

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Session  
June 8, 2015

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 8, 2015 at 2:03 p.m. in the 91st District Courtroom of the Chippewa County Building.

Present: Commissioners Raymond -RudyøJohnson, Jim Martin, Don McLean and Chairman Scott Shackleton

Absent: Commissioner Conor Egan

Also Present: Scott Brand, Undersheriff Mike Bitnar, Register of Deeds/Equalization Director Sharon Kennedy, Chippewa County Treasurer Marjorie Hank, Kristina Dennison, James Traynor, Deputy Administrator Kelly Church, Administrator Jim German and Cathy Maleport, Clerk.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to accept the agenda as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to approve the regular County Board meeting minutes of May 11, 2015 as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE CLERKøS OFFICE

It was moved by Commissioner McLean, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to acknowledge the correspondence received in the Clerkø Office and, if necessary, forward to the appropriate committee. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Kristina Dennison, with the Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation District, appeared before the Commission and announced that theyøve recently received funding, again this year, through a grant from the Farm Bureau Natural Conservation Resource Service to host an on farm field day on Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. ø 3:30 p.m. and the public is welcome. Ms. Dennison further noted that this is free for all residents of Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac Counties.

**Administrator's Report** – Given for informational purposes only.

**New Business**

- A. Consultation Agreement between Chippewa County and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Chairman Shackleton explained that he wrote to Tribal Chairman Aaron Payment in January and suggested that the County and the Tribe put together a liaison committee so that they can get together for further communication, talk about any issues, and learn more about what each other does. He further noted that this agreement was largely drawn up by Tribal lawyers and asked for support and approval of such. *See attached exhibit A*

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve the consultation agreement between Chippewa County and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

- B. Resolution 15-09 (Objecting to Continued Consolidation and Regionalization)

It was moved by Commission McLean, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to approve resolution 15-09 as presented below:

Commissioner McLean explained that the state recently imposed a new model and it's moving most of the authority of running Michigan Works Agencies. The State told them that they are going to have to consolidate, under one Board, which traditionally in the U.P. they had been divided into three sections. This will take away some of the efficiencies they had. He explained they would like to be consulted as a County or a Region, as they come up with these ideas so that they can suggest some efficiency's.

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-09**

**RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO CONTINUED CONSOLIDATION AND REGIONALIZATION**

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan continues to support more and more consolidations and regionalization;

WHEREAS, many UPPER Peninsula Counties including Chippewa County don't have the opportunity to express our concerns, with regards to result on our constituents; and,

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners understands the State of Michigan needs to save budgetary dollars, but also has the responsibility to protect the citizens' health and safety.

WHEREAS, Chippewa County being rural has a distinctive geographical structure that already limits our citizens services which directly impacts the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Chippewa County; and,

WHEREAS, CONTINUED CHANGES SUCH AS THOSE TO THE Department of Human

Services, the Department of Community Health, Michigan Works!, and prosperity regions have and will not be beneficial to the residents of Chippewa County or the Eastern Upper Peninsula;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners opposes any more consolidations or regionalization efforts without local input, which directly affect the citizens of Chippewa County, which the State does not seem to understand and encourages the State of Michigan to give the Board the opportunity to express our concerns with regards to any additional consolidation and regionalization; now

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Michigan counties, State Senators and Representatives and the Michigan Association of Counties.

**A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:**

AYES: Commissioners Johnson, Martin, McLean, and Chairman Shackleton.

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**C. Resolution 15-10 Special Tribute Robert Wilson**

It was moved by Commission McLean, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve resolution 15-10 as follows:

**RESOLUTION 15-10**

**SPECIAL TRIBUTE  
*ROBERT WILSON***

LET IT BE KNOWN, that it is with great pride that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners join together with the residents of Chippewa County, to express their appreciation to Mr. Robert Wilson for his forty plus years of services to the Chippewa County Department of Veterans Affairs.

ROBERT WILSON not only served Chippewa County, but also his Country during World War II and continued through-out his years of service.

ROBERT WILSON a special community citizen and leader; we recognize this outstanding individual of the community who is representative of all that is good in leadership, responsibility, enthusiasm and inspiration. Such characteristics embody the attributes for success in any area of endeavor and will not only bring personal satisfaction but also contribute to the well-being of many others.

ROBERT WILSON is an active member of the American Legion Post, including being their President, his is active in the Knights of Columbus and an honorary member of the Canadian Legion.

ROBERT WILSON has brought opportunities, solutions, and much advancement to our County veterans. Each individual effort has contributed to the future quality of life and well-being in Chippewa County. Throughout his tenure ROBERT WILSON has shown professionalism; selflessness; care and concern for others; and a man who has stood up for his principles time and again.

IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, therefore, upon his resignation this document is signed and dedicated to honor ROBERT WILSON for his services and his contributions to Chippewa County and the United State of America, in wishing you good health and may your life continue to be filled with family, friends and fun.

**A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:**

AYES: Commissioners Johnson, Martin, McLean, and Chairman Shackleton.

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED**

**D. Resolution 15-11 Special Tribute Bill Thorne**

It was moved by Commission McLean, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to approve resolution 15-11 as follows:

**Resolution 15-11**

**SPECIAL TRIBUTE  
*Bill Thorne***

**WHEREAS, *Bill Thorne***, whose career spans 68 years, starting at the age of sixteen with WSOO radio station and has been a staple of Chippewa County, the Eastern Upper Peninsula, the State of Michigan and has been recognized nationally.

**WHEREAS, *Bill Thorne***, is a graduate of the Sault Ste. Marie Area Schools, and attended the Sault Branch of Michigan Technological University, now Lake Superior State University where is graduated alongside his granddaughter in 1996.

**WHEREAS, *Bill Thorne***, has hosted the ever popular "Hymn Time" and the weekly "Four Horseman Show", in 1959 he was selected as "Mr. D.J. USA" which provided him the opportunity to interview such greats as Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Patsy Cline and Tammy Wynett.

**WHEREAS, *Bill Thorne***, during his career at WSOO has the distinctive pleasure to interview over 26,000 special individuals including the former President of the United States Richard Nixon and the Chief Judge of the Supreme court, the Honorable Warren Burger.

**WHEREAS, *Bill Thorne***, has served public broadcasting and the citizens of Chippewa County with the

utmost dignity and respect. His is the voice of Chippewa County that can be heard around the world on "Hymn Time". His passion for broadcasting and his positive demeanor makes him a role model for generations to come.

**WHEREAS, *Bill Thorne***, is a living legend in the radio industry, a community member whose major accomplishments and community service have made him a historical icon of his community, who has a loyal following with some individuals and families going back decades.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That is with great pride that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners join together with the residents of Chippewa County, to congratulate and express their appreciation to Mr. ***Bill Thorne*** for his 68 years as radio host for WSOO and his many contributions to our County.
2. That Chippewa County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of its residents, extends their continued best wishes to ***Bill Thorne*** for his many years professionalism, his community service, and his dedication to service in serving the people of this County.

**A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:**

AYES: Commissioners Johnson, McLean, Martin, and Chairman Shackleton.

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED**

**E. Resolution 15-12 Older Americans Proclamation 2015**

It was moved by Commission McLean, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve resolution 15-12 as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-12**

**OLDER AMERICANS PROCLAMATION 2015**

WHEREAS, Chippewa County includes a thriving community of older Americans who deserve recognition for their contributions and sacrifices to ensure a better life for future generations; Chippewa County has 8266 citizens ages 60 and older, which is approximately 21% of the County population; and;

WHEREAS, Chippewa is committed to helping all individuals live longer, healthier lives in the communities of their choice for as long as possible; and,

WHEREAS, since 1965, the Older Americans Act has provide services that help older adults remain healthy and independent by complementing existing medical and health care systems, helping prevent hospital readmissions, and supporting some of life's most basic functions; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners recognize the value of community engagement and service in helping older adults remain healthy and active while giving back to other; and

WHEREAS, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners seeks to continue to provide opportunities to enrich the lives of individuals of all ages by:

- Promoting and engaging in activity, wellness, and social inclusion
- Emphasizing home- and community-based services that support independent living
- Ensuring community members of all ages benefit from the contributions and experiences of older adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners do hereby and recognize May as the Older Americans Month. The Board urge every resident to take time to celebrate older adults and the people who serve and support them as powerful and vital individuals who greatly contribute to the community

**A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:**

AYES: Commissioners Johnson, Martin, McLean, and Chairman Shackleton.

