate the building and call Consumers. Carrie took it upon herself to call Consumers and within 30 minutes they were informed that there was a 30 to 40% natural gas leak around the boiler. They were informed to evacuate the building and not turn on any switches.

Both Sandy and Carrie have serious concerns regarding their well being with their office located directly over the boiler. They would like a carbon dioxide detector installed in their office and a procedure to follow should they experience a problem like this in the future.

Commissioner Johansen volunteered to have the Economic Development and Physical Resources Committee take on the responsibility of handling the situation in the Drain Office. A carbon dioxide detector will be installed and a procedure will be developed.

Moved by Commissioner Retzloff, supported by Commissioner Baker to adjourn at 2:23 p.m. Motion carried.

Kristen Millard, County Clerk

Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman