**BARAGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**September 12, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Rolof called the Regular Meeting on Monday, September 12, 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, with the following changes and additions; i. Snowy Pines Family RV Retreat, letter of support and j. Personnel Committee, union negotiations. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve the minutes for the Regular meeting held on August 8, 2022. On Voice Vote, the motion.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-Agenda Items Only:**

No public comment received.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

As presented by Treasurer, Jill C. Tollefson.

**REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:**

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to approve the BCMH Trustee Per Diem for August 2022 ($1,030.00). On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve the payment of the Claims and Accounts for the period of August 9, 2022 through September 12, 2022 in the amount of $119,352.33. 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 Eilola to approve the payment of the Prepaid Bills and Trust and Agency Accounts for the period of August 8, 2022 through September 12, 2022 in the amount of $613,593.60. 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 Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to approve the Sheriff’s Dept. Account expenditures for August 2022 in the amount of $8,692.92. 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:**

Commission Dakota made a motion, supported by Commission Robillard to table the Resolution Amending Fee Cap for Home Health Providers Under No-Fault. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLIC ENTITY MEMBERSHIP

IN THE WEST MICHIGAN HEALTH INSURANCE POOL (“WMHIP”) FOR A MINIMUM THREE-YEAR PERIOD

PREMISES

A. The Western Michigan Health Insurance Pool (“WMHIP”) is a Public Employer Pooled Plan (“PEPP”) that provides pooled self-funded health insurance coverage, as authorized by the Public Employees Health Benefit Act, Act 106 of 2007.

B. WMHIP has received from the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services ("DIFS") a certificate of registration authorizing establishment of the PEPP.

C. The Board has had opportunity to consider the obligations of the Public Entity to WMHIP and PEPP plans, and services available to the Public Entity by WMHIP, and has carefully reviewed the WMHIP Amended Trust Agreement and Bylaws.

D. The Board desires to authorize membership of the Public Entity in the WMHIP for a minimum period of three years.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of the Public Entity hereby resolves:

1. The Board approves the WMHIP Amended Trust Agreement and bylaws, and accepts WMHIP provision of Public Entity self-funded, pooled health insurance coverage under the PEPP plan.

2. The Superintendent, Manager, or CFO of the Public Entity or, with their approval, the person appointed by the Board as WMHIP Trustee or Alternate Trustee, is hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary for the Public Entity to become a Member in the WMHIP PEPP plan.

3. The Board hereby confirms its appointment of the following persons as Trustee and Alternate Trustee to serve as Trustee when the initial Trustee is not available or in attendance to carry out the Trustee’s duties:

Wendy J. Goodreau, Clerk (Trustee)

Carrie Forcia, Deputy Clerk (Alternate Trustee)

As required by law, neither the Trustee nor the Alternate Trustee is an owner, officer, or employee of any third-party administrator or any other third-party providing services to WMHIP. The Trustee and Alternate Trustee shall serve until replaced by action of the Board. Once appointments are made known to the WMHIP, the persons appointed shall remain in office until the WMHIP receives evidence of appointment of other persons. Evidence of proper appointment of the Trustee and Alternate Trustee shall be a certified copy of the resolution passed by the Board, indicating the names of the designated Trustee and/or Alternate Trustee. Failure of the Public Entity to designate a Trustee, or the failure of that Trustee/Alternate Trustee to participate on the Board of Trustees, shall not affect the responsibilities or duties of the Public Entity under the Amended Trust Agreement.

4. The Public Entity shall continue participation in the WMHIP for a minimum of three full years under its PEPP plan.

5. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this Resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to approve the following changes to the Personnel Handbook:

22.1: Each regularly scheduled full time employee shall be eligible to participate in the County’s comprehensive medical and hospitalization plan. This coverage is available at completion of the probationary period and continues only during the employee’s term of employment with the County. Eligible dependents for health, drug, dental and vision insurance plans include: Spouse,  Dependent child by birth or legal adoption or legal guardianship under age of 19, Dependent child by birth or legal adoption or legal guardianship over the age of 19 who is at minimum a half-time student through the end of the month in which the child reaches age 26. Eligibility ceases once child has coverage available thru own employment.  Step-children, they must live with you at least 50% of the time and you must provide at least 50% of their support (the above dependent provisions apply).  The following documentation will be required: marriage license, birth certificate, proof of school enrollment (dependent over 19), and proof of no credible insurance coverage (dependent over 19). The County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to change or amend medical plans where cost-savings or other advantages are apparent to the County and where benefit coverages to the employee are equivalent or better.

Effective October 1, 2021, the Employer agrees to provide the employees with the following health benefit:

* BCBS Flex Blue; Silver $3000/20%
* HSA, The HSA shall be funded at the following rate: $2,450.00/single and $5,150.00/family. The County shall deposit biannual payments, 50% of HSA, as follows: (January 1st (or next business day)) and July 1st (or next business day)). If at any time after the 1st HSA payment, and prior to the 2nd HSA payment, the employee’s deductible and/or copays exceed the 1st HSA payment, the employee may submit a request to the County Clerk’s Office for the 2nd HSA payment. The County Clerk shall deposit the additional funds as soon as is possible. A form for such request shall be made available in the County Clerk’s Office.
* VSP Vision
* Delta Dental PPO

On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to make the following changes to the Personnel Handbook:

22.4: Upon retirement of any employee beginning at age fifty-five (55) with fourteen (14) years of continuous service with the County work force, the County will pay hospitalization premiums for three (3) years. However, when a retiree qualifies for Medicare, the County will pay for Medicare Supplement. Coverage is intended for the retiree and spouse only (The retirees after September 12, 2022). See 22.1 for dependent coverage eligibility. This provision does not apply to anyone retiring before age fifty-five (55) or anyone not working full time. This provision does not apply to those hired after 9/1/2019.

