

**CHEBOYGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FINANCE/BUSINESS MEETING  
January 9, 2007**

The meeting was called to order in the Commissioners Room by Chairperson Linda Socha at 9:30 a.m.

Roll called and a quorum present.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Socha, Makima, Redmond, Mushlock, Page, Wallace and Bolinger

**ABSENT:** None

Commissioner Bolinger gave the invocation and Commissioner Wallace led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Bolinger requested that NEMCOG correspondence regarding Drug Court Education be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under New Business.

**Motion** by Commissioner Bolinger, seconded by Commissioner Makima, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Mushlock, seconded by Commissioner Bolinger, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, consisting of the following items:

- A. Minutes of the December 12, 2006 Finance/Business Meeting, and the January 3, 2007 Organizational Meeting
- B. Approve Monthly Finance Claims in the amount of \$343,607.49
- C. Budget Adjustments:  
For 2006 Fiscal Year - Request for Transfer of \$5,588 from Contingency to the following – Circuit Court Legal-Crt Appointed Attys 101-131-825.00 \$5,558; Appropriation/Transfer to Other Funds Map Project #216 101-902-963.04 \$30; Raise Revenues and Expenditures – For 2006 Fiscal Year – Cheboygan County Housing Savings Fund 282 total budget increase of \$25,000, Cheboygan County Housing Grant Fund 283 total budget increase of \$24,000, Inverness Sewer Project Fund 351 total budget increase of \$7,250; For 2007 Fiscal Year – Fund 101 total budget increase of \$28,520 (Sheriff's Department 301 \$7,360 and Capital Outlay Department 267 \$21,160); For 2006 Fiscal Year – Inter-budget Trans requests (19 pages) for transfers related to personal service (payroll) line items.
- D. Communications:
  - 1. Livingston County Resolution in Opposition to HB 6391 Amendment to the General Property Tax Act
  - 2. Muskegon County Resolution In Opposition to HB 6391 Amendment to the General Property Tax Act
  - 4. Health Board minutes of November 21, 2006
  - 5. Cheboygan County Housing Minutes of October 13, 2006
  - 6. Board Appointments & Procedures Committee minutes of January 5, 2007
  - 7. Cheboygan County Road Commission minutes of November 22, 2006 and December 7, 2006
  - 8. Cheboygan City Council minutes of November 28, 2006
  - 9. Planning Commission minutes of December 6, 2006
  - 10. ZBA minutes of November 21, 2006

A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS** – None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Redmond presented recommendations from the Board Appointments & Procedures Committee.

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**Motion** by Commissioner Makima, seconded by Commissioner Bolinger, to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments & Procedures Committee and accept the resignation of Scott Wendt from the Cheboygan County Planning Commission and prepare a certificate of appreciation for Mr. Wendt. Motion carried with 7 yes 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Bolinger, seconded by Commissioner Makima, to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments & Procedures Committee and appoint Ty LaPrairie to the Cheboygan County Waterways Commission for a term commencing January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2009. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Bolinger, seconded by Commissioner Page, to accept the recommendation from the Board Appointments & Procedures Committee and appoint the following as an ad hoc Recycling Committee: Robert Heilman, Chairperson, Village of Mackinaw City; Diane Rekowski, NEMCOG; Ann Chastain, MSUE; Gene Hodulik, Burt Transfer Station; Scott McNeil, City of Cheboygan; Mike McIntosh, District #4 Health Department; Jeanette Mateer, Environmental Interest; Ann Bauhman, Environmental Interest; Gloria Mendrick, Farm Bureau Representative; Sue McKinnon, Public at Large; Ann Couture/Maureen Engle, Benton Transfer Station; Gary Goode, City of Cheboygan WWTP; Ron Neuman, Inverness Township; Eric Jacobson, Tuscarora Township; Mike Overton, Cheboygan County; Ben Bartlett, MSUE; Kathy Bricker, Public at Large; Jim LaPeer, Ellis Transfer Station; Cynthia Kress, Environmental Interest; John George, Republic Waste Hauler; and Commissioners Socha, Redmond and Wallace. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Commissioner Redmond advised that the Fair Board has accepted the resignation of Assistant Manager John Kling. He said according to the minutes of the February 15, 2006 Finance/Business Meeting the assistant manager position was established by the Board of Commissioners at that time with wages not to exceed \$1500.

Commissioner Page reported attending the NEMSCA meeting in Alpena and noted survey results showed users of the services provided by NEMSCA were highly satisfied with those services.

Commissioner Mushlock attended the public hearing on the Cheboygan County Recreation Plan. She said her husband had reviewed the plan and was disappointed with the low number of townships participating. She also reported attending the Fair Board Meeting and was concerned with whether the open assistant manager position should be advertised. Civil Counsel said the County' Anti-nepotism Policy adopted by the county last year would have to be followed in hiring a replacement. Administrator Overton said it is up to the Fair Board who they hire, but would recommend the position be advertised.

