

**MINUTES
ISABELLA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 19, 2016**

The Isabella County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m., by Chairperson George Green in the Commission Chambers on the above date.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was led by Chairperson George Green.

Roll was called with the following Commissioners present: George Green, John Haupt, Jim Horton, Michael Fisher and David Ling

Commissioners Absent: Jim Moreno, Jerry Jaloszynski

Also present were: Isabella County Administrator/Controller Margaret McAvoy, County Prosecutor Risa Hunt-Scully, County Clerk Minde` B. Lux and Deputy Clerk Brenda M. Young

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was moved by Commissioner Ling and seconded by Commissioner Fisher to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Michael Hartzler, Coldwater Township Trustee stated he is concerned about the status of the emergency radio system in the Northwest portion of the county for Fire and Emergency. Isabella County Administrator/Controller Margaret McAvoy stated that reconditioned radios are being programmed by the State of Michigan and will be distributed to the Nottawa/Sherman Fire Department.

PRESENTATIONS AND SPECIAL REPORTS: None

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

It was moved by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Haupt to approve and place on file the June 21, 2016 Regular Board Minutes, the July 12, 2016 Criminal Justice and County Affairs Committee Minutes, the July 11, 2016 Human Resources and Public Works Committee Minutes, the July 7, 2016 Routine Personnel items. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Administration Committee:

1. June 16, 2016 Claims List, the June 22, 2016 Claims List, the June 29, 2016 Claims List and the July 6, 2016 Claims List:

It was moved by Commissioner Horton and seconded by Commissioner Ling to ratify and place on file the June 16, 2016 Claims List in the amount of \$37,085.37, and the June 22, 2016 Claims List in the amount of \$39,313.36, the June 29, 2016 Claims List in the amount of \$83,335.67 and

the July 6, 2016 Claims List in the amount of \$54,039.72. The motion carried with 5 yeas and 0 nays. Yeas: Commissioners Green, Haupt, Horton, Ling and Fisher. Nays: None.

2. June 2016 Direct Pay List:

It was moved by Commissioner Ling and seconded by Commissioner Horton to approve the June 2016 Direct Pay List in the amount of \$1,533,370.99. The motion carried with 5 yeas and 0 nays. Yeas: Commissioners Green, Haupt, Horton, Ling and Fisher. Nays: None.

3. Preston Community Services Agreement Amendment:

It was moved to amend the current Agreement with Preston Community Services in the additional annual amount of \$46,000.00 for the time period of July 19, 2016 through June 1, 2017 and authorize the Board Chair to sign the same. The motion carried with 5 yeas and 0 nays. Yeas: Commissioners Green, Haupt, Horton, Ling and Fisher. Nays: None.

Criminal Justice and County Affairs Committee:

1. Resolution No. 16-07-02

Resolution Submitting to a Vote of the Electorate Authorization of the Telephone Surcharge for Emergency Telephone Services (911 Services)

WHEREAS, Isabella County has established a county-wide system of emergency telephone and dispatch services for the benefit of the citizens of the county; and

WHEREAS, 911 emergency telephone and dispatch services are of substantial benefit to the citizens of the County of Isabella; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Emergency Telephone Service Enabling Act, Section 401b(1), being MCL 484.1401b(1), the Isabella County Board of Commissioners may, with voter approval, authorize a telephone surcharge of up to \$3.00 for each service user, except for the user of a prepaid wireless telecommunications service, for recurring emergency telephone operational cost and charges; and

WHEREAS, under the Emergency Telephone Service Enabling Act the County is currently authorized to charge up to \$1.50 for each service user; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners believe a telephone surcharge at the level of up to \$3.00 for each service user is necessary to provide an adequate and equitable financing mechanism for the needs for the Isabella County Central Dispatch Center.

WHEREAS, the Isabella County Central Dispatch Advisory Board has approved and recommended a request to the County Board of Commissioners to place this question of the 911 Surcharge on the ballot.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on July 19, 2016, the following proposal be submitted to the qualified voters of the County of Isabella at the Election to be held in said County on November 8, 2016:

Chairperson Green opened the floor for public comments and discussion.

Garth Lawrence, Sherman Township Trustee asked why not do a millage instead of per device fee? Students that don't pay their cell phone bill here will not be included in the money collected by Isabella County. Chairperson Green stated that the \$3.00 will be collected for all devices that are billed for in Isabella County.

Bob Wheeler asked how the funds are dispersed to Central Dispatch? Isabella County Administrator/Controller Margaret McAvoy answered that the funds are received into the County and then transferred over to Central Dispatch.

Larry Schloegl, Post Commander from Michigan State Police stated that the state collection of the 911 dollars go directly to 911. He stated that there is no oversight of the phone companies to ensure they are actually paying the correct amount. He also stated that Isabella County is getting a great service for the amount of money the community pays.

Sheriff Mike Main stated that a fund balance is necessary. If there is a critical infrastructure failure without a fund balance there would be no way to replace items that may fail, which leaves responders and community members at a risk.

Commissioner Haupt suggested that all Townships and Fire Departments work to help pass this.

It was moved by Commissioner Haupt and seconded by Commissioner Fisher to adopt Resolution No. 16-07-02, authorizing the ballot proposal for a Local 911 Surcharge Increase in Isabella County and certifying the November 8, 2016 ballot language, and authorize the Board Chair to sign the same. The motion carried with 5 yeas and 0 nays. Yeas: Commissioners Green, Haupt, Horton, Ling and Fisher. Nays: None.

Human Resources and Public Works Committee:

1. Zoning Amendment #16-05:

It was moved by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Haupt to adopt Zoning Amendment #16-05 which amends Article 2 Definitions, Section 2.06 Definitions "F", Farm, of the Isabella County Ordinance and authorize the Board Chair to sign the same. The motion carried with 5 yeas and 0 nays. Yeas: Commissioners Green, Haupt, Horton, Ling and Fisher. Nays: None.

2. Zoning Amendment #16-06:

It was moved by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Haupt to adopt Zoning Amendment #16-06 which amends Article 3 General Provisions, Section 3.02 Accessory Buildings and Structures of the Isabella County Zoning Ordinance and authorize the Board Chair to sign the same. The motion carried with 5 yeas and 0 nays. Yeas: Commissioners Green, Haupt, Horton, Ling and Fisher. Nays: None.

Intergovernmental Affairs Committee: None

Administrator/Controller: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

General Public Comments:

Jim Dague, Coldwater Township Supervisor stated that currently, Emergency Responders are not always able to talk to Central Dispatch. He stated he has been hearing excuses about the lack of working equipment for 3 years. Supervisor Dague stated there was a fire at his place last week and cell phones had to be used to contact emergency personnel since the radios did not work.

Tobin Hope, Isabella County Resident, Mr. Hope stated he is running for District 7 County Commissioner. He stated he is a 19-year resident and worked for CMU, Union President for 9 years. He stated he has looked over the audit from 2015 and performance dashboard. It appears the County has been run very well. His goal is to learn everything and work with everyone so that the County is run judiciously.

Announcements:

Chairperson Green announced that the Michigan Township Association meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 20 in room 225 of the County Building beginning at 7pm.

Margaret McAvoy stated that being Chair of Central Dispatch Board has been both a humbling and enlightening experience. She thanked the Sheriff, City of MP Police, State Police Commander and CMU police, as well as fire fighters and first responders. She appreciates the support for the surcharge increase.

Adjournment: It was moved by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Haupt to adjourn to the call of the chair at 8:07 p.m.

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