MECOSTA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MORNING SESSION – 10:00 A.M.
October 3, 2019
AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER & QUORUM:
   Jerrilyn Strong _____ Ray Steinke _____ Marilyn Bradstrom _____ Linda Howard _____
   District 2      District 4      District 1      District 3
   Tom O’Neil _____ Wendy Nystrom _____ William Routley _____
   District 5      District 6      District 7

2. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ADDITIONS

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   1. Board Minutes – September 19, 2019

4. PUBLIC MATTERS & COMMENTS:
   (5 MINUTES PER PERSON LIMIT)

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

6. NEW BUSINESS:
   1. EMPG Grant Packet FY19
   2. Office of the Prosecuting Attorney – Position Vacancy

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS:
   Pre-approved Bills: $1,536,168.43
   Non-approved Bills: $53,480.72

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

9. ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:

10. PUBLIC MATTERS & COMMENTS:
    (5 MINUTES PER PERSON LIMIT)

11. COMMUNICATIONS:
    1. Mecosta Conservation District – September 11, 2019
    2. West Central Michigan County Alliance Meeting – July 29, 2019
    3. Mecosta Osceola DHHS Meeting – September 24, 2019
    4. Mecosta County DHHS Meeting – September 24, 2019

12. MINUTES & REPORTS:
    1. Zoning Board of Appeals – September 9, 2019
    2. Planning Commission – September 5, 2019
    3. Building and Zoning – September 19, 2019
    4. EMS – September 19, 2019
    5. Finance

13. RESOLUTIONS:
    1. Grand Traverse County Resolution 118-2019
    2. Baraga County Resolution – Line 5 Tunnel
    3. Baraga County Resolution – Trial Court Funding
    4. Baraga County Resolution – Ballot Disclosure
    5. Arenac County Resolution – 2019-10
    6. Menominee County Resolution – 2019-18

14. MISCELLANEOUS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

15. ADJOURNMENT:

SCHEDULED APPEARANCE
Chair Jerrilynn Strong called the afternoon session of the Mecosta County Board of Commissioners to order at 3:00 P.M. in Commission Room 102 of the County Courthouse. All those present stood and recited the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag.

Commissioners present on roll call: Jerrilynn Strong, Ray Steinke, Marilynn Bradstrom, Linda Howard, Tom O’Neil, Wendy Nystrom and William Routley.

Others present: Paul Bullock, County Administrator and Marcee Purcell, Mecosta County Clerk.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ADDITIONS:
R. Steinke moved to approve the Agenda as presented. W. Nystrom seconded; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
L. Howard moved to approve the September 5, 2019 Board Minutes as presented. M. Bradstrom seconded; motion carried.

PUBLIC MATTERS & COMMENTS:
David Lewis – President of Tri Lakes Assoc in Morton Township - thanked the Board for the opportunity to express concerns regarding high speed boating on the Tri Lakes. Would like to see a Marine Patrol presence during the July 4/5 Holiday on Blue Lake; any other assistance with the matter the Board could offer would be welcome.

Sandy Brogan - Lake Mecosta resident – appeared before the Board to express her concerns with boaters on Lake Mecosta and would also like to see a higher Marine Patrol presence.

John Conati – President of Mid-Shore Association – appeared before the Board and expressed concerns regarding the 4th of July week with boaters on and around Blue Lake Island, which is State owned. The Association has concerns people are going to get hurt on the lake and would like the Boards’ assistance on the matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
None
NEW BUSINESS:
6.1 NO PETS ALLOWED SIGNAGE - COA
Cynthia Mallory – COA Director - appeared before the Board to request permission to post signs in Commission on Aging windows with regard to not allowing pets in the building. W. Routley so moved. M. Bradstrom seconded; motion carried.

6.2 APPOINTMENTS TO THE CANVASS BOARD
R. Steinke moved to adopt the recommendation of the County Clerk to reappoint Kim Wortley [Republican Member] and Melissa Stirn [Democratic Member] to the Canvass Board for 4-year terms. W. Nystrom seconded; motion carried.

6.3 MSU EXTENSION SERVICE AGREEMENT FY 2020
M. Bradstrom moved to approve the MSU Extension Services Agreement FY20. L. Howard seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.4 2019 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND MILLAGE LEVIES – L-4029
M. Bradstrom moved to approve and authorize the Chair and County Clerk to sign the L-4029 2019 Tax Rate Request. R. Steinke seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.5 FARMLAND APPLICATION #325 – RIVER RIDGE FARMS, INC.
T. O’Neil moved to approve Farmland Application #325 for River Ridge Farms, Inc. R. Steinke seconded; motion carried.

6.6 MECOSTA COUNTY RESOLUTION #2019-10 - DRAIN COMMISSIONER APPRECIATION
W. Nystrom moved to adopt and place on file Mecosta County Resolution #2019-10 – Drain Commissioner Jackie Fitzgerald in Appreciation for Service. L. Howard seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.7 PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENT RECOMMENDATION #19-002
W. Routley moved to adopt Zoning Ordinance Amendment #19-002, amending the Zoning Ordinance Map from R-1 (Rural Residential) to C-2 (General Commercial) per petition #PPC19-016. R. Steinke seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.8 WALK-IN FREEZER PROJECT – COA
Cynthia Mallory appeared before the Board to request permission to move forward with the Walk-In Freezer Project for COA. W. Routley moved to approve the project. R. Steinke seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.
6.9 EVENING PRESENTATIONS FOR SENIORS – COA
Cynthia Mallory requested permission to offer evening presentations for seniors at the Commission on Aging on October 10th and November 12th. L. Howard so moved. M. Bradstrom seconded; motion carried.

SCHEDULED APPEARANCE:
None

FINANCIAL MATTERS:
Copier Bid Results – Administrator
W. Routley moved to approve the Administrator’s recommendation to purchase 11 Kyocera TA3212i units and one TA4012i, with 8-year service contracts, from AB Dick of Grand Rapids for a total cost of $62,308. M. Bradstrom seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

WCMCA Proposal – Administrator
W. Routley moved to approve the Administrator’s recommendation to host the WCMCA Meeting on October 28th at Cran-Hill Ranch at a cost of $20/person. W. Nystrom seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

MIDC Letter – Administrator
W. Routley moved that the Chair be authorized to sign a letter to the MIDC to allow use of 2019 funds in FY 2020 prior to finalization of the 2020 MIDC/County Contract. R. Steinke seconded; motion carried.

Housing Rehab Fund Hearing – Administrator
W. Routley moved that a Hearing be held on the Housing Rehab funds and their disposition on October 3rd at 10:30 a.m., concurrent with the BOC Meeting. R. Steinke seconded; motion carried.

Other Business:
None

Listed Bills:
W. Routley moved to pay the pre-approved vouchers in the amount of $977,727.57 and approve and pay non-approved vouchers in the amount of $54,913.50. M. Bradstrom seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
M. Bradstrom reported attending Parks Meeting, Dragon Executive Trail Meeting, Colfax Township Meeting, EMS Committee and today’s Commission Meeting.
T. O’Neil reported attending Mecosta Township Meeting, Austin Township Meeting, District 10 Health Meeting and today’s Commission Meeting.

L. Howard reported attending Mecosta Village Meeting, Wheatland Township Meeting, Central Michigan Community Mental Health Meeting, Building & Zoning Committee and today’s Commission Meeting.

R. Steinke reported attending Millbrook Township Meeting, Hinton Township Meeting, Deerfield Township Meeting, District 10 Health Meeting, Finance Committee, MOTA Meeting, Building & Zoning Committee, EMS Committee, Central Dispatch Meeting and today’s Commission Meeting.

EMS:
R. Steinke moved to approve the August 2019 contractual write-offs of $120,006.22, non-contractual write-offs of $1,254.38 and collection write-offs of $9,568.82. T. O’Neil seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

R. Steinke moved that the FY 2019 EMPG Grant request be placed on the October 3rd Board Agenda. M. Bradstrom seconded; motion carried.

W. Nystrom reported attending Human Services Collaborative Meeting, City of Big Rapids Meeting, Road Commission Meeting, Finance Committee, Building & Zoning Committee and today’s Commission Meeting.

W. Routley reported attending Planning/Zoning Meeting, Central Dispatch Meeting, Finance Committee, City/County/Ferris Meeting and today’s Commission Meeting.

J. Strong reported attending Sheridan Township Meeting, AAA Meeting, Barryton Village Meeting, Fork Township Meeting, Road Commission Meeting, Finance Committee, Martiny Township Meeting, COA Meeting, Barryton Village Meeting, EMS Committee and today’s Commission Meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:
Paul Bullock reported on the following:

- Met with Blue Care Network insurance agent on Wednesday regarding renewal information for our health insurance plans. Good news – both rates are only going up 1.9%.
- Mutual of Omaha has the best rates for Life Insurance/Disability, will be transitioning those benefits offered by the County from Lincoln to Mutual of Omaha.

PUBLIC MATTERS & COMMENTS:
None
MISCELLANEOUS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:
None

COMMUNICATIONS, MINUTES & REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS:
M. Bradstrom moved to accept and place on file Communications #1-3, Minutes & Reports #1-4 and Resolutions #1-3. T. O’Neil seconded; motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:
J. Strong adjourned to the next regular scheduled meeting or call of the Chair at 4:06 P.M.

________________________
Marcee M. Purcell, Mecosta County Clerk and Clerk for the Board of Commissioners

________________________
Jerrilynn Strong, Chair
Mecosta County Board of Commissioners
September 20, 2019

Mecosta County Board of Commissioners
400 Elm Street
Big Rapids, MI 49307

RE: Position Vacancy

Dear Commissioners:

Trisha Peuler has submitted her resignation effective immediately, September 18, 2019. Trisha held the position of Senior Legal Assistant.

The demands on our office staff have only increased since the present staffing levels were approved. Refilling this position is essential to continuing to meet the duties placed on this office. Therefore, I respectfully request that the Board of Commissioners authorize refilling of this position.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Brian E. Thiede
Prosecuting Attorney
Public Comment – FY 19-20 Budget – No public present.

Chairman Henning called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Those present:
Directors: Tom Samuel, Bill Jernstadt, Don Henning and Karen Motawi
Staff: Charmaine Lucas, Rick Lucas, Karen Ickes
NRCS: Jennifer Taylor
Director Absent: Clare Cook

AUGUST BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Following a review of the August 14, 2019 board meeting minutes, a motion was made by Director Samuel to approve the August minutes as written, supported by Director Motawi. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – Motion by Director Motawi to accept the agenda as presented, supported by Director Samuel. **Motion carried.**

AUGUST TREASURER’S REPORT
Following a review of the August Treasurer’s Report, a motion was made by Director Samuel to accept the treasurer’s report as presented, supported by Director Motawi. **Motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE - None

BILLS TO BE PAID
Directors expense sheets are to be completed and paid for FY 18-19.

OLD BUSINESS
District Administrator Position
- Interview Committee – The recommendation to the board was to hire Brook A. Baumann for the District Administrator position. Following discussion on her background and qualifications a motion was made by Director Samuel to hire Brook at an hourly wage of $18/hr., along with a monthly health insurance stipend of $100, and following a successful 90-day probationary period, $25/month for phone. Director Motawi supported the motion. **Motion carried.** Her employment will begin on Monday, September 30th.

2019 District Director Election
- Election process – Absentee ballots are available in the District office. Those who wish to vote by absentee ballot can do so by coming into the District office during regular business hours (M-F 8-4) or a request can be made by phone and ballots mailed. Regular voting will take place at the District’s annual meeting on October 23rd, 10 am to 3 pm, at Green Charter Township Hall. There are two positions open and three individuals running: Mary Lou Kuehn, Bill Jernstadt and Paul Wernette.
NEW BUSINESS

FY 19-20 Budget and Appropriations Act – Following discussion, Director Henning made a motion to approve the FY 19-20 budget as presented, supported by Director Motawi. Motion carried.

FY 2020 Appropriations Act – Motion by Director Samuel to adopt the forgoing resolution and General Appropriations Act, supported by Director Motawi. Upon roll call vote Directors Henning, Motawi and Cook voted aye with no nay votes. Chairman Henning then declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted on the day of September 11, 2019.

FY 19-20 Board Meeting Schedule – The board approved the FY 19-20 board meeting schedule as presented.

Conservation Technical Assistance Initiative (CTAI) – There has been no further direction on a potential CTAI position in the Big Rapids office. Waiting to hear something from MDARD regarding the position. MDARD may be waiting on the State budget before anything takes place. No action needed at this time.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Charmaine Lucas

- Charmaine provided a written report.
- August was spent on completing the interview process for the position of District Administrator. The search was narrowed down to two individuals. The first individual turned down the position for financial reasons. The second person accepted the proposed wage and benefit package.
- The “2019 Conservation News and District Annual Report” has been mailed. Fall tree orders are starting to trickle in.
- The Michigan Association of Conservation Districts are offering a Director Workshop in September in Gaylord and Big Rapids. The workshop location in Big Rapids will be at the Mecosta County Services Building. This workshop was previously offered on September 23 & 24 but is now only offered on the 24th. Director election candidate Mary Lou Kuehn will be attending.

FORESTRY - Rick Lucas

- A written report was provided.
- On Monday met with Nestle Waters NA representatives to look at parcels to determine what programs they qualify for. They will be requesting a management plan. This will be a potential opportunity for the District to use these sites for tours or other educational events.
- The forestry advisory committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 17th at the Reed City Depot. Breakfast will be provided. The deadline for breakfast RSVP’s is Sept. 13th.

MAEAP REPORT – Karen Ickes

- The MAEAP goal setting meeting was held on August 22nd. The goals remained pretty much the same as last year.
- Twenty MAEAP verifications will be completed by the end of September.
- The District was awarded a $3000 MAEAP incentive. The incentive goes to the top performing grants/technicians from July 1st, 2018 to June 30th, 2019. A $1500 bonus will be provided to Karen at the end of the fiscal year and the other $1500 will go toward District administration and used how the District deems necessary.
- A MAEAP Phase 1 meeting will be held on September 19th in Montcalm County. It will include a tour of a solar farm, wind farm, and pollinator garden

NORTH COUNTRY CISMA REPORT – Vicki Sawicki

- A written report was provided.
- Employment will end for seasonal technician, Rebekka Neelis, at the end of October
NRCS REPORT - Jennifer Taylor

- Seven conservation activity plans were completed covering 381.9 acres with a total contract amount of $12,740 to Mecosta County landowners.
- There were 16 total contracts for 2019 totaling 1335.8 acres with a total contract amount of $402,363.
- Jennifer is working on three additional cover crop plans covering 360 acres with a total contract amount of $16,800.

NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE – Wednesday, November 6, 2019, at 1:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT – With no further business before the board, Director Henning adjourned the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clare Cook
Secretary
West Central Michigan County Alliance Meeting
July 29, 2019

Attendees: Lake, Manistee, Mason Mecosta, Newaygo, Oceana, and Osceola.

The West Central Michigan County Alliance meeting was held in Mason County on Monday, July 29, 2019 at The Lake House, 704 Maritime Drive, Ludington, MI 49431. Prior to the meeting a social hour was held at 6:00 p.m. Dinner began at 6:30 p.m.

Ms. Janet Andersen, Chairwoman of the Mason County Board of Commissioners, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mason County District #1 Commissioner Nicholas Kieger. Ms. Andersen welcomed the members to The Lake House. She then introduced the Mason County Commissioners, Administrator, and County Clerk.

Motion was made by Lake County and seconded by Newaygo County to approve the minutes from the April 29, 2019 meeting. Motion carried.

Bob Kosowski, Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Governmental Affairs Associate, reported on issues MAC is currently involved in. These included: revenue sharing, dark stores/tax tribunal, road commission take-overs (SB-322-SB323), and PFAS issues. He reminded Counties of the upcoming MAC Conference to be held August 18-20. Additionally he noted that if counties had questions regarding the Trial Court Funding, to reach out to Megan Kite and speak with her directly. Question and answer period followed. Bob then presented Senator Curt VanderWall a plaque in honor of the work he has done.

Senator VanderWall addressed the following legislative issues: the economy and budget concerns; Auto- No-Fault insurance; Health Policies; and Line 5. He opened the floor for questions at the end.

Presentation was given by Jeff and Jean White, owners of The Lake House, in which they discussed how the Brownfield project assisted with their development and opening of their new facility.

County reports were given and introductions of each County’s members in attendance were made. See attachments for each County's updates.

The next meeting will be hosted by Mecosta County, October 28, 2019. Location TBD.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes respectfully prepared by Cheryl Kelly, Mason County Clerk.
Joint Board Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2019

PERSONS PRESENT:  Janice Covey, Mecosta County Chairman
                   Susan Haut, Mecosta Vice-Chair
                   Jan McBrien, Mecosta County Board Member
                   Jennifer Schmidt, Acting-Director
                   Linda Howard, Mecosta County Commissioner
                   Larry Emig, Osceola County Commissioner
                   Glenn Bluhm, Osceola County Vice-Chair

Absent:  Carolyn Curtin, Osceola County Chairman
         Carole Edstrom, Osceola County Board Member

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Haut at 9:03 a.m. at the Mecosta-Osceola County Department of Health & Human Services office.

Minutes of the August 27, 2019 meeting were reviewed and motion to approve by Ms. McBrien. Supported and Carried.

The Agenda was reviewed and motion to approve by Ms. McBrien with support from Mr. Bluhm. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Board of Commissioners continue to work on the 2020 Budgets.

LOCAL OFFICE ISSUES:

Acting-Director, Jennifer Schmidt, updated the Boards on:

- The potential of a 2020 State budget impasse and subsequent temporary layoffs of non-essential employees.
- Danielle Martin will continue her working out of class at Central Office until March.
- Ms. Schmidt will be absorbing the Program Manager position along with her Acting-Director responsibilities.
- WOC program-manager, Nicole Quinn, transitioned back to her Child Welfare Manager position.
- Recent CAC Open Arms fundraiser on 09/13 was a success.
- Prepping for annual audit in Child Welfare.
- Staffing
- Michigan was recently found to be in substantial compliance with the Federal Compliance Division. 79 of the 80 Cases reviewed met the Federal Title IV-E eligibility requirements.

MCSSA: The recent Conference in Traverse City was well received. Presentations were informative.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Haut at 9.58 am and supported by Mr. Bluhm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 22nd at 9:00 a.m.

___________________________________       __________ _________________________
Jennifer Schmidt, Acting-Director                      Carolyn Curtin, Osceola County Chairman
Secretary to the Board

Janice Covey, Mecosta County Chairman

Darren Hengesbach, Recording Secretary
September 24, 2019

PERSONS PRESENT: Susan Haut, Vice-Chairman
Jan McBrien, Member
Jennifer Schmidt, Acting-Director
Linda Howard, Mecosta County Commission

Absent: Janice Covey, Mecosta County Chairman

The Meeting was called to order by Ms. Haut at 9:59 am at the Mecosta-Osceola County Department of Health and Human Services office.

Minutes of the August 27, 2019 meeting were reviewed and motion to approve by Ms. McBrien. Motion Carried.

The Agenda was reviewed and motion to approve by Ms. McBrien. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

FISCAL:

A. Financial Report:

A Motion to approve Financial Report by Ms. McBrien. Motion Carried.

COUNTY SPECIFIC BUSINESS:

See joint meeting

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Haut at 10:05 am with support by Ms. McBrien. Carried. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 22nd at 10:00 am.

Jennifer Schmidt, Acting Director
Secretary to the Board

Janice Covey, Chairman

Darren Hengesbach, Recording Secretary
MINUTES
MECOSTA COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Mecosta County Services Building
September 9, 2019

I. Roll Call

Roger Carroll, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. In attendance for roll call were Ron Bongard, Brenda Lamrix, Sandee Farlow, Gary Swier, Michelle Stenger, Zoning Administrator, & Annette Coles, Recording Secretary

II. Matters Pertaining to the Public

Chair Carroll explained the format of the meeting and what the applicant’s options are in case their application is denied.

Chair Carroll asked if there was anyone present who wanted to address the Board regarding anything other than what was on the agenda. There was no response.

Chair then asked if there was anyone who wished to be on the agenda for next month.

III. Public Comments

Chair Carroll asked if there was anyone who wished to speak. There was no response.

IV. Public Hearing

1. Petition No. PZV19-015; Robert/Jessie Hutcherson, 16760 Garfield Rd, Big Rapids, MI; Colfax Township; Parcel #06 032 008 100. Property is zoned AF. Variance request to place an accessory structure closer to the side property line than allowed by right.

Roger Carroll read the application into the record. The applicant’s parents, John & Evelyn Hutcherson, were present to speak in favor of the request

• Are available to answer board questions.
• Would like to keep all existing trees on property.
• Location fits better for property as other side has tendency to flood due to high water table.
• Have had property for many years.
• Structure will be used for storage of personal items.

There was no one was present to speak against applicant.

There was no one else to speak in opposition so the Chair closed the public portion of this hearing and opened the floor to the Board for discussion and decision.

• There is a high-water table on the property.
• Not for farming use.
• Ground freezing and high-water table causing issues for placement.
• Higher ground area on proposed side of property.
• Will be used for personal storage.
• Does not obstruct adjacent property views.

Based on the Findings of Fact, a motion was made by Brenda Lambrix and supported by Sandee Farlow to approve Petition No. PZV19-015; variance request to place an accessory structure closer to the side property line than allowed by right. Property is zoned AF and located at 16760 Garfield Rd, Big Rapids, MI; Colfax Township; Parcel #06 032 008 100.

Roll Call Vote – 5 Yeas, 0 Nay  Motion passed

V. Business Session

Minutes of August 5, 2019 minutes

A motion to approve the minutes with corrections; Sandee was present at August 5, 2019 meeting, was made by Brenda Lambrix & supported by Gary Swier. Motion approved

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Coles, Recording Secretary

______________________________, Chair
Roger Carroll
Mecosta County Zoning Board of Appeals

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Date Approved
MINUTES
MECOSTA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Mecosta County Services Building
September 5, 2019

I. Roll Call

Chair, Gary Swier called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Present for roll call were; Richard Hatkowski, Bill Routley, Ron Simon, Mike Tillman, Michelle Stenger, Zoning Administrator, & Annette Coles, Recording Secretary.

Gary Lambrix, and Randy Maxwell were not present.

II. Matters Pertaining to the Public

1. Chair Swier asked if there was anyone who wished to address the Commission regarding any subject that wasn’t on the agenda. There was no response.

2. Chair then asked if there was anyone who wished to be on the next agenda. There was no response.

IV. Public Comment

There was no one present from the public who wished to make comment.

V. Public Hearings

1. Zoning Request Map Amendment Request #PPC19-016 – Steven Crowe, 23530 Jefferson Rd, Aetna Township; Parcel #13 030 010 100. Property is zoned R-1. Request to rezone 6 acres from R-1 to C-2.

Richard Hatkowski read the proposed amendment into the record. The applicant was present to speak in favor of the application.

- Is available for question from the board.
- Will be a continuation of the current business.
- Believes would conform better to have whole parcel rezoned instead of breaking up into smaller pieces for house rental.
- Home at the site is a rental and understands the zoning restrictions for a C-2 district.
- Spoke with the township assessor and believes he has no issues with the rezoning.

Additional members in favor were; Mike Crowe.

No one present to speak against
No one else to speak for or against the petition. Chair closed the public portion of the meeting and opened the floor to the Board for discussion and decision.

- Petitioner is aware of restrictions for a home replacement if voluntarily removed in a C-2 district.
- Will not take away from area operations or other businesses.
- Is in a good location and will help existing business grow.

After discussion and based on the findings of facts listed, a recommendation was made by Bill Routley and supported by Richard Hatkowski to recommend approval to the Board of Commissioners for rezoning Request #PPC19-016 – to rezone 6 acres from R-1 to C-2. Property is zoned R-1 and located at 23530 Jefferson Rd, Aetna Township; Parcel #13 030 010 100.

Roll Call Vote – 5 Yeas – 0 Nays.

2. Special Use Request #PPC19-017 – Tony Closson, 2277 Hoover Rd, Fork Township; Parcel #04 015 015 000. Property is zoned R-1. Special use request to allow a home day care facility.

Ron Simon read the proposed amendment into the record. The applicants, Tony and Tina Closson, were present to speak in favor of the application.

- Have planted trees for buffer to neighboring properties.
- Are available to answer questions from the board.
- Will have at least three people who are first aid and CPR certified on premises.
- State agency is comfortable with proximity of river on site and no fence being placed around property.
- Children will always be supervised outside.

No one was present to speak against the petition

No one else to speak for or against the petition. Chair closed the public portion of the meeting and opened the floor to the Board for discussion and decision.

- Concerns with no fence around play area to guard from river. However, not required by state agency and children will always be supervised.
- Supports a great need for the area.
- Certified first aid and CPR trained personnel are a plus.
- Will not negatively impact the area.

After discussion and based on the findings of facts listed, a motion was made by Mike Tillman and supported by Ron Simon to approve special use request #PPC19-017 – to allow a home day care facility. Property is zoned R-1 and located at 2277 Hoover Rd, Fork Township; Parcel #04 015 015 000.

Roll Call Vote – 5 Yeas – 0 Nays

VI. Business Session
Old Business

None currently.

