

MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

Monday, August 11, 2008

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. Pastor Jerry Carlson from the Assembly of God Church in Sheridan offered invocation.

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

Others present: Chris Hyzer, Kristen Millard, Rosalena and Duane Wolfgang, Kempei Rupert, Rick Reynolds, Mary Perez, Harriet Caverly, Roger and Mary Scholz, Larry and Evelyn Bush, Lance and Evelyn Bartz, Bonnie and Jim Hilliker, Gary and Sharon Tobey, Stanley and Wanda Reynolds, Alvin Feldpausch, Jeanne and Mike Urbanski, John and Deanna Cameron, Howard Marshall, Forrest Stephens, Roberta Murray, Donna and Chris Gavitt, Pam and Kevin Allen, Linda and George Leist, Jerry McCoy, and Lt. Brian Whitsett.

Moved by Commissioner McCrackin, supported by Commissioner Caris to approve the July 28, 2008, regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Sandy Carlton addressed the board regarding the Animal Shelter and the county's contract with a Class B animal dealer. She stated that according to the Animal Welfare Act, Class B dealers should have to pay the spayed and neutered fees, just as everyone else does.

Jeannie Urbanski addressed the board regarding the Animal Shelter and urged the county to use PetFinder.com.

Joyce Weaver addressed the board regarding a letter the back-lot owners of Schmeid Park have received from an attorney. They have been informed that they are no longer entitled to have lake access to Townline Lake and are looking for assistance from the county as to who rightfully owns that property.

Alex Weaver addressed the board regarding the Schmeid Park plat that shows roads going straight down to the lake. He states that these roads, as well as the shoreline, are public property that can be used by back-lot owners. He also stated that none of the lakefront lots are actually waterfront lots because the plat shows a strip of land between these lots and the lake as public property, which is entitled Schmeid Park.

George Leist stated that everything he has in his possession says that the roads going to the lake and the shore line are public property. However, he has been told to remove his dock and watercraft from the public property. He does not believe that he should have to pay any legal fees when he believes that the land in question is township or county owned property.

Linda Leist stated that in the past, properties sold in Schmeid Park have been misrepresented by real estate agents as water front lots. This has been a problem for many years. However, back-lot owners have been using the waterfront strip for more than 70 years.

Roger Schultz addressed the board and stated that this issue for litigation and has no business going before the Board of Commissioners. He stated that it needs to be decided by the courts.

Chairman Carr addressed the audience and informed them that this issue has been brought before the Board of Commissioners in the past, but to his recollection, the county does not own the property in question. He stated that this is an issue for Circuit Court to decide.

At 1:30 p.m. the board adjourned outside to tour the Mobile Command Post that was obtained through Michigan's Federal Surplus Program and renovated with over \$60,000 of Regional Homeland Security Grand funds. Jerry McCoy and Lt. Brian Whitsett, Michigan State Police 6th District Emergency Management Coordinator, were in attendance to give the board a tour of the Mobile Command Post.

The meeting reconvened at 1:57 p.m.

Notice of FY 2009 Safe Communities traffic safety grant was received from the Office of Highway Safety Planning. Montcalm County is eligible to receive \$15,000 to address traffic safety problems. Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to approve the FY 2009 Safe Communities traffic safety grant in the amount of \$15,000. Motion carried.

Notice of three revocation requests of industrial facilities exemption certificates were received from the State Tax Commission. Moved by Commissioner Baker, supported by Commissioner Paepke to place the three letters from the State Tax Commission on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Baker, supported by Commissioner Paepke to approve consent agenda items 3 through 4 and move stated action:

Scott Minard	Dodge Report, June 2008	Place on file
Scott Minard	Dodge Report, July 2008	Place on file

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Walker to set the selling price of \$1,100 for aerial photos starting year's assessment 2008 through 2011 that includes aerial photos which includes split updates shape files of parcel split during the assessment year. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johansen, supported by Commissioner Walker to place the August 11, 2008 Economic Development and Physical Resources Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Caris to allow Animal Control to extend their hours to be open during the lunch hour and to be open on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for a trial period. The Animal Control hours will be reevaluated after November 1, 2008. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Paepke, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to place the August 11, 2008 Law Enforcement & Courts Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Paepke to allow Animal Control to hire a dog census taker and to evaluate the position after six months. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to approve warrant number 081108 in the amount of \$613,105.39. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Caris, supported by Commissioner Lindeman to place the August 11, 2008 Finance and Personnel Committee minutes on file. Motion carried.

Chris Hyzer presented the board with the Emergency Management Performance Grant Agreement for FY 2008. Moved by Commissioner Baker, supported by Commissioner Johansen to approve the Emergency Management Performance Grant Agreement for FY 2008 and authorize Chairman Carr to sign it. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner McCrackin, supported by Commissioner Johansen to send letters to James Freed, Village of Lakeview Manager, and Mark Borden, Carson City - City Manager, and ask if they will accept a position on the Brownfield Authority Board. Motion carried with Commissioner Carr voting no.

Public comments were offered. Mike Urbanski addressed the board regarding the policy at the animal shelter to charge for euthanization of an animal and then donating the animal to medical research. Mr. Urbanski stated that the Attorney General's office has informed him that it is illegal to carry on this practice without giving notice that animals left at the shelter may be donated to research. He informed the board that he has filed a complaint with Attorney General's office.

Commissioner Johansen addressed the board regarding the passing of the Ambulance and Rescue millage. He thanked those board members that went the extra mile to get the information on the millage out to the public. Chairman Carr also thanked Commissioner Johansen for his work on getting information out on the millage.

Moved by Commissioner Lindeman, supported by Commissioner Johansen to adjourn at 2:16 p.m. Motion carried.

Kristen Millard, County Clerk

Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman