

**CHEBOYGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
NOVEMBER 27, 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 Socha asked for a moment of silence for another fallen soldier who has local ties to the Robydek Family, U.S. Army Sergeant Steven C. Ganczewski, and as well as for the passing of former Commissioner Dennis Hutchinson, and to remember all of those who are serving our country.

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

MOTION by Commissioner Makima, seconded by Commissioner Bolinger, to approve agenda as presented. Motion carried with 7 yes, and 0 absent.

Chairperson Socha explained that the Committee of the Whole Meeting typically does not have action items on the agenda, but are intended for forum and discussion items. The agenda for this meeting does include two items that require action, which are under Old Business 7. A and New Business 8. A and B.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Prosecutor Mickey Castagne addressed the Board regarding the 2008 Budget for the Cheboygan County Prosecutor's Office contractual service for the summer internship program, which is run through the Prosecuting Attorney's Coordinating Counsel. She stated that this program has been used in this County for the past 20 years. They typically work 11 weeks out of the summer and do a lot of District Court work, which takes the volume off of them during the summer months. Ms. Castagne suggested that they increase this line item number from \$5,000 to \$6,000. Discussion held. Also she addressed the Board on the line item number regarding extradition and asked for it to be put back into her line item. Ms. Castagne stated that there were approximately four (4) extraditions last year. Discussion held.

SCHEDULED VISITORS

Chief Executive Officer John Swise presented a brief overview of the NEMSCA Programs offered in Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, and Presque Isle Counties which include the following: Client Services - Food Assistance Programs, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, Low Income Weatherization Program, Homeless Prevention Program and Utility Assistance; Additional Client Services managed by other NEMCSA Divisions - Michigan Enrolls (Maximus), Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund, Earned Income Tax Credit Assistance Program, Individual Development Account Program, Family Self-Sufficiency Program, Supportive Housing Program, and Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program; Early Childhood Education Programs - Early Head Start, Head Start and Michigan School Readiness Program; Youth Programs - Compass Youth and Family Guidance, School Success Partnership and Club Cash; Community Development -

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Census Affiliate, NEMCSA Housing Program, and Homeless Technical Assistance; Aging Program - Long term Care Ombudsman Program, Medicaid/Medicare Assistance Program, In-Home Services, Congregate Meals, National Family Caregiver Support, Adult Day Care Services, Legal Services; Community Based Care Programs – Care Management and MI-Choice Waiver Program; Volunteer Programs – Foster Grandparent Program, Senior Companion Program and Retired Senior Volunteer Program; Michigan Works – Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Adult and Dislocated Workers, Core Services, Intensive Services, Training Services, Trade Adjustment Assistance and Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance, Welfare Reform Program, Michigan No Wrong Door System and Senior Community Service Employment Program. He stated that advertisement of these programs is mainly by word of mouth and there are only six (6) counselors for twelve (12) counties. NEMSCA does work closely with the Council on Aging. Discussion held.

SRR Director Mike Couture presented the 2007 Straits Regional Ride annual passenger summary, which is for the State fiscal year from October 2006 through September 2007. The Summary of passengers is as follows: Cheboygan 30,573, Presque Isle 2021, and Emmet County 3,932 for a total of 36,579 passengers, which is an increase of passenger rider ship of 3,191 from 2006. The percentages include: Cheboygan 83%, Presque Isle 6%, and Emmet County 11%. Summary of Passengers fares includes the following: 2,719 Students, 5,448 Full, 1,801 Senior, and 26,611 Disabled for a total of 36,579. Year to Date Summary includes the following: 14,418.75 Vehicle Hours, which was up from 12,727 for 2006, 39,916 Fuel Costs from 39,109 for 2006, 340,517 Miles from 325,571 for 2006, 17,365 SASI which were slightly down from 18,874 for 2006, 3,272 Contract Rides down from 3,439 for 2006, 15,942 General Fare was up from 11,075 for 2006; and 247 days down from 248 for 2006. He stated that currently the Dial a Ride Program in Cheboygan, which its goal is to be from a five (5) mile circle from the center of town to transport people around in town. Also, there is a Dial a Ride Program that currently operates in Emmet County, Mackinaw City (Summer Only), and Harbor Springs with connecting routes for the morning and afternoon from Rogers City to Cheboygan, Onaway to Cheboygan, Indian River to Cheboygan, Carp Lake and Levering to Cheboygan, Indian River to Petoskey, Wolverine to Cheboygan and Wolverine to Petoskey. The target here is the working people. But, there have been a lot of requests from Alanson, Indian River and Levering area for rides to Petoskey and back. Because of the Straits Regional Ride's Budget, we have had to turn a lot of people away. A listing of the update of events from June 2007 through November 2007 can be obtained from the County Clerk's office. He stated that his goal for SRR in 2008 would be to obtain more contracts in Petoskey, which would reduce the percentages in Cheboygan and to add a new flex route to move the riders back and forth more often. Discussion held.