New Business

1. PA116 - #325
   Motion was made by Mike Tillman and supported by Bill Routley to recommend approval of the addition of stated property to farm preservation. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Tower extension
   Due to issues getting other agency approval, the Tower company has requested an extension for the Coolidge tower. After discussion the board agreed to allow the extension. In addition, the company has started working on the Madison Rd., Tubbs Lake area, tower.

3. Dragon Trail
   Several members of the board requested information on the impacts of the Dragon Trail in our jurisdiction and to the Master Plan. After discussion, it was requested that Michelle contact Paul Bullock to see if would be willing to give a summary of the trail, were they are at in the process, and what impacts it will have on the area. Michelle will contact Paul.

4. Assistance to townships
   Chippewa Township has requested the staff to help with putting together the township’s plan on recreational marijuana use. They were informed by Paul Bullock that the state law does not allow for county involvement.

5. Approval of Minutes
   Bill Routley motioned to approve the August 1, 2019 minutes, supported by Mike Tillman and passed unanimously.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Coles / Recording Secretary

________________________________________, Chair

______________________________
Gary Swier

Mecosta County Planning Commission
BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE MINUTES
10:30 AM COUNTY BUILDING Room 202
September 19, 2019

PRESENT: Linda Howard – Chair, Ray Steinke, and Wendy Nystrom

OTHERS PRESENT: Paul Bullock and Michelle Stenger

CALL TO ORDER: 10:40 AM

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

BUILDING REPORT:
  • Conference/Training: Aaron Holsworth will be in conference next week. Ms. Stenger will be in conference the end of the week.
  • Building: 10 new home permits were pulled in August.
  • New Business: The planning process has been started for a retail commercial facility in Rodney.
  • Financials: The Committee reviewed the August year to date results.

ZONING REPORT:
  • Tire Abatement Grant Report: Ms. Stenger advised that she intends to bring a request to conduct bids on the tire cleanup in Millbrook.

MEMBER COMMENTS: NONE

Adjournment: 11:00 AM

Next regular meeting: October 17, 2019
EMS COMMITTEE MINUTES
1:30 PM ROOM 202 COUNTY BUILDING
September 19, 2019

PRESENT: Ray Steinke, Marilynn Bradstrom, and Jerrilynn Strong.

Others Present: Tim Ladd, Scott Schroeder, and Paul Bullock.

CALL TO ORDER: 1:30 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT: Allen Sutherby, Morton Township Fire Chief, and Ron Palmer, Mecosta Township Fire Chief, appeared on behalf of the Medical First Responder Board to request consideration of an increase in the current .1 mill MFR funding to .13 mills. Due to significant increases in projected EMS costs and a need to utilize the entire millage, above the .1 mills for MFR’s, for ambulance operations the committee suggested that the MFR Board explore other sources of funding, outside the millage.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: The August 2019 billings, write-offs, and revenue were reviewed. The Committee will recommend to the Board that contractual write-offs of $120,006.22, non-contractual write-offs of $1,254.38 and collections write-offs of $9,568.82 be approved.

MONTHLY STATISTICS: Mr. Ladd presented the number of transports, non-transports, total calls, and billings for August 2019. Mr. Ladd also presented the monthly statistics for e-calls, transfers, and calls with treatment but no transport.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:
- FY 2019 EMPG Grant: Mr. Schroeder requested permission to place the grant request on the October 3rd Board Agenda. The Committee will recommend to the Board that the request be approved.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:
- Tornado Alert: Following the recent tornado alert the local jurisdictions will be reviewing their siren policies.

NEXT MEETING: 1:30 PM October 17, 2019

ADJOURNMENT: 2:37 PM
RESOLUTION 118-2019

Grand Traverse County Resolution in Support of Line 5 Tunnel

WHEREAS, Enbridge’s Line 5, has been operating safely and reliably in the Straits of Mackinaw for more than 66 years; and,

WHEREAS, Enbridge’s Line 5, a light crude and natural gas liquids pipeline, helps to safely meet Michigan’s energy needs by fulfilling more than half of the propane needs of the state; and,

WHEREAS, the products delivered to regional refineries provide jobs and ultimately fuel our lives; and,

WHEREAS, multiple and extensive inspections and safety tests over the last several years have confirmed the integrity of Line 5 at the Straits of Mackinac as fit for service.

WHEREAS, Consequences to energy supply, local producers, regional airports and refineries, jobs, local economies and the pocketbook of Michiganders across the entire state are too great for Line 5 to be shut down before the tunnel replacement can be completed;

WHEREAS, within Grand Traverse and Leelanau counties BATA (Bay Area Transportation Authority) busses run clean emission free propane, a fuel which is transported through Line 5, to offer vehicle life cycle greenhouse (GHG) emissions benefits over conventional fuels.

WHEREAS, Issues have been raised by several concerned parties regarding the possibility and impact of a breach of Line 5 into the Straits of Mackinac. These concerns have resulted in the State of Michigan and Enbridge negotiating an “agreement” for a 5 year $500 million project, to construct a tunnel 100 feet below bedrock to encase Line 5, the entire length of the Straits, in one-foot-thick concrete walls in order to mitigate chances of any leaks of product into the Great Lakes.

WHEREAS, the recently elected Michigan Attorney General, Dana Nessel has subsequently opposed the negotiated “agreement” and filed a lawsuit in Ingham County Circuit Court to close down Line 5 immediately effectively canceling all efforts to begin construction of the tunnel; and,

WHEREAS, this action may very well provide unintended consequents for all parties as the litigation to close down Line 5 may take years to be resolved in the courts with no assurance of the outcome and;

WHEREAS, the time to resolve the litigation may simply result in the delay of the start of the construction of the tunnel thereby leaving the existing Line 5 in place unnecessarily for several additional years.

WHEREAS, Enbridge has demonstrated a willingness to work with the state to both protect the Great Lakes and ensure the continued safe delivery of energy we all rely on.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners hereby joins with Dickinson County in extending its support for Enbridge’s proposed tunnel replacement project and urges the State of Michigan to work with Enbridge to complete the tunnel project as quickly as possible and not disrupt Line 5 service before the tunnel can be completed.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Grand Traverse County sends this resolution to all counties of Michigan as an invitation to join in expressing support for increasing the safety of our current energy infrastructure as our society simultaneously seeks energy efficiencies and energy alternatives that will continue to reduce negative impacts and risks to our environment.

APPROVED: August 21, 2019
GRAND TRaverse COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting
August 21, 2019

Chairman Hentschel called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. at the Governmental Center.

