**BARAGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**June 14, 2021**

**DUE TO COVID-19 MEETING WAS HELD IN**

**COMBINATION –IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Rolof called the Regular Meeting to order on Monday, June 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., L’Anse Town Hall, 126 N. Main Street, L’Anse, MI 49946. The Board of Commissioners held the meeting in person as well as an option to attend via Zoom.

**ROLL CALL:**

Clerk Goodreau took roll call with the following results:

Present: Gale Eilola, District 1, Brad Dakota, District 2, Dan Robillard, District 3, Lyle Olsen, District 4 and William Rolof, District 5.

Absent: None.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

Chairman Rolof led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve the Agenda. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve the minutes for the Regular meeting held on May 10, 2021. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-Agenda Items Only:**

No public comment.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

As presented by Treasurer, Jill C Tollefson.

**REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:**

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to approve the BCMH Trustee Per Diem for May 2021 ($930.00). On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Dakota, Eilola, Olsen, Robillard, and Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve the payment of the Claims and Accounts for the period of May 11, 2021 through June 14, 2021 in the amount of $41,493.17. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Dakota, Eilola, Olsen, Robillard, and Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve the payment of the Prepaid Bills and Trust and Agency Accounts for the period of May 11, 2021 through June 14, 2021 in the amount of $332,733.56. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Dakota, Eilola, Olsen, Robillard, and Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to approve the payment of the Sheriff Department Commissary Account for the period of May 11, 2021 through June 14, 2021 in the amount of $13,819.00. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

No Old Business.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to approve Budget Amendment 02-2012:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **BARAGA COUNTY** |  |  |  |
| **BUDGET AMENDMENTS** |  |  |  |
| For the Fiscal Year Ending 09/30/2021 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Account Name | Account Number | Revenue Increase - (Decrease) | Expense - Increase-(Decrease) |
|  |  |  |  |
| **GENERAL FUND - REVENUES** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Swampland | 101-000-429.00 |  $ 8,386.58  |  |
| Federal Grant - Cares Act | 101-000-528.00 |  $ 26,217.40  |  |
| Cares Act Prosecutor | 101-000-528.01 |  $ 9,000.00  |  |
| Cares Act Courthouse | 101-000-528.02 |  $ 11,786.10  |  |
| Marine Safety Grant | 101-000-544.03 |  $ 3,500.00  |  |
| Remonumentation Grant | 101-000-576.00 |  $ (8,661.00) |  |
| Fund Balance Surplus | 101-000-699.99 |  $ 25,000.00  |  |
| Fund Balance Surplus | 256-000-699.99 |  $ 10,000.00  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Payment in Lieu of Health Insurance | 101-101-716.01 |  |  $ (9,840.47) |
| Legal Fees | 101-101-807.00 |  |  $ 3,000.00  |
| Miscellaneous Expense | 101-101-955.00 |  |  $ 300.00  |
| Telephone | 101-136-850.00 |  |  $ 350.00  |
| Longevity | 101-137-708.00 |  |  $ 25.09  |
| Social Security / Medicare | 101-170-715.00 |  |  $ 224.91  |
| Audit | 101-170-960.03 |  |  $(12,360.00) |
| Subscription & Dues | 101-215-802.00 |  |  $ 180.00  |
| Health Insurance Expense | 101-225-716.00 |  |  $ 13.37  |
| Miscellaneous Expense | 101-225-955.00 |  |  $ (13.37) |
| Supplies and Materials - Prosecutor | 101-229-728.01 |  |  $ 9,000.00  |
| Subscription & Dues | 101-229-802.00 |  |  $ 2,850.00  |
| Subscription & Dues | 101-253-802.00 |  |  $ 325.00  |
| Travel Expense | 101-253-860.00 |  |  $ (325.00) |
| Supplies and Materials - Courthouse | 101-265-728.02 |  |  $ 11,786.10  |
| Contractual Service - Admin | 101-295-704.00 |  |  $ (892.00) |
| Per Diem | 101-295-710.00 |  |  $ (390.00) |
| Operating and Office Supplies | 101-295-727.00 |  |  $ (100.00) |
| Professional and Contractual Services | 101-295-801.00 |  |  $ (8,625.00) |
| Travel Expense | 101-295-860.00 |  |  $ 110.00  |
| Equipment | 101-295-950.00 |  |  $ 1,096.00  |
| Salary and Wages | 101-301-703.00 |  |  $ 54,114.98  |
| Longevity | 101-301-708.00 |  |  $ 74.97  |
| Social Security / Medicare | 101-301-715.00 |  |  $ 4,567.02  |
| Health Insurance Expense | 101-301-716.00 |  |  $ 18,301.68  |
| Sheriff New Vehicle | 101-301-986.00 |  |  $ 25,000.00  |
| Salary and Wages | 101-331-703.00 |  |  $ 794.00  |
| Social Security / Medicare | 101-331-715.00 |  |  $ 221.00  |
| Health Insurance Expense | 101-331-716.00 |  |  $ 968.00  |
| Mers Pension | 101-331-718.00 |  |  $ 745.00  |
| Liability Insurance | 101-850-960.00 |  |  $ 7,670.00  |
| Post Employment Buyout | 101-850-960.76 |  |  $(58,682.00) |
| Court Recording Equipment | 101-900-960.55 |  |  $ 24,739.80  |
| Bond Principal | 101-900-991.00 |  |  $ (750.00) |
| Bond Interest | 101-900-995.01 |  |  $ 750.00  |
| Technology | 256-000-960.24 |  |  $ 10,000.00  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **GENERAL FUND – JOURNAL TOTALS** |  |  **$85,229.08**  |  **$85,229.08**  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  $ 85,229.08  |  $ 85,229.08  |