OLD BUSINESS

Equalization Director Joe Lavender presented a 2007 County Apportionment Report Revision. He stated that the original report adopted by the Board in October contained incorrect taxable values. This information is stated for informational purposes only, but should be adopted with the correct valuations by the Board. The County apportionment report shows all the taxing jurisdictions requested millage rates in a column format. The report contains all the tax rates by all taxing authorities within Cheboygan County. Also he stated that the \$24 recycling surcharge would appear on the December 1, 2007 tax bills for residents in townships that opted into the program.

MOTION by Commissioner Bolinger, seconded by Commissioner Redmond, to adopt the Apportionment Report as presented with revisions. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

NEW BUSINESS

Administrator Overton presented Resolution 07-030 Northern Michigan Community Corrections Grant Application, which is State funding for Fiscal Year 2008 and 2009 Community Corrections Programs.

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MOTION by Commissioner Bolinger, seconded by Commissioner Redmond to adopt the following resolution for the Fiscal year 2008 and 2009 Community Corrections Grant Application of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments:

**RESOLUTION 07-030
Approving the Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009
Community Corrections Grant Applications
of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments**

WHEREAS, the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) serves as the Northern Michigan Community Corrections Advisory Board's (NMCCAB) fiscal agent and manager, and

WHEREAS, this County is a member of the Northern Michigan Community Corrections Advisory Board, has been served by its programs, and wishes to continue participation with the Board's programs and services in the future, and

WHEREAS, application in the amounts of \$202,506 for the general program has been prepared by NEMCOG to continue the Community Corrections programs in Cheboygan, Crawford, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle counties, and

WHEREAS, the Northern Michigan Community Corrections Advisory Board has approved this proposal, and recommends its approval by the member counties.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this County hereby approves the Northern Michigan Community Corrections Advisory Board Grant Applications prepared by NEMCOG for Community Corrections funding in the annual amount of \$202,506 for the general program for Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009.

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

Administrator Overton presented to the Board on the hiring of the Recycling Coordinator position and budget adjustment. While the Board has approved the hiring of the Recycling Coordinator position, they have not approved the Assistant position. It recently occurred to him that one employee cannot be expected to work every morning for a few hours and then come back every evening for a couple of hours seven days a week, 52 weeks per year. Thus, the need for an additional part-time employee. This will not cost more in the way of wages because they have budgeted the hours, but failed to see the effect this schedule would have on any one person's life.

He stated that thirty people applied for the Recycling Coordinator position, with six being interviewed. He has chosen Dan O'Henley for the Coordinator position and if the Board approves the additional part-time position, Garrett Balitz was chosen as the Assistant Coordinator. Both are part-time positions. He stated that he was seeking authorization to employ the Coordinator immediately and to make the necessary budget adjustments. Discussion held.