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED**

**F. Resolution 15-13 Fair Housing**

It was moved by Commission Martin, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve resolution 15-13 as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-13**

**FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, under the Federal Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, it is illegal to deny housing to any person because of race, color, religion, gender, physical or mental disabilities or national origin; and

WHEREAS, under the Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, PA 453 of 1976, as amended, it is illegal to deny the opportunity to obtain housing to any person because of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status;

LET IT BE KNOWN TO ALL PERSONS that it is the policy of Chippewa County to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status. Therefore, Chippewa County does hereby pass the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Executive Order 11063, Chippewa County shall not discriminate in the sale, rental, leasing, or financing of housing because of religion, race, color, gender, physical or mental disabilities, national origin, age, height, weight, familial status, or marital status;

Chippewa County will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of religion, race, color, gender, physical or mental disabilities, national origin, age, height, weight, familial status, or marital status to seek equity under federal and state laws by providing information to said persons on how to file a complaint with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

Chippewa County will at a minimum post this policy or the Fair Hosing poster or other posters, flyers or other information which will bring to the attention of owners of real estate, developers and builders their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Law and Michigan Elliott Larsen Act.

**A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS**

AYES: Commissioners Johnson, Martin, McLean, and Chairman Shackleton.

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED**

**G. Resolution 15-14 County Tax Levy & forms L-4046 and L-4029**

It was moved by Commission McLean, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve resolution 15-14 as follows:

It was the consensus of the Board that they really appreciate all the efforts of Register of Deeds/Equalization Director Sharon Kennedy and her department's fantastic job in putting this all together.

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESOLUTION # 15-14**

**RESOLUTION IMPOSING 2015 PROPERTY TAX LEVY PURSUANT TO MCL 211.24e, 211.34, 211.34d, 211.36, 211.37, and 211.44a, AND NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION OF 2015 COUNTY TAX LEVY**

WHEREAS, CHIPPEWA County is authorized under the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893, as amended, to levy and collect its allocated and voted property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the General Property Tax Act has been amended by Public Act 357 of 2004, being MCL 211.44a, to require each Michigan County to levy and collect its allocated millage in the summer; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Public Act 357 of 2004, **6.15 mills**, which is the County allocated millage, after application of the "Headlee" millage reduction fraction, shall be levied and collected on July 1, 2015, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other anticipated and authorized County operating millages, i.e., EMS millage of .4275 mill, Road millage of .9879 mill, Recycling Programs millage of .5000 mill, Jail millage of .6000 mill, Senior Programs millage of .4994 mill, and Animal Shelter millage of .1 mill, after application of the Headlee and other applicable millage reduction fractions, will be levied and collected on December 1, 2015, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Treasurer of each city, village and township in CHIPPEWA County is directed to account for and deliver the County tax collections for 2015 in accordance with the provisions of statute pertaining to such collections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution constitutes certification of the levy of the County millages as above described and as set forth on the attached 2015 TAX RATE REQUEST (L4029); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk shall deliver a copy of this Resolution by first class mail to the Treasurer of each city, village and township in CHIPPEWA County.

**A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:**

AYES: Commissioners Johnson, Martin, Mclean, and Chairman Shackleton.

NAYS: None

**THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED**

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PERSONNEL/EQUALIZATION /TRANSPORTATION/HEALTH AND  
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Egan - Chairman

May 19, 2015

Having no action items, it was moved by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to accept the Personnel/Equalization and Apportionment/Transportation/Health and Social Services minutes of May 19, 2015 as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Martin, Chairman