OPENING CEREMONIES, EXERCISES OR INVOCATION
An invocation was given by Adam Ray, Harvest Bible Chapel, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PRESENT: Addison Wheelock, Jr., Gordie LaPointe, Brad Jewett, Bryce Hundley, Betsy Coffia, Ron Clous, and Rob Hentschel

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Minutes of August 7, 2019 Regular Meeting

Moved by Hundley, seconded by Jewett to approve the minutes listed above. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT
The following people addressed the Commissioners during Public Comment:

Matt Schoech  Jeff Smith  Bill Latka
Tom Peters  Barry Lishawa  Katie May
Lynn VanNess  Dave Durbin  Allen McCullough
Bill Williston  Carol Shuckra  Jane Wild
Stan Verheul  Karen Comella  Andy Marek
Linda Koebert  Marty Alvarez  Mary Jean McLin
Brenda Earl  Ted Iorio  Dave Petrove
Beth Price  Christina Riddle  Jade Prange
Kate Dahlstrom  John McDonald  Joanne Robb
Kelly Thayer  Chelsea Cooper  Ellen Fivenson
Emily Magner  Amy Yee  Dave Nichols
Rick Brown  Ann Rogers  Harold Lassers
Kate Madigan  Barb Willing  Kellyn Hundley
Margaret Pierson  Susan Wheaton  Laura DeGabriele
Roberta Meserve  Anna Norris  Allison Costello
Rolinda Lamay  ****  Sylvia McCullough
Jackie Anderson  Betsy Coffia  Katie Grier
Gretchen Iorio  Bob Mannes  Tom Mair
Cynthia Minor  Holly Bird
June Thaden  Barb S.

**** Commissioners took a break at 9:37 a.m.
**** Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:51 a.m.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Moved by Hundley, seconded by Coffia to remove item 10a (Resolution in Support of Line 5 Tunnel) and item 6b-7(2020 Census Resolution) and approve the agenda as amended.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 1 No 6
Nays: Wheelock, LaPointe, Jewett, Hundley, Clous and Hentschel
Motion failed.

Moved by Wheelock, seconded by Jewett to move item 10a (Resolution in Support of Line 5 Tunnel) to Special Orders of Business and approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR
The purpose of the Consent Calendar is to expedite business by grouping non-controversial items together to be dealt with by one Commission motion without discussion. Any member of the Commission, staff or the public may ask that any item on the Consent Calendar be removed and placed elsewhere on the agenda for full discussion. Such requests will be automatically respected.

If any item is not removed from the consent calendar, the action noted (receive & file or approval) is approved by a single Commission action adopting the consent calendar. All Information identified on the Consent Calendar can be viewed in its entirety at www.grandtraverse.org

A. RECEIVE AND FILE
1. July 2019 Report from the GT Conservation District

B. APPROVALS
1. Resolution 113-2019
   Circuit Court – Family Division
   Child Care Fund Budget
   Grand Traverse County 2019-2020

2. Resolution 114-2019
   Finance Department
   July 2019 Claims

3. Resolution 115-2019
   Finance Department
   FY2019 Budget Amendments

4. Support of Application for Grant for Civic Center Master Planning – removed from calendar

5. Resolution 116-2019
   Information Technology
   Maintenance Renewal of the VMware Server Infrastructure
6. Resolution 117-2019
Information Technology
Microsoft Windows Server & SQL Licenses

7. 2020 Census Resolution – removed from calendar

ACTION ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR
After the Chief Deputy County Clerk read the Consent Calendar for the record, the following items were removed:

   b-4 Page 53 By Dave Petrove
   b-7 Page 61 By Wheelock

Moved by Wheelock, seconded by Hundley to approve the Consent Calendar minus items b-4 and b-7.
Roll Call Vote: Yes 7 No 0

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS
10a Resolution in Support Line 5 Tunnel
Commissioners discussed the proposed resolution in Support of Line 5 Tunnel.

Resolution 118-2019
Grand Traverse County Resolution in Support of Line 5 Tunnel

Moved by Jewett, seconded by Clous to approve Resolution 118-2019.
Roll Call Vote: Yes 4 No 3
Nays: Wheelock, Hundley, and Coffia

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR
Support of Application for Grant for Civic Center Master Planning
Kristine Erikson, Parks and Recreation Director, reviewed request for support and answered Commissioners’ questions.

Resolution 119-2019
Support of Application for Grant for Civic Center Master Planning

Moved by Wheelock, seconded by Coffia to approve Resolution 119-2019.
Motion Carried
2020 Census Resolution
Moved by Jewett, seconded by Hentschel to approve the 2020 Census Resolution with the correction of the approval date to August 21, 2019.
Roll Call Vote: Yes 3 No 4
Nays: Wheelock, LaPointe, Hundley, and Coffía
Motion Failed

DEPARTMENT ACTION ITEMS
a. Finance
1) Preliminary Review of Underfunded Status and Notice of Deficiencies
Dean Bott, Finance Director, reviewed the State of Michigan’s Preliminary Review of Underfunded Status and Notice of Deficiencies, the County’s response and answered Commissioners’ questions.

Resolution 120-2019
Finance
Application of Waiver

Moved by Wheelock, seconded by Jewett to approve Resolution 120-2019.
Motion Carried

Commissioners took a break at 11:43 a.m.
Commissioners returned to regular session at 11:47 a.m.

2) Refunding GTC Building Authority Series 2012 Bonds
Dean Bott, Finance Director, reviewed the request for Refunding Grand Traverse County Building Authority Series 2012 Bonds and answered Commissioners’ questions.

Resolution 121-2019
Building Authority
Resolution Authorizing Refunding of the Grand Traverse County Building Authority, Building Authority Bonds, Series 2012 and Approving the Undertaking to Provide Continuing Disclosure

Moved by Wheelock, seconded by Coffía to approve Resolution 121-2019.
Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
a. Resolution in Support of Line 5 Tunnel (Jewett) – moved to Special Orders of Business

b. Drain Commissioner Opinion regarding Office
Nate Alger, County Administrator, presented an opinion regarding the Office of the Drain Commissioner from December 2011.
c. Welding and Fabrications Bids

Resolution 122-2019
Welding and Fabrication
Non-Exclusive Agreements

Moved by Hentschel, seconded by Jewett to approve Resolution 122-2019, with the addition of: contract term expiration of December 31, 2020 and no facilities or employees of the County will be used to complete the contract.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 6, Abstain 1
Abstain: Wheelock

NEW BUSINESS
None

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

NOTICES
August 28, 2019 Study Session – Economic Development Corporation and TIF 97

September 4 – Regular Meeting – MERS Presentation

September 11 – Ethics Ad Hoc Committee @ 9:00 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION
None

Meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

_________________________________  __________________________________
Sarah B. Lutz, Chief Deputy County Clerk  Rob Hentschel, Chairman

APPROVED:  
(Date)  (Initials)
BARAGA COUNTY RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LINE 5 TUNNEL

WHEREAS, Enbridge’s Line 5 has been operating safely and reliably in Straits of Mackinac for more than 66 years; and

WHEREAS, Enbridge’s Line 5, a light crude and natural gas liquids pipeline, helps to safely meet Michigan’s energy needs by fulfilling more than half of the propane needs of the state; and

WHEREAS, the products delivered to regional refineries provide jobs and ultimately fuel our lives; and

WHEREAS, multiple and extensive inspections and safety tests over the last several years have confirmed the integrity of Line 5 at the Straits of Mackinac as fit for service.

WHEREAS, consequences to energy supply, local producers, regional airports and refineries, jobs, local economies and the pocketbook of Michiganders across the entire state are too great for Line 5 to be shut down before the tunnel replacement can be completed.

WHEREAS, issues have been raised by several concerned parties regarding the possibility and impact of a breach of Line 5 into the Straits of Mackinac. These concerns have resulted in the State of Michigan and Enbridge negotiating an “agreement” for a 5 year $500 million project, to construct a tunnel 100 feet below bedrock to encase Line 5, the entire length of the Straits, in one-foot-thick concrete walls in order to mitigate the chances of any leaks of product into the Great Lakes.

WHEREAS, the recently elected Michigan Attorney General, Dana Nessel, has subsequently opposed the negotiated “agreement” and filed a law-suit in Ingham County Circuit Court to close down Line 5 immediately effectively canceling all efforts to begin construction of the tunnel; and

WHEREAS, this action may very well provide unintended consequences for all parties as the litigation to close down Line 5 may take years to be resolved in the court with no assurance of the outcome and;
WHEREAS, the time to resolve the litigation may simply result in the delay of the start of the construction of the tunnel thereby leaving the existing Line 5 in place unnecessarily for several additional years.

WHEREAS, Enbridge has demonstrated a willingness to work with the state to both protect the Great Lakes and ensure the continued safe delivery of energy we all rely on.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Baraga County Board of Commissioners hereby joins with other Michigan Counties in extending its support for Enbridge’s proposed tunnel replacement project and urges the State of Michigan to work with Enbridge to complete the tunnel project as quickly as possible and not disrupt Line 5 service before the tunnel can be complete.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Baraga County sends this resolution to all counties of Michigan as an invitation to join in expressing support for increasing the safety of our current energy infrastructure as our society simultaneously seeks energy efficiencies and energy alternatives that will continue to reduce negative impacts and risks to our environment.

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COUNTY OF BARAGA  
)
) SS

I, WENDY J. GOODREAU, Clerk of the Baraga County Board of Commissioners and Clerk of the County of Baraga, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the said Board on September 9, 2019.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County and Circuit Court at L’Anse, Michigan this 13th day of September, 2019.

Wendy J. Goodreau, Clerk
RESOLUTION

TRIAL COURT FUNDING COMMISSION INTERIM REPORT

WHEREAS, the County Clerks in Michigan have a constitutional stake in the trial court funding question, but were excluded from participation in the Trial Court Funding Commission. The County Clerks have a unique relationship with the courts and a perspective that should be heard when making recommendations for substantial changes.

WHEREAS, the goal of Public Act 65 of 2017 was to create a Trial Court Funding Commission to “review and recommend changes to the trial court funding system in light of People v. Cunningham”.

WHEREAS, the vast majority of the Interim Report deals with the consolidation of all local court staff and operations under state control but does not solve the funding problems that Cunningham created (simply moving collections of fines and costs and payment of court salaries/benefits to the state does not mitigate the fact that we will still not be funded adequately).

WHEREAS, centralized control of our court process does not necessarily serve the best interest of the public. The County Clerks believe that local judges and citizens are better served by local custodial control. It has been proven to be a more responsive method of serving their needs.

WHEREAS, research of other state-funded court systems has shown that state funding creates a culture of complacency that tolerates delay. Accountability is removed from the local level and placed in the hands of bureaucrats in state government who are less connected to the people.

WHEREAS, we are concerned that transferring funding to state control would tether the judicial branch to the short term whims of the legislative and executive branches even more than they exist already. In the event of a lack of state funding (government shutdown) this process would also force the shutdown of the court system, resulting in constitutional violation of due process.

WHEREAS, it is critical to note that the finding of 46th Circuit Trial Court v. County of Crawford, 2006:143 states directly: “In order for the judicial branch to carry out its constitutional responsibilities as envisioned by the Constitution of 1963, art3, SS 2, the judiciary cannot be totally beholden to legislative determinations regarding its budgets.”

Board of Commissioners

Gale Elola
District 1

Michael Koskinen
District 2

Dan Robillard
District 3

William Menge
District 4

William C. Rolof
District 5
WHEREAS, this Interim Report recommends altering the Michigan Constitution to provide that circuit court clerks are employed by the court and under the supervision of state government rather than the County Clerk.

WHEREAS, County Clerks serve a critical role in the judicial system. They are constitutionally mandated to ensure the integrity of the records and protecting the best interests of our citizens. Removing County Clerks from the picture would serve as substantial disruption to the purpose that we serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Baraga County Board of Commissioners are opposed to the Trial Court Funding Commission Interim Report dated April 8, 2019. We believe that it is imperative to maintain local control and accountability because that is how our constituents are best served. We strongly oppose this Interim Report and possible pending legislation and encourage the other 82 Michigan counties to join us.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senator Ed McBroom, Representative Gregory Markkanen, the Michigan Association of Counties and the other 82 Michigan Counties.

STATE OF MICHIGAN )
 ) SS
COUNTY OF BARAGA )

I, WENDY J. GOODREAU, Clerk of the Baraga County Board of Commissioners and Clerk of the County of Baraga, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the said Board on September 9, 2019.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County and Circuit Court at L’Anse, Michigan this 12th day of September, 2019.

Wendy J. Goodreau, Clerk
RESOLUTION OPPOSING LEGISLATION TO PREVENT COUNTY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES FROM DISCLOSING THEIR PARTY AFFILIATION ON BALLOTS PROVIDED TO MICHIGAN VOTERS

WHEREAS, Executive Director of the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC), of which Baraga County is a dues paying member, state MAC is considering supporting a change to Michigan election law; and

WHEREAS, this change in Michigan law would force candidates for the office of County Commissioner to run as a “non-partisan” candidate and would prohibit said candidates from disclosing their party affiliation on ballots provided to Michigan voters; and

WHEREAS, preventing disclosure of a candidate’s party affiliation needlessly restricts and censors information that Michigan voters have traditionally relied upon to help them select a candidate who shares their values; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change to Michigan election law is not needed as current Michigan law already permits County Commission candidates to withhold information about their party affiliation from being print on ballots provided to Michigan voters; and

WHEREAS, under the current law, Commissioner Candidates are able to run for office without being affiliated with a political party and disclosing their affiliation, by running as an independent candidate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Baraga County Board of Commissions hereby support providing Michigan voters with full information about their candidates for County Commissioner, and hereby oppose forcing a candidate for County Commissioner to run as a “non-partisan” candidate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Baraga County Board of Commissioners hereby request copies of this resolution be sent to State Senator Ed McBroom, State Representative Gregory Markkanen, the Michigan Association of Counties, and all Michigan Counties, within two weeks of the passage of this resolution.

STATE OF MICHIGAN  )
 ) SS
COUNTY OF BARAGA  )

Board of Commissioners

Gale Eilola  
District 1

Michael Koskinen  
District 2

Dan Robillard  
District 3

William Menge  
District 4

William C. Rolof  
District 5
I, WENDY J. GOODREAU, Clerk of the Baraga County Board of Commissioners and Clerk of the County of Baraga, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the said Board on September 9, 2019.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County and Circuit Court at L'Anse, Michigan this 13th day of September, 2019.

[Signature]

Wendy J. Goodreau, Clerk
Resolution 2019-10

RESOLUTION OPPOSING LEGISLATION TO PREVENT COUNTY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES FROM DISCLOSING THEIR PARTY AFFILIATION ON BALLOTS PROVIDED TO MICHIGAN VOTERS – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, on August 26, 2019 the Arenac County Board of Commissioners received a resolution from Wexford County regarding MAC which is considering supporting a change to Michigan election law; and

WHEREAS, this change in Michigan law would force candidates for the office of County commissioner to run as “non-partisan” candidate and would prohibit said candidate from disclosing their party affiliation on ballots provided to Michigan voters; and

WHEREAS, preventing discloser of candidate’s party affiliation needlessly restricts and censors information that Michigan voters have traditionally relied upon to help them select a candidate who shares their values; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change to Michigan election law is not needed as current Michigan law already permits County Commissioners candidates to withhold information about their party affiliation from being printed on the ballots provided to Michigan voters; and

WHEREAS, under the current law, Commissioners candidates are able to run for office without being affiliated with a political party and disclosing their affiliation, by running as an independent candidate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Arenac County Board of Commissioners hereby supports providing Michigan voters with full information about their candidates for County Commissioners, and hereby opposes forcing a candidate for County Commissioner to run as a “non-partisan” candidate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Arenac County Board of Commissioners hereby instructs Arenac County Clerk to transmit copies of this resolution to State Senator Jim Stamas, State Representative Jason Wentworth, the Michigan Association of Counties, and all Michigan Counties within two weeks of the passage of this resolution.

September 10th, 2019
RESOLUTION 2019-18

Menominee County Support for Enbridge Line 5 Tunnel

WHEREAS, Enbridge’s Line 5 has been operating safely and reliably in the Straits of Mackinac for more than sixty-six (66) years; and

WHEREAS, Enbridge’s Line 5, a light crude and natural gas liquids pipeline, helps to safely meet Michigan’s energy needs by fulfilling more than half of the propane needs of the state; and

WHEREAS, the products delivered to regional refineries provide jobs and ultimately fuel our lives; and

WHEREAS, multiple and extensive inspections and safety tests over the last several years have confirmed the integrity of Line 5 at the Straits of Mackinac as fit for service; and

WHEREAS, consequences to energy supply, local producers, regional airports and refineries, jobs, local economies and the wallets of Michiganders across the entire state are too great for Line 5 to be shut down before the tunnel replacement can be completed; and

WHEREAS, issues have been raised by several concerned parties regarding the possibility and impact of a breach of Line 5 into the Straits of Mackinac. These concerns have resulted in the State of Michigan and Enbridge negotiating an “agreement” for a 5-year, $500 million project to construct a tunnel one hundred (100’) below bedrock to encase Line 5, the entire length of the Straits, in one-foot-thick concrete walls in order to mitigate chances of any leaks of product into the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the recently elected Michigan Attorney General, Dana Nessel, has subsequently opposed the negotiated “agreement” and filed a lawsuit in Ingham County Circuit Court to close down Line 5 immediately which would effectively cancel all efforts to begin construction of the tunnel; and

WHEREAS, this action may very well provide unintended consequences for all parties as the litigation to close down Line 5 may take years to be resolved in the courts with no assurance of the outcome; and

WHEREAS, the time to resolve the litigation may simply result in the delay of the start of the construction of the tunnel thereby leaving the existing Line 5 in place unnecessarily for several additional years; and

Steven Gromala
Gerald Piche – Chairperson
William Cecch – Vice Chairperson
Larry Phelps
Larry Johnson Jr
Jan Hafeman
David Prestin
Bernie Lang
Larry Schei
WHEREAS, Enbridge has demonstrated a willingness to work with the State to both protect the Great Lakes and ensure the continued safe delivery of energy we all rely on; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Menominee County Board of Commissioners hereby joins with other Michigan Counties in extending its support for Enbridge’s proposed tunnel replacement project and urges the State of Michigan to work with Enbridge to complete the tunnel project as quickly as possible and not disrupt Line 5 service before the tunnel can be completed.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Menominee County sends this resolution to all counties of Michigan as an invitation to join in expressing support for increasing the safety of our current energy infrastructure as our society simultaneously seeks energy efficiencies and energy alternatives that will continue to reduce negative impacts and risks to our environment.

Roll call vote: AYES: 9 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Gerald Piche, Chairman, Menominee County Board of Commissioners 9/24/19

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of Resolution 2019-18 adopted by the County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on September 24, 2019 and I further certify that the public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.

Marc Kleiman, Menominee County Clerk