MOTION by Commissioner Mushlock, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to authorize the additional part-time position within the 2008 Recycling Budget and to make the necessary budget adjustments of approximately \$2,000 from general fund balance to the 2007 budget to hire the Coordinator effective November 28, 2007. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

BOARD MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Human Resource Director Tim Garey presented to the Board on The National Association of Counties (NACO) prescription discount card program that helps consumers save money when prescriptions are not covered by insurance. The cards are free and may be used at any participating pharmacy. This discount card is not insurance. He stated that patron savings average 20%; some discounts may be more or less, depending on the drug and quantity purchased. Mail order prescriptions of a three-month supply may result in higher discounts. Even pet prescriptions qualify for discounts at participating pharmacies. The cardholder pays the negotiated discount price or the pharmacy's retail price, whichever is lower. Cards may be used by all County residents, regardless of age, income, or existing health coverage. There is no enrollment form, membership fee, and no restrictions or limits on the frequency of use. Cardholders and family members may use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered

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by insurance. Mr. Garey stated that there is no financial impact to the County. However, the county must enter into a contract with NACO and Caremark Rx, Inc., the company that administers the Prescription Discount Card Program for NACO. The initial contract term is two years and four months, and will automatically continue for successive one-year terms unless terminated by the County, NACO, or Caremark, at the end of the initial term or a renewal period. The contract has been sent to civil counsel for review. Local stores including Wal-Mart, Glen's, Walgreen's, Kmart, Modern Pharmacy, and Indian River Village Pharmacy are part of the drug discount card program; 35 additional pharmacies in nearby Emmet, Otsego, Presque Isle, and Mackinac Counties also participate. Commissioner Socha stated that there is another discount prescription plan called the Northern Prescription Plan that is used by Emmet County and other counties in the area. She stated that her concern would be that the residents need to be aware of this program and the distribution of the cards. She asked Mr. Garey to research this program, find out the differences, and how to get this information out to the public. He stated that NACO does offer some assistance in marketing and one of the agencies that they recommend is the Health Departments. Other recommendations are court houses, doctor offices, hospitals, community outreach, libraries, senior centers, clinics, churches, and health fairs. Also she stated that MAC is offering a discount dental program, which does include a payment from the families. Again, there is no cost to the county, but we would offer residents discounts for dental work. Discussion held. Mr. Garey stated that he would do some more research and bring this back before the December 11, 2007 Finance/Business Meeting for further consideration.

Administrator Overton presented a budget summary report for the Cheboygan County 2008 Budget. He stated that it has all the changes on it that have been discussed to date, which includes all 48 separate funds. Under the explanations of changes column, it shows what the changes are (if any) in more detail. Where there is a change to a particular fund, he stated that they could go into that fund in more detail, otherwise, there has already been a consensus and we will move on.

Finance Director Kari Kortz, Treasurer Linda Cronan, Prosecuting Attorney Mickey Castagne, and Undersheriff Mike Newman were in attendance.

Dept 191 Elections – Full election year – \$27,375 increase in office supplies.

Dept 229 Prosecuting Attorney – Added back into the budget the Intern position and increased the line item from \$5,400 to \$6,400, the on-call pay stays at \$4,000, and \$5,000 for extradition, which is to be a restricted fund. Commissioner Socha stated that some determination needs to be made by the Boards Appointments and Procedures Committee to the prosecutor's budget regarding the on-call pay before the next election year. Increase line item 101-229-700.00 to \$500 to maintain grant revenue. Consensus reached.

Dept 202 Finance - \$18,700 for a part-time union position who is being added for two (2) days per week (14 hours) to help with additional finances such as Straits Regional Ride and the Marina and for \$3,000 in office equipment for this position. Consensus reached.

Dept 225 Equalization – Move GIS Employee Sharon Schley to the GIS Department and move the Address Enforcement Officer to Planning and Zoning.

Dept 243 GIS – Move GIS employee to this department from Equalization.

Dept 265 Maintenance – Add two (2) seasonal employees. Maintenance is to be responsible for the fairground maintenance year round.

