

The **regular meeting** of the Alcona County Board of Commissioners was held in the County Building in the City of Harrisville, Michigan on Wednesday, **June 3, 2020** at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Craig Johnston, Chairman.

Invocation given by Commissioner Gary Wnuk.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Commissioners present: Craig Johnston, Chairman, Adam Brege, Vice Chairman, Carolyn Brummund, Gary Wnuk and Dan Gauthier. Also present: Trena MacNeill, Deputy County Clerk and Cheryl Franks, County Treasurer, via zoom.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion by Gauthier, seconded by Brummund, to approve the May 20, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes.**

**Roll Call: Yes – Brege, Johnston, Gauthier and Brummund**

**Abstain – Wnuk**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Lenny Avery, ACCOA Director, discussed the upcoming food drops, dates, and locations.

Scott Rice, EMS Director, spoke regarding COVID-19 testing now being done locally. Iosco County now has a total of 23 cases and an order for more PPE was just put in.

Sheriff, Scott Stephenson, addressed the Board to give a formal thank you to Treasurer, Cheryl Franks, for her assistance and hard work.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Bill Thompson, Fair Board Member, informed the Board of the Fair Board's decision to cancel the Alcona County Fair for 2020. A meeting will be held on how the Auction will be handled and sponsors will be notified. Recycle was closed in April, but after being deemed essential, they will have recycle this month. Tire Recycle is scheduled for July 18, 2020.

Alysa Pichler, Trial Court Administrator, formally introduced Jennifer Lewis to the Board as her replacement as the new Trial Court Administrator. A Resolution was presented to appoint Pamela Fowler as magistrate and a request was made to the Board to raise salaries for the Deputy Probate Register and Deputy Juvenile Register positions.

**Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to approve Resolution #2020-12 to appoint Pamela Fowler as Magistrate as follows:**

RESOLUTION 2020-12

DATE: JUNE 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

WHEREAS, the Alcona County Board of Commissioners received a request from the Alcona County Presiding Judge, Honorable Laura A. Frawley, to appoint Pamela Fowler as Magistrate pursuant to MCL 600.8501, effective June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Pamela Fowler is hereby appointed Magistrate for the County of Alcona, effective upon approval of the State Court Administrator's office.

**Roll Call: Yes – Wnuk, Johnston, Gauthier, Brummund, and Brege** **No – None**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion by Brege, seconded by Gauthier, to approve Trial Court wage increases for the Deputy Probate Register position and the Deputy Juvenile Register position.**

**Roll Call: Yes – Gauthier, Brummund, Brege and Wnuk** **No – Johnston**

**MOTION CARRIED**

At this time, the Board presented Alys Pichler with a plaque expressing their appreciation of her as the Trial Court Administrator.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Motion by Gauthier, seconded by Wnuk, to amend the motion previously approved on May 20, 2020 to extend unused vacation time 90 days for employees whose anniversary date fell between March 16, 2020 to May 26, 2020 to March 16, 2020 to June 5, 2020.**

**Roll Call: Yes – Gauthier, Wnuk, and Johnston** **No – Brege and Brummund**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Motion by Gauthier, seconded by Brummund, to approve pre-authorized claims and open claims presented for payment between 5/20/20 and 6/02/20 for check numbers 140981 to 141104 and E-check numbers 1310 to 1320 for a grand total of \$396,388.67.**

**Roll Call: Yes – Brummund, Brege, Wnuk, Johnston, and Gauthier** **No – None**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion by Wnuk, seconded by Brege, to approve Resolution #2020-11 in Response to Executive Order #2020-77 as follows:**

**RESOLUTION 2020-11**

**Alcona County, Michigan**

***RESOLUTION IN RESPONSE TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-77***

*Whereas*, on May 7, 2020, Governor Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-77, which extended the duration of the "Stay-At-Home" order to May 28, 2020; and

*Whereas*, the Alcona County Board of Commissioners perceive that certain restrictions in the executive order violate the civil liberties of Michigan resident's that are protected by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Michigan of 1963; and

*Whereas*, the Alcona County Board of Commissioners acknowledges that the COVID-19 virus has caused an unprecedented time in "our history"; however, even in the time of crisis the basic civil liberties and foundations of our society must be preserved with common sense legislative action; and

*Whereas*, Benjamin Franklin (*An Historical Review of the Constitution and Government of Pennsylvania p. 289*) stated "Those who would give up Essential Liberty to purchase a little Temporary Safety, deserve neither LIBERTY nor SAFETY" ; and

*Whereas*, We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, Declaration Of Independence; and

*Whereas*, Governments are not instituted to help us to stay healthy or prevent us from getting ill; and

*Whereas*, Executive Order 2020-77 continues to take a "one size fits all" approach to COVID-19 in the State of Michigan; however, as has been seen time and time again, what works for the Lansing, Detroit, and other metropolitan areas does not necessarily translate into good public policy for the North East Rural Michigan; and