Commissioner Bolinger reported attending the NEMCOG meeting in Hillman, the LEPC meeting, a Judicial Meeting in Lansing and the Forest and Walker Township meetings. He said Forest Township has been discussing the adoption of a noise ordinance and Walker Township is moving ahead on a new township hall. He reported there is movement to shift felons in state prisons to county jails, which would force counties to enlarge their jails.

Commissioner Socha attended the Planning Commission meeting and reported preliminary discussion on updating the Master Plan was held. She said all of the townships should work on suggested changes and she said the commissioners should encourage township participation. She also attended the LEPC meeting and advised that all county commissioners are mandated to have four courses of emergency training in order to not affect FEMA funding and grants. She said E-team training is tentatively scheduled for April in Cheboygan and advised that Jack Messer is checking on credit received for 700 and 800 level training.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

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### NEW BUSINESS

Finance Director Kari Kortz advised that the new IRS mileage rate effective January 1, 2007 is .485 cents. She said December financial reports would be available at a later date and noted currently the General Fund shows \$632,000 revenue over expenditures without borrowing from the tax fund, however that will be reduced as 2006 expenditures are posted back.

Ms. Kortz presented a request from former Prosecutor Tim MacArthur regarding compensation for 2000 which he did not receive. She said upon investigation, it was determined that Mr. MacArthur was paid for 233 days in 2000, however, he worked 243 days that year as prosecutor. The additional amount owed totals \$3,257.61. Ms. Kortz requested approval of this as well as a budget adjustment to increase revenue line item 101-400-699.00 Fund in the amount of \$3,258 and increase expenditure line item 101-285-959.00 Miscellaneous in the amount of \$3,258.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Bolinger, to approve the required budget adjustment in the amount of \$3,258 and direct the Finance Department to pay Tim MacArthur \$3,257.61 for his final two weeks as prosecutor in 2000 from line item 101-285-959.00. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Administrator Overton said the County has existing ambulance contracts with Cheboygan Life Support, Onaway Ambulance and the Village of Mackinaw City. The agreements have been reviewed with all involved parties and the only minor change was in the coverage area between Mackinaw and Cheboygan Life Support. Cheboygan Life Support is now credited for all of Beaugrand Township. Legal Counsel reviewed these agreements in 04 and since no changes were made, other than the spreadsheet, no review was requested this year. The 2007 appropriations are as follows: Cheboygan \$60,379; Onaway \$4,382; and Mackinaw City \$5,239.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to approve the two year ambulance service agreements with Cheboygan Life Support, Onaway Ambulance, and the Village of Mackinaw City and authorize the Chair to sign the agreements. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Administrator Overton said that since the County reconstituted the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) in 2005, the EDC has explored numerous means to enhance economic development within the County and have come to the conclusion that joining the NLEA is the most economical way to achieve the goal. The NLEA is a 20 year old Michigan nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to provide economic development services to member communities. Currently only Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet County are member communities. The agreement for Cheboygan County to become a member of the NLEA is supported by the existing three member Counties. The agreement for services of NLEA defines the terms of the relationship. Legal counsel has extensively reviewed both agreements. Andy Hayes, Executive Director of the NLEA and the Chair of the EDC Scott McNeil provided an overview of the benefits of joining the NLEA. The cost of membership is .000031 mills of the county's taxable value, or \$37,740.86.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Wallace to approve the agreement to become a member of the NLEA and authorize the Chair to sign on behalf of Cheboygan County. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Bolinger, to approve the agreement for services of the NLEA and authorize the Chair to sign on behalf of Cheboygan County. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Wallace, seconded by Commissioner Makima, to amend the previous motion to include authorization for payment of \$37,740.86 for services of the NLEA. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Clerk Tryban presented the annual remonumentation contracts between the County and Granger and Associates and Fullford Surveying & Mapping. She said she spoke with Civil Counsel Bryan Graham

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and since the contracts were reviewed last year and are basically the same, it would not be necessary to have them reviewed again this year. The amount of the 2006 Remonumentation Grant is \$84,659, which is considerably more than the 2006 amount of \$43,992 and the 2005 amount of \$66,717.

**Motion** by Commissioner Makima, seconded by Commissioner Mushlock, to approve the contracts with Granger and Associates and Fullford Surveying & Mapping for Remonumentation beginning January 1, 2007 and authorize the Chair to sign. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Airport Authority member Fred Weeks gave a brief update on the airport. Finance Director Kortz said the airport again, as in past years, has requested remittance of the annual appropriation in a lump-sum in January, rather than on a quarterly basis.