On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

The Board received no letters of interest to the Baraga County DHHS Board.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve the request by the American Legion Post 144 of $700.00 for flags, markers, wreaths and etc. for the cemeteries. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Dakota, Eilola, Olsen, Robillard, and Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to approve the 2021 membership with the Baraga County Convention & Visitors Bureau. The membership fee is $125.00. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Dakota, Eilola, Olsen, Robillard, and Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

No action was taken on a request from UPSET for funding. It was noted the County allocates $5,000.00 to the UPSET West program through the Portage Health Foundation.

Sheriff Brogan received to proposals to replace three shower heads at the County Jail: Bianco Plumbing, $5,295.00. ALK Contracting, $6,557.00. Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to accept the proposal from Bianco Plumbing in the amount of $5,295.00. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Dakota, Eilola, Olsen, Robillard, and Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

The following items were presented for information:

* BCMH Board of Trustees, Minutes
* USDA, Ottawa National Forest (Ontonagon Co. Telephone Co. and Midway Telephone Co.)
* Department of Treasury, Preliminary State Equalization Report 2021
* Northwoods Rail Transit Commission, Meeting Summary
* Copper Country Mental Health, Transports

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Commissioner Robillard reported on the Western UP Health Department meeting. It was the first in-person meeting since the pandemic broke out. The WUPHD board toured the new regional lab.

Commissioner Eilola reported that the Baraga County Fair will take place August 6th, 7th, and 8th.

Commissioner Olsen reported the Baraga County Trail Authority has received word that they will take over management of several trails from MI-TRALE and is working on a connector trail from Baraga to L’Anse. Olsen also reported that an ORV Park would be very expensive and there would be no grant funding available for the project.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

No action was taken on the resolution Opposing Michigan Secretary of State “By Appointment Only”.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION OPPOSING COVID-19 VACCINE PASSPORTS

WHEREAS, medical records and information are private and fall under protection provided by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996; and

WHEREAS, individual COVID-19 vaccination records are private health information which should not be sha red by mandate; and

WHEREAS, so-called COVID-19 vaccine passports reduce individual freedom and will harm patient privacy; and