Dept 267 Major Eq/Bldg Imp - Eliminated contractual services cushion \$16,000, \$32,000 added to building repair and maintenance for the fair, \$35,000 added for two cars for car pool, \$43,000 for the purchase of two Sheriff cars and \$25,000 needs to be added back in for a truck for recycling.

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Dept 270 Human Resources – Moved 50% of clerk's time from housing to HR.

Dept 275 Drain Commissioner – Reclassify amounts in line items 101-272-943.00 and 101-272-977.11 to supplies/materials.

Dept 285 General County – Added \$10,000 Citizens survey, \$12,000 performance measures, \$9,000 civil counsel based on contract.

Dept 301 Sheriff – Decrease of \$40,000 for two new patrol cars budgeted in Department 267, decrease of \$47,000 for transport van purchased in 2007, \$10,000 equipment budgeted here rather than Department 267, and the department actually up \$40,000 in wages and fringes.

Dept 412 Planning/Zoning – Lowered Planning Administrator pay scale \$7,000, which is the vacant position since Brian Duvall left; move Address Enforcement Officer here from Equalization; added some office equipment expenses related to move.

Dept 648 Medical Examiner – Lowered budgeted amount for autopsies due to the purchase of a new transport van and the addition of a part-time transporter. Undersheriff Newman stated that they transported their first body to Grand Rapids for autopsy and they need to purchase some supplies to comply with the agencies request.

Dept 651 Ambulance – 7.14% increase.

Dept 691 Cheboygan County Housing – Moved 50% of clerk's time from housing to HR.

Dept 430 Animal Shelter/Dog Warden - 4% increase in the Animal Control contract.

Dept 751 Parks and Recreation – Needs to be eliminated.

Dept 784 Soil Conservation - Administrator Overton stated he attended an open house last week and he suggested to them that they need to come to the board each year with a report. They are to receive \$9,600 Ag Grant and \$15,670 to be added back in.

Fund 277 Senior Citizens Millage – change in allocation to CCOA and increase in tax revenue.

Fund 270 Veterans – Newsletter eliminated. Ms. Kortz was directed to decrease line item 270-400-422.01 Sales Proceeds from \$2,500 to \$0, decrease line item 270-400-674.03 Veterans Assistance Donations from \$10,000 to \$7,000 and decrease line item 270-682-880.00 Community Projects from \$10,500 to \$7,500 and decrease line item 270-682-935.03 Grounds Repair/Improvement from \$2,500 to \$0. Lengthy discussion held. Administrator Overton is to send a letter to the Veterans Committee members with an explanation.

Fund 401 Court house Preservation Fund - \$200,000 budgeted use of fund balance.

Fund 509 County Marina – \$16,000 decreased by two seasonal employees, increase dock repair and maintenance \$13,000, increased gasoline COGS \$38,000, increased depreciation \$14,000, and increase Harbor Masters salary by 3%. Lengthy discussion held regarding the increase of the Harbor Master's salary and leaving the County Marina to its own lawn care and the cleaning of their fish station. Consensus reached. Change line item 509-752-712.00 Fringe and 509-752-720.00 Seasonal to add back two employees related to lawn care.

Fund 561 Fair – No other changes to discuss.

Finance Director Kortz stated that she received the MERS percentages with a slight decrease. If she gets any other payroll changes such as Workers Compensation, MESC and Long Term Disability coverage costs before the December 11th meeting, she will adjust the budget

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accordingly. General Fund transfer will be increased by amount received from Fund 516 for the Treasurer's salary. A Public Hearing regarding the approval of the Budget is scheduled for December 11th. Chairperson Socha thanked Administrator Overton and Financial Director Kortz for all their hard work.

CITIZENS COMMENT - None

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS - Commissioner Wallace thanked Commissioner Socha for all her hard work.

MOTION by Commissioner Mushlock, seconded by Commissioner Wallace to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 2:24 P.M.

Karen L. Brewster
Chief Deputy Clerk Register

Linda Socha
Chairperson