**Motion** by Commissioner Mushlock, seconded by Commissioner Redmond, to approve payment of the Airport's annual appropriation in a lump-sum amount of \$55,000 for operations and \$12,063 for grant match funds in January rather than in quarterly installments. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Administrator Overton said the current Recreation Plan expired in 2005, work on a revised plan has been on going for about 1 ½ years, nine townships have chosen to participate. DNR approval and township approvals are needed by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Laura Ingles, NEMCOG Economic Development Specialist, reviewed the revised recreation plan. Commissioner Socha asked if changes can be made and still be adopted today. Ms. Ingles said two townships have already approved it as is and they would probably have to re-approve it if changes are made. Discussion held on the survey response. Ms. Ingles said that items included on the plan do not have to be acted on, but if it is not included in the plan and something comes up it would not qualify for grant money. Commissioner Bolinger did not like a community pool included. Ms. Ingles said the DNR may question why a pool was not included in the plan when it was the number one response on the survey. Commissioner Page pointed out the only commitment to a pool in the plan is \$1,000 for a feasibility study. Chairperson Socha said there was a feasibility study done on a county pool a few years ago and it was rejected at that time. Lengthy discussion was held. Civil Counsel Bryan Graham suggested a notation could be made that responses from a previous feasibility survey indicated constituents showed lack of support for a community pool. Chairperson Socha pointed out several items which required corrections.

**Motion** by Commissioner Wallace, seconded by Commissioner Bolinger, to adopt Resolution 07-003 supporting the Cheboygan County Recreation Plan 2007 with the following changes: Page 1-10 should read "Cheboygan County Airport"; Page 2-1 Chair of Rails to Trails is "City Manager of Cheboygan"; Page 2-2 Linda Socha, Chair, Pete Redmond, Vice Chair; Page 2-2 The County owned Boy Scout Camp is partially maintained by employees of Mullett Township; Page 5-1, 6-1 and 6-2 remove all reference to swimming pool (previous responses from constituents showed lack of support); Page 6-1 Develop plan for County owned 80 acre parcel of lake frontage for multi-use recreational purposes "in consultation with Mullett Township"; Page 6-4 under Beaugrand Township Rationale last word in paragraph should be "them."

**RESOLUTION 07-003**

WHEREAS, The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) has prepared a draft "Cheboygan Recreation Plan – 2007", and

WHEREAS, The plan will cover the years 2007-2012, with additions and changes as needed, and

WHEREAS, A Public Hearing has been conducted concerning this plan and public input has been accepted regarding this recreation plan, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the "Cheboygan County Recreation Plan – 2007".

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by NEMCOG to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The clerk read the motion. Chairperson Socha stated the history, geology, and land use of this plan will be good for updating the Cheboygan County Master Plan. Commissioner Page noted as presented this plan would only talk about a feasibility study for a swimming pool and does not specify a location. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 6 yes, 1 no (Commissioner Page) and 0 absent.

Commissioner Bolinger said the correspondence from NEMCOG regarding Drug Court education is very important. Commissioner Wallace indicated he would be interested in attending. Chairperson Socha said if any commissioner desires to attend the Drug Court education program in Traverse City in February to get with Kathy Morrow. Commissioner Mushlock will attend the Board Appointments and Procedures Committee meeting in place of Commissioner Wallace on February 7, 2007.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS** – Tony Matelski asked if there is a Cheboygan County Parks and Recreation endowment fund. Administrator Overton said there is not, but it is in the plan, if the Board desires to move ahead with it.

Chairperson Socha said the ad hoc Recreation Committee would not be discharged at this point.

Cheboygan County Road Commissioner Mike Donovan advised that money from the Jobs Today program has been awarded to the Road Commission for several projects in the County, including parts of Black River Road, Old 27, South Extension Road, and Twin Lakes Road. Also the bridge over the Indian River will be worked on but may not be completed this year. Mr. Donovan said recent legislation now allows the County Board of Commissioners to increase the number of road commissioners from 3 to 5 members. He said this would not be affordable at this time, and he opposes it. Waverly Township Supervisor Tony Matelski said Waverly Township also opposes a 5 member road commission as well.

Commissioner Page introduced his brother, Bill Page, who works from MMRMA. Bill Page said he has been with the authority since 1986 and advised there are many grant programs and policies available to counties through MMRMA,

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Bolinger said that overcrowding in jails welcomes lawsuits.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Page, to go into closed session, following a ten minute break, for the purpose of a strategy session connected with the negotiations of a collective bargaining agreement as authorized by Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act, being MCL 15.268(c). A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Went into closed session at 12:10 p.m. and returned to open session at 1:22 p.m.

**Motion** by Commissioner Wallace, seconded by Commissioner Makima, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

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Mary Ellen Tryban  
Cheboygan County Clerk/Register

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Linda Socha  
Chairperson