**BARAGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**July 11, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Rolof called the Regular Meeting on Monday, July 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m., in the Circuit Courtroom, Baraga County Courthouse, 16 N. Third Street, L’Anse, MI 49946.

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

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

**ROLL CALL:**

Chairman Rolof instructed Clerk Goodreau to take roll call with the following results:

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

Absent: None.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to approve the minutes for the Regular meeting held on June 13, 2022. On Voice Vote, the motion.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-Agenda Items Only:**

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

As presented by Treasurer, Jill C. Tollefson.

**REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:**

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to approve the BCMH Trustee Per Diem for June 2022 ($1,060.00). On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, Commissioner Olsen, and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to approve the payment of the Claims and Accounts for the period of June 14, 2022 through July 11, 2022 in the amount of $42,519.78. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola , Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to approve the payment of the Prepaid Bills and Trust and Agency Accounts for the period of June 14, 2022 through July 11, 2022 in the amount of $127,662.23. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to approve the Sheriff’s Dept. Account expenditures for June 2022 in the amount of $8,661.36. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was no unfinished business.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve the U.P. Area Agency on Aging’s FY2023-2025 Multi – Year Plan by the following resolution:

U.P. AREA AGENCY ON AGING

2023-2025 MULTI-YEAR PLAN FOR SERVICES TO THE ELDERLY

WHEREAS UPCAP, which serves as the U.P. Area Agency on Aging, is required to develop a Multi-Year (FY 2023-2025) Area Plan that provides development and funding for programs to serve older adults in the Upper Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, during the Multi-Year Area Plan development process, UPCAP conducted needs surveys, two public hearings, and received input from service providers, older adults, county officials, human services organizations, and other interested parties; and

WHEREAS, each U.P. county is represented by a county official on the UPCAP Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the UPCAP Board of Directors has unanimously approved the

proposed Multi-Year Area Plan; and

WHEREAS, the AAA Multi-Year Plan also requires review by individual county boards.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Baraga County Board of Commissioners has received and hereby supports the U.P. Area Agency on Aging 2022-2023 Multi-Year Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be submitted to UPCAP and placed on file.

On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Robe Stow, CEO, Baraga County Memorial Hospital reported that the hospital has implemented a “sitter” program in the behavioral health care. They have hospital staff that will sit with behavioral health patients. This has cut back on the number of hours the Sheriff Deputies have to spend at the hospital which relieves the burden on the Sheriff Department. BCMH is also looking to contract with a telemedicine service to provide psychiatric services. The efforts are a collaboration between BCMH, KBIC and Copper Country Mental Health.

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to appoint Jill Beeler, District Court Clerk, as a substitute Magistrate in the 97th District Court. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Teresa Johnson, District Court Magistrate, said that her salary should’ve been set at $43,900.00 not $43,000.00. The funds to cover the salary would be transferred from the Probation budget which had been approved at the June 13, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve Teresa Johnson’s salary at $43,900.00. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas, Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to appoint Dr. Jeffrey Sweers and Dr. Abigail Prentice as deputy medical examiners. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Commissioner Robillard reported on the Western UP Health Dept. meeting.

Commissioner Olsen reported on a meeting with the Baraga County Trails Authority. Olsen suggested ARPA funds are set aside for trails.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

* BCMH Board of Trustee, Minutes
* WUPPDR, Oreste Chiantello Public Service Award
* Alberta Sawmill Interest Group
* Beaufort Lake Advisory Committee
* Baragaland Senior Citizens, Inc., Resignation-Pam Anderson
* Federal PILT payment

Commissioner Rolof thanked Pam Anderson for her many years of service at the Baragaland Senior Citizens.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

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

WHEREAS, the US Department of Labor (USDOL) has published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Wagner-Peyser Act Staffing (Docket No. ETA-2022-0003) which would require States, with no exceptions, to use State merit staff to provide Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service (ES) services, and,

WHEREAS, the proposal would reverse current federal policy that allows States maximum flexibility in staffing to provide ES services, and,

WHEREAS, current federal policy has allowed the State of Michigan to use local merit staff employees to deliver ES services through the local network of Michigan Works! Agencies to over 86,000 job seekers in 2021, and,

WHEREAS, a 1998 settlement agreement (*Michigan v Herman)* has allowed the State of Michigan to use local merit staff employees to deliver ES services through the local network of Michigan Works! Agencies to over 86,000 job seekers in 2021, and,

WHEREAS, our primary concern is the negative impacts of this proposal to Michiganders and the primary customers of the workforce development system – both job seekers and employers, and,

WHEREAS, a key benefit to greater staffing flexibility is strong local strategic relationships with businesses, higher education, nonprofits, childcare, elementary and secondary education, adult education providers, and other partners which allows for more efficient customer service to connect job seekers with in-demand jobs and training opportunities and facilitates a pipeline for those students to local employers, and,

WHEREAS, Southeast Michigan Community Alliance Workforce Development Board, compromised of business, labor and community leaders, is currently responsible for the effective and efficient delivery of six Michigan Works American Job Centers in Wayne County using 52 ES local staff, and this rule would take away local control of Employment Services, and,

WHEREAS, with this required staffing model, staff and service reductions are inevitable as services currently provided by over 400 Michigan Works! staff would be reduced to approximately 10 State of Michigan staff, resulting in significantly longer wait times for job seekers and delays in services for the 32, 0000 businesses served annually, and,

WHEREAS, this change would risk potential loss of several of the 99 full and satellite Michigan Works! American Job Centers across the state, and would negatively impact our constituents by decreased assistance filling job openings, reduction and elimination of job fairs, cutting of industry-led collaboratives, and decreased or no access to job training programs, and,

WHEREAS, limiting ES staffing to State staff, would eliminate the advantage of the streamlined current staffing model in Michigan which leverages other program funding from WIOA Title II Adult Education, SNAP, TANF, TAA and others to supplement the Wagner-Peyser state allocation, and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Baraga, hereby urges the USDOL to abandon this proposed rule change and urges Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Congressional Delegation to support local control by the Workforce Development Boards and oppose this rule and notify the USDOL Secretary that it would have an adverse impact on the Michigan “One Stop” workforce development system, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the U.S. Employment and Training Administration/U.S. Department of Labor, Governor Whitmer, our U.S. Legislators and State Legislators.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Dakota provided the Board with a report on the current Bay Ambulance building. The Board then discussed the need for a new building and possible solutions.

Commissioner Olsen said the County should consider allocating ARPA funds for other needs such as: fire departments, recreations and County facilities.

Commissioner Robillard reported on the Health Department meeting; the new lab is state of the art and the County allocation went down for FY23.

Commissioner Dakota reported that the radios that the 911 Committee recently purchased are not communicating with Dispatch but that they are working on updates to some equipment that should help. The Committee also increased the Director’s wage to $22.00/hour. The Director works part time.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Fran Whitman clarified the Sheriff’s Department account that the Board approves each month. It is not a commissary account.

**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, August 8, 2022. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodreau

County Clerk