

The **regular meeting** of the Alcona County Board of Commissioners was held in the County Building in the City of Harrisville, Michigan on **Wednesday, February 16, 2022** at 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Adam Brege, Chairman.

Invocation was given by Adam Brege, Chairman.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioners present: Adam Brege, Chairman, Dan Gauthier, Vice Chairman, via Zoom, Carolyn Brummund, William Thompson and Terry Small. Also present: Stephany Eller, County Clerk and Cheryl Franks, County Treasurer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Small, to approve the February 2, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes.

Roll Call: Yes – Brege, Thompson, Small and Brummund

No – None

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Robert Turek, Harrisville Township resident, spoke in regard to his concern of the mask signs posted on the county building and the Boards legal authority within the scope of their surety bond.

Scott Kosal, Millen Township Trustee, informed the Board of Millen Townships efforts to obtain broadband utilizing ARPA funds and questioned where the Board was at in their efforts.

Marie Fielder, Alpena County resident, introduced herself and stated that she is running for State Representative for the 106th District.

Kevin Boyat, Oscoda Wurtsmith Airport Authority Board member, gave an update on the Oscoda Wurtsmith Air Force Base and stated that this will be the 50th Anniversary for the Alcona County Fair with an upcoming Bump and Run on Saturday, March 5th. Boyat further requested any help from the Board in repairing barn roofs at the fairgrounds.

Dan Gauthier, Vice Chairman, talked to the Building Department in regard to the current lawsuit and that Caledonia Township is looking into rezoning for small buildings and that all Townships should as well. Building Department has sent letters to contractors regarding pulling permits for all projects.

At this time Chairman Brege added Gypsy Moth Program and Northern Michigan Counties Wage and Benefit Study to the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS:

Patrick Smylie, Veterans Board member, informed the Board of ongoing work in expanding the Veterans Affairs office to a more central location and requested working together with the County to move forward.

Motion by Brege, seconded by Small, to allow the Chair to assemble an exploratory committee for potential property use at EMS for office space. Committee to include Dave Hanson, Bill Thompson and Terry Small.

MOTION CARRIED

Workshop scheduled for Wednesday, March 2nd at 10:00 a.m. to discuss Veterans office options.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Motion by Brege, seconded by Thompson, to advertise a Request for Proposals for the FY 2021 Audit.

Roll Call: Yes – Small, Brummund, Brege and Thompson **No – None**

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Small, seconded by Thompson, to allow the Chair to sign the Alcona Township Floodplain Management Agreement as presented.

Roll Call: Yes – Thompson, Small, Brummund and Brege **No – None**

MOTION CARRIED

Motion Thompson, seconded by Brummund, to accept the updated Covid Directive as presented.

Roll Call: Yes – Brummund, Brege, Small and Thompson **No – None**

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Brege, seconded by Small, to approve pre-authorized claims and open claims presented for payment between 2/02/2022 and 2/15/2022 for check numbers 146679 to 146795 and E-check numbers 1788 to 1795 for a grand total of \$490,348.85.

Roll Call: Yes – Thompson, Brummund, Small and Brege **No – None**

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brege, seconded by Thompson, to approve the advertisement for the Truth and Taxation Publication.

Roll Call: Yes – Small, Brummund, Brege and Thompson

No – None

MOTION CARRIED

Commissioner Small shared information he has collected in talking to different entities that currently have a Gypsy Moth Millage in place and explained the Northern Michigan Counties Wage and Benefit Study

TREASURERS REPORT:

Treasurer Franks reported that 2021 accruals are closer to being completed.

PERSONNEL REPORT:

Commissioner Brummund reported that there will be an open part-time position at MSUE effective February 28th. Position to be circulated among the Teamsters Union. If there is no union interest, position to be advertised. Commissioner Thompson reported on the ongoing EMS union negotiations and presented a Proposal for an Architectural and Mechanical Survey of the building.

Dave Hanson, Building and Grounds, gave a further detailed description of what the proposal will entail.

CLERKS REPORT:

Clerk Eller requested the Boards interest in a quote from Peterson McGregor Insurance for the county's property and liability insurance and stated that the Pre-renewal process has begun with MMRMA.

COMMUNICATIONS:

NEMCOG Letter, Richard Vollbach, 23rd Circuit Trial Court Chief Judge Letter, USDA Letter, Build a Better America and DHD#2 Communication.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner, Dan Gauthier, stated that in regard to the Veterans office, the US Highway will need to be contacted and to get the septic permit plans from the original building to see if they can even build at the existing EMS building. Gauthier further stated his concern with the Alcona Township Agreement passed today's date.

Scott Kosal, Millen Township Trustee, stated that the Gypsy Moth request isn't very feasible at the Township level, but should be county-wide and requested the Board reconsider the PILT monies.

Gary Wnuk, Mitchell Township resident, spoke in opposition to the Gypsy Moth Millage.

Kevin Boyat, Millen Township resident, recalled the State paying for the last gypsy moth spray.

Lisa Turek, Harrisville Township resident, requested clarification of the gypsy moth spraying.

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Brege, to approve the EMS Write-offs for January 2022 in the amount of \$36,310.94.

Roll Call: Yes – Small, Thompson, Brummund and Brege

No – None

MOTION CARRIED

COMMISSIONERS ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND CONCERNS:

Commissioner Thompson gave an update on the Tire Recycle for May 21, 2022 and that NEMCOG is trying for an electronic recycle on September 17, 2022.

At 2:46 p.m. the meeting adjourned to the next **Regular Meeting** to be held on **Wednesday, March 2, 2022** at 1:30 p.m.

County Clerk

Chairman