June 4, 2015

**Presentation**

**2014 Audit – Phil Wolf, Anderson, Tackman & Co.**

The Financial Statements of Chippewa County; including the governmental activities, business activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information for the year ended December 31, 2014, were presented by Anderson, Tackman & Company's CPA Phil Wolf. Mr. Wolf presented and reviewed documents included in the annual audit report and

explained the purpose of each. He discussed changes to the audit report that have been implemented and those that will be implemented over the next year. Mr. Wolf went over the long-term and short-term Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in the Fund Balance. Mr. Wolf presented and reviews the general fund balance sheet, a number of graphs, and the *Communication with Those Charged with Governance*. It was also noted that there are no deficiencies or material weaknesses. The prior comments regarding the County's lack of a self-funding Health Insurance Policy, which will continue to be looked at. Mr. Wolf reminded the Committee, that the Internal Controls are set by the Board of Commissioners, though the establishment of policies and procedures, and how important it is to follow through with them. Mr. Wolf also provided charts regarding Assets, Revenues, Expenditures, Fund Balance and DTRF, with prior year comparisons. Discussion with questions and answers followed.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to accept and approve the FY2014 Audit as presented, and distribute where necessary. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Approve Courthouse Window Replacement Updated Submission**

The Committee received and reviewed the updated Courthouse Window Replacement project information prior to the meeting for review. A mis-quote from the supplier in the original bid submission was noted in the amount of \$18,211.00. The original bid of \$96,100 was previously approved in 2014. An additional \$9,715 would need to be approved to move forward with the replacement of sixteen (16) round windows on the third floor, and the eight (8) rectangle windows in the bell tower. These are all considered custom windows.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve the additional \$9,715 for the Courthouse Window Replacement project at a total cost not to exceed \$105,815. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

### **Approve updated Nationwide Deferred Comp Procedures**

The Committee received a copy of the amendment to the Nationwide ó Participant Loan Administrative Procedures ó which will enable participants to have two loans from their deferred comp plan. It was noted that this change has no effect on the County, as it is all the participants' money.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve the Amendment to the Participant Loan Administrative Procedures for the Nationwide Deferred Program; to allow participants the ability to have two loans from their deferred comp. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

### **Approve – Veterans Millage Request Recommendation**

The Committee received a request from the Department of Veterans Affairs Committee, recommending that the County place a ballot question on the November 2015 election, seeking .1 mills to maintain and expand the services to veterans in Chippewa County through the proposed millage.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve and authorize to move forward with the research, including seeking legal opinion, on the proposed language for the .1 millage to maintain and expand the services to veterans of Chippewa County. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

### **Approve – Annual Report of Balance in Land Sale Proceeds Account**

The Committee received and reviewed the Annual Report of Balance in Land Sale Proceeds Accounts

provided by County Treasurer Margie Hank, in accordance with MCL 211.78m(8)(h).

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to accept and approve the Annual Report of Balance in Land Sale Proceeds Accounts, as presented with the amount available to transfer of \$100,000.00 to the general fund by 12/31/2015. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Approve renewal of CHC Inmate Health Care Services Contract**

The Committee reviewed a contract renewal letter for 10/3/2015 through 10/2/2016, with CHC with a proposed increase of 1.93% which is the current CPI. After a brief synopsis of the contract and its cost, including the back ground of why we switched to CHC due to regulations, in keeping federal inmates housed with our jail. It was also noted, that Administration should check with other Counties, in the beginning of FY16 regarding similar contracts and pricing.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to approve the contract renewal for October 3, 2015 through October 2, 2016 with CHC to continue to provide inmate health services, at the rate of \$13,165.74 per month (\$157,988.88 annually) which is 1.93% increase from the prior year. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**FINANCE**

**Claims and Accounts**

The Committee reviewed the bills and payroll presented for approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to recommend the approval of May bills and payroll as follows: the general claims totaling \$296,521.91, other fund claims \$400,282.30, payroll \$685,152.93, Health Department claims of \$1,005,807.50 and total claims of \$2,387,764.68 and vouchers H-1 through H-284. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner McLean, to accept the Finance Claims and Accounts Committee meeting minutes of June 4, 2015 as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**COMMISSIONERS REPORT ON MEETINGS AS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE  
AND GENERAL COMMENTS**

- None

Having completed the agenda items, it was moved by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Martin that the Board adjourn. On a voice vote, the motion carried and the Board adjourned at 2:27p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine C. Maleport, Clerk

Scott Shackleton, Chairman