On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to appoint Jennifer Misegan to the Baraga County EDC. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

The Board received two bids for the liability insurance policy; Hannula Insurance Agency, $49481.00 and UP Insurance Agency, MMRMA, $41,238.00. Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to accept the bid from UP Insurance Agency in the amount of $41,238.00. 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.

The Board received one bid for snow removal; KCo, $55.00/jail, $45.00/courthouse and $25.00/administration building. Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to accept the bid from KCo as presented. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Robillard, and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Abstain; Commissioner Dakota and Commissioner Olsen. Absent; None.

The Board received one bid for the removal and replacement of the roof on the Administration Building; Nasi Roofing, $118,400.00. Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to accept the bid from Nasi Roofing as presented. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Olsen, Commissioner Robillard, and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None. The project is to be paid from ARPA funds.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to table an ARPA funds request from the Baraga County Trails Authority.

Mr. Miron, as Chairman of the Road Commission, also discussed the expiring term of Baraga County Road Commissioner Steve Koski. Harry strongly encourages the Board to re-appoint Mr. Koski to the Road Commission.

Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to table an ARPA funds request from Baraga County 1st Responders.

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to send a letter of support on behalf of Snowy Pines RV Resort, Baraga Township.

Undersheriff David Miller reported that the security camera project at the Jail has been completed. In the process it was discovered there were some blind spots and that the interview room needed some upgrades. Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to approve the purchase of additional cameras for the blind spots in the amount of $2,650.00. On Voice Vote, the motion carried. The additional cameras are to be paid from ARPA funds.

Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to table the additional upgrades in the interview room. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to approve the replacement of a backflow preventer for the Jail’s water suppression system in the amount of $4,365.00. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to enter into closed session per the Open Meeting Act 15.268 Section 8(C) to discuss contract negotiations with the Sheriff Department unions. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Olsen, Commissioner Robillard, and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None. The Board moved into closed session at 5:43 p.m.

The Board entered into open session at 6:31 p.m. 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.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to approve the minutes from the closed session. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

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

Commissioner Eilola said the UP State Fair had a very good year.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

* BCMH Board of Trustee, Minutes

**RESOLUTIONS:**

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

**TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL EXEMPTION OPTION AS SET FORTH IN THE**

**2011 PUBLIC ACT 152,**

**THE PUBLICLY FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION ACT**

**WHEREAS,** 2011 Public Act 152 (the “Act”) was passed by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor on September 24, 2011;

**WHEREAS,** the Act contains three options for complying with the requirements of the Act;

**WHEREAS,** the three options are as follows:

1) Section 3 – “Hard Caps” Option – limits a public employer’s total annual health care costs for employees based on coverage levels, as defined in the Act;

2) Section 4 – “80%/20% Option – limits a public employer’s share of total annual health care costs to not more than 80%. This option requires an annual majority vote of the government body;

3) Section 8 – “Exemption” Option – a local unit of government, as defined in the Act, may exempt itself from the requirements of the Act by annual 2/3 vote of the governing body;

**WHEREAS,** the Baraga County Board of Commissioners has decided to adopt the annual Exemption option as its choice of compliance under the Act;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Baraga County Board of Commissioners elects to comply with the requirements of 2011 Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, by adopting the annual Exemption option for the medical benefit plan coverage for calendar year 2023.

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

WHEREAS, the United States has been dependent on foreign sources of energy for decades. While the United States has enjoyed a higher degree of energy independence in the last decade due to an increase in domestic oil production, we still import tens of millions of barrels of crude oil from overseas each month; and

WHEREAS, the energy independence of the United States is critical to national security. Reliance on foreign oil has impacted the United States’ ability to intervene in conflicts around the world, including Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. Reliance on foreign sources of energy creates a potential risk that those sources could be jeopardized by United States’ actions abroad, which could limit our ability to project American values; and

WHEREAS, energy independence is important for a thriving economy. Ensuring that the United States’ economy is able to support itself without relying on supply chains that span the globe and without risk of foreign political disruptions is critical to job growth and competition in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the United States must focus on policies that increase the production and use of our domestic energy resources, such as ensuring the continued safe operation of the Line 5 pipeline in Michigan, increasing domestic oil and gas drilling, increasing investments in renewable energy, and abandoning policies that limit domestic energy production and raise the capital costs associated with fossil fuel development;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we urge the adoption of policies that will lead to energy independence in the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senator Ed McBroom, Representative Greg Markkanen, the Michigan Senate, the Michigan House of Representatives, Michigan Association of Counties and to the Clerk of each County in the State of Michigan.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

No Commissioners comments received.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment received.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the County Board, Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to adjourn the meeting until Tuesday, October 11, 2022. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodreau

County Clerk