

The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Members present: David Heeres, Karen Bargy, Terry VanAlstine, Brenda Ricksgrers, Dawn LaVanway, Christian Marcus.

Absent: Joshua Watrous, Ed Boettcher, Jason Helwig.

Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.

The Vice-Chair requested Public Comment. Ron Tschudy, resident of Echo Township addressed the Board on climate change and our responsibility. Public comment closed.

It was moved by Ricksgrers, seconded by LaVanway to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

It was moved by VanAlstine, seconded by Ricksgrers to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2019 meeting as written. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

The Vice- Chair announced registration is currently open for two conferences: Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) and Michigan Association of Townships (MTA) and if interested contact the County Clerk.

**LIAISON REPORTS:**

- Commissioner VanAlstine – Grass River Natural Area (upcoming fundraiser)
- Commissioner LaVanway – Planning Commission & Antrim County Community Collaborative
- Commissioner Ricksgrers – E-911 Board
- Commissioner Marcus – NACO/FEMA – Disaster Grants & North Country CMH
- Commissioners Bargy – Northwest MI Community Health Department

It was moved by Heeres, seconded by Ricksgrers, to approve the purchase of a large format multi-function printer (printer, plotter, scanner) for the Building Department at a cost of \$7,877.00 from Applied Imaging and to authorize Deb Haydell, Finance Director, Chief Administrative Officer of the Budget to make a 2019 budget amendment to increase the Construction Code Enforcement Fund #249, expenditure Capital Outlay, Equipment (#249-901-980.000) in the amount of \$7,877.00 with funding to come from Fund #249 fund balance. Motion as follows: Yes – Heeres, Bargy, Ricksgrers, No – VanAlstine, LaVanway, Marcus; Absent – Watrous, Boettcher, Helwig. **TIE/MOTION FAILS**  
Discussion followed.

It was moved by Marcus, seconded by VanAlstine, that the County Administrator and the County Building Official work together to expedite the move of the Building Department from the second floor of the County Building to