*Whereas*, the Alcona County Board of Commissioners believe all businesses are "essential" because they provide for the livelihood of their employees, and the financial hardship to those that are laid off is substantial; and

*Whereas*, unemployment claims in Alcona County have increased "with 85 filings that week, increased by 57% since the" week ending March 14" due to the mandatory closing of many businesses that have been deemed "non essential" Alpena News "**Unemployment spike makes for frustrating claims process**" Mar 31, 2020: and

Whereas, the Alcona County Board of Commissioners believe that the State needs to allow businesses that can operate safely to reopen to mitigate the devastation that COVID-19 has already had on our economy and allow the residents of Alcona County to return to work.; and

Whereas, the response to the COVID-19 virus must be balanced as not to make the collateral impacts more devastating and punitive than the virus itself; and

Whereas, the Alcona County Board of Commissioners support common sense approaches to combat the COVID-19 virus, such as: following social distancing recommendations, promoting healthy hygienic practices, and encouraging individuals that are considered high risk to continue to self-quarantine and adhere to the recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control.; and

*Therefore, Be It Resolved,* that the Alcona County Board of Commissioners call upon Governor Whitmer and the State of Michigan Legislature to immediately re-evaluate Executive Order 2020-77 to ensure the civil liberties of Michigan residents are not infringed; and

*Therefore, Be It Further Resolved,* that the Alcona County Board of Commissioners call upon Governor Whitmer and the State of Michigan Legislature to immediately consider relaxing some restrictions allowing more people to return to their jobs; and

*Therefore, Be It Further Resolved,* that the Alcona County Board of Commissioners call upon Governor Whitmer and the State of Michigan Legislature to end their unilateral, one size fits all approach, and to work with counties and local governments in the fight against COVID-19 to ensure that measures put in place make sense for our communities ; and

*Therefore, Be It Further Resolved,* that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senator Jim Stamos, House Representative Susan M. Allor, and the other 82 Counties in the State of Michigan.

**Roll Call: Yes –Brege, Wnuk, Johnston, Gauthier, and Brummund**

**No - None**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to approve the FY 2021 Community Corrections Grant Application of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments Resolution #2020-10 as follows:**

**RESOLUTION #2020-10**

**Approval  
of the**

**FY2021 Community Corrections Grant  
Application of the**

**Northeast Michigan Council of Governments**

**WHEREAS,** the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) serves as the Fiscal Agent and Program Manager for the Northeast Michigan Community Corrections Advisory Board (NMCCAB), and

**WHEREAS,** this County is a member of either the NEMCCAB strongly desires to continue to participate with Community Correction's Programs and Services, and

**WHEREAS,** NEMCOG has worked with the OCC to develop a Community Corrections FY 2021 Grant Application for the NEMCCAB, and

**WHEREAS,** the FY 2021 Community Corrections Grant Application has been prepared by NEMCOG in the amount \$321,373 for Community Corrections Programs and Services in the counties of: Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford and Otsego, and

**WHEREAS,** the Northeast Michigan Community Corrections Advisory Board, has approved this Grant Application, and recommends its approval by the member counties,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that Alcona County hereby approves the Northeast Michigan Community Corrections Advisory Board's, FY 2021 Grant Application prepared by NEMCOG for Community Corrections funding in the annual amount of \$321,373 for Programs and Services.

**Roll Call: Yes – Johnston, Gauthier, Brummund, Brege, and Wnuk** **No – None**

**MOTION CARRIED**

David Hanson, Building and Grounds, presented two quotes to the Board for a new riding mower.

**Motion by Gauthier, seconded by Brummund, to approve the purchase of a new mower from Haglund's, with billing to be starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.**

**Roll Call: Yes – Gauthier, Brummund, Brege, Wnuk, and Johnston** **No – None**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion by Wnuk, seconded by Gauthier, to re-open the building to the public for business, following the governor's guidelines, on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

**Roll Call: Yes – Brummund, Brege, Wnuk, Johnston, and Gauthier** **No – None**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Cheryl Franks discussed the county's fund balance and completed budget amendments, as well as future termination pay line items. Finance will set up a meeting with the Clerk and Treasurer some time next week.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

Trena MacNeill updated the Board on a pandemic relief credit the county received from Delta Dental in the amount of \$4,566.98.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Livingston County Resolution  
Kalkaska County Resolution  
Tuscola County Resolution

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The Board gave brief reports on the various committee meetings they recently attended.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Bill Thompson, Fair Board member, stated he was selling raffle tickets for an August 2020 drawing.

Meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m. until the next **regular scheduled meeting** to be held on **June 17, 2020** at 10:00 a.m.

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**County Clerk**

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**Chairman**