WHEREAS, all currently available COVID-19 vaccines are authorized for emergency use, and therefore must remain voluntary under the Nuremberg Trial Codes; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) seeks to ensure that every resident in Baraga County who desires a COVID-19 vaccine can obtain one, but such vaccines are not mandated; and

WHEREAS, no COVID-19 vaccine is required by law; and

WHEREAS, MDHHS acknowledges there are instances where an individual, along with their doctor, decide that being vaccinated may be unsafe; and

WHEREAS, requiring COVID-19 vaccine passports for taking part in everyday life such as, but not limited to, attending a sporting event, patronizing a restaurant, or going to a movie theater would create two classes of citizens based on vaccination; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan allows for medical, religious, and philosophical exemptions from vaccines; and

WHEREAS, vaccine passports do not take into consideration the large number of citizens who have contracted and recovered from COVID-19 and are therefore naturally immune; and

WHEREAS, the CDC and MDHHS acknowledge that it is possible for vaccinated individuals to contract and spread COVID-19; and

WHEREAS because vaccinated individuals could be able to contract and spread COVID-19, a space where only vaccinated individuals are present holds the same risk as a space where individuals are both vaccinated and unvaccinated; and

WHEREAS, vaccine passports are thus highly discriminatory, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to protect the fundamental rights and privacies of the residents of Baraga County and the free flow of commerce.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Baraga County Board of Commissioners does not support, endorse or enforce mandatory vaccines or vaccine passports in government buildings, public spaces, businesses or places of employment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Whitmer, Senator Ed McBroom, Representative Markkanen, and Michigan Association of Counties.

No action taken on a resolution Authorizing the Issuance of FOIA Request for Documents Supporting an Extension of the MIOSHA COVID-19 Emergency Rules.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Senator Shirkey's Gearing Towards Integration Proposal is not a public-private joint venture, but a wholly private managed care organization, leaving no role for the public management and oversight which is currently provided by our Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) system; and

WHEREAS, in the requirements for creating a new entity Senator Shirley's proposal only outlines requirements to become a Medicaid Health Plan and is silent to all the roles and responsibilities of the current PIHP system (recipient rights, housing and employment supports, community collaboration, etc.) that are core to the social determinants of health, safety net role, and community collaborative work of the public system; and

WHEREAS, the proposal does not eliminate any layers — Medicaid Health Plans will pick up the managed care functions from PIHPs at a much higher cost (15% versus 6%) and this money will be removed from the care our people are receiving today; and

WHEREAS, Section 116(b) of the Code (MCL 330.11l6Ib]) requires that the Department of Community Health shift primary responsibility for the direct delivery of public mental health services from the state to a community mental health services program whenever the community mental health services program has demonstrated a willingness and capacity to provide an adequate and appropriate system of mental health services for the citizens of that service area.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Baraga County Board of Commissioners strongly urges its State Senate and House of Representatives to oppose Senator Shirley's fearing Towards Integration Proposal and subsequent changes proposed to the Michigan Social Welfare Act which would privatize the public mental health system and essentially eliminate the public safety net; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Baraga County Board of Commissioners supports NorthCare Network as a public behavioral health system that provides necessary community safety net services and supports; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be provided to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senator Ed McBroom, Representative Greg Markkanen, Michigan Department of health and Human Services Director Elizabeth Hertel, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration Senior Deputy Director Allen Jansen, and the Michigan Association of Counties.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Paul Putnam, MSUE Director, discussed different programs being run by MSUE. Mr. Putnam also discussed reinstating the County allocation for the MSUE programming. Mr. Putnam has attended a few township board meetings and has spoken with Bob LaFave at the Village of L’Anse to discuss the possibility of a collaboration between the local units of government and the County for funding the MSUE program.

Todd VanDyke said the Michigan Secretary of State, Jocelyn Benson, will be touring the U.P. SOS offices.

Continuing holding meetings at 7:00 p.m. was discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the County Board, Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to adjourn the meeting until Monday, July 12, 2021. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodreau

County Clerk