

MECOSTA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MARCH 4, 2021

Chair Marilynn Bradstrom called the morning session of the Mecosta County Board of Commissioners to order at 10:00 A.M. via Zoom. All those present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Commissioners present on roll call: Marilynn Bradstrom, Jerri Strong, Linda Howard, Ray Steinke, 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 add to the Agenda New Business 6.2 – Commission on Aging contract with Point Broadband and 6.3 – Board discussion on future in-person meetings. J. Strong seconded; motion carried.

W. Nystrom moved to approve the Agenda with the additions. W. Routley seconded; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

L. Howard moved to approve the February 18, 2021 Board Minutes as presented. W. Nystrom seconded; motion carried.

PUBLIC MATTERS & COMMENTS:

Keith Wood – Morton Township resident – appeared before the Board via Zoom regarding Mecosta County Resolution #2020-03 – Affirming the Board's Support of Constitutional Rights, adopted March 6, 2020. Mr. Wood also thanked Linda Howard for being a model public servant for the County.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

SCHEDULED APPEARANCE:

Cynthia Mallory – Commission on Aging Director – appeared before the Board via Zoom to give an update on operations at the Commission on Aging, from 2020 to present, and how they have been affected by Covid-19.

NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 LANDFILL TESTING PROPOSALS

J. Strong moved to approve a proposal from Trace Analytical Laboratories, Inc to test and analyze the 3 groundwater monitoring wells at the Rodney Landfill at a cost of \$1,291 for the basic testing and \$1,200 for PFAS testing. W. Nystrom seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.2 COMMISSION ON AGING – CONTRACT WITH POINT BROADBAND

W. Routley moved to approve a 3-year contract with Point Broadband, which will upgrade the internet speeds at Commission on Aging, for the same monthly price of \$99.95. J. Strong seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

6.3 BOARD DISCUSSION ON IN-PERSON BOARD MEETINGS

W. Routley began discussion on the option of returning to in-person Board and Committee meetings following recommendations of the Governor and Michigan Association of Counties.

M. Bradstrom directed the Administrator to arrange for in-person meetings in Conference Room F of the County Services Building beginning with the next Board Meeting [3/18/21], and Committee Meetings scheduled after tomorrow, with public interaction limited to Zoom, unless presenting or at the discretion of the Board Chair and County Administrator.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Housing Rehab Request – Administrator

R. Steinke moved to approve the proposal from Big Rapids Housing for a rubber roof replacement at the low bid of \$19,300 from G Freeland Roofing. J. Strong seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

Budget Amendment Request/Central Services – Finance Officer

R. Steinke moved to approve the budget amendment request from the Finance Officer to amend Central Services budget by adding \$8,500 from Unreserved Contingency [101 890-700] to the Prof/Contract Services line item [101 248-813] to cover the new contract amount for IT Services with the City of Big Rapids. W. Routley seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

Listed Bills:

R. Steinke moved to pay the pre-approved vouchers in the amount of \$507,654.37 and approve and pay non-approved vouchers in the amount of \$45,113.15. J. Strong seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

T. O’Neil reported attending Sheriff & Jail Fleet Meeting, District 10 Health Meeting, Building & Grounds Committee, Sheriff & Jail Committee and today’s Commission Meeting.

Sheriff & Jail:

Tom gave a report on the recent meeting.

W. Nystrom reported attending DHHS Board Meeting, Sheriff & Jail Fleet Meeting, City of Big Rapids Meeting, Building & Grounds Committee, Big Rapids Social Equity Initiative Meeting, Finance Committee, Big Rapids Township Meeting, Sheriff & Jail Committee and today's Commission Meeting.

R. Steinke reported attending District 10 Health Meeting, Finance Committee and today's Commission Meeting.

J. Strong reported attending Area Agency on Aging Webinar, Area Agency on Aging Meeting, Chippewa Township Meeting, Finance Committee and today's Commission Meeting.

L. Howard reported attending Central Michigan Community Mental Health Meeting, Mid-Michigan Community Action Meeting, Building & Grounds Committee and today's Commission Meeting.

Building & Zoning:

L. Howard moved to approve a proposal from Mr. Cassidy to move the Sheriff's office, at a cost up to \$5,000, from Building Improvements. W. Nystrom seconded; roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays; motion carried.

W. Routley reported attending Sheriff & Jail Fleet Meeting, Sheriff & Jail Committee, Finance Committee, Area Agency on Aging and today's Commission Meeting.

M. Bradstrom reported attending 2 Park Meetings, Finance Committee and today's Commission Meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Paul Bullock reported the following:

- Working on enhancements to the microphones in Conference Room F/Services Building.

PUBLIC MATTERS & COMMENTS:

Jim Sandy – Mecosta Economic Development Corporation – appeared before the Board via Zoom to update on MCDC's plan moving forward after his retirement.

Keith Wood – Morton Township resident – appeared before the Board via Zoom to discuss a recent report by American Frontline Doctors he emailed to Commissioners regarding masks and their ineffectiveness. Encourages Commissioners to write a resolution that masks are not mandated, knowing they do not work, and follow the science.

MISCELLANEOUS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS, MINUTES & REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS:

J. Strong moved to accept and place on file Communications #1-6, Minutes & Reports #1-3 and Resolutions #1-2. W. Nystrom seconded; motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

R. Steinke adjourned to the next regular scheduled meeting or call of the Chair at 11:04 A.M.



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

Marilynn Bradstrom, Chair
Mecosta County Board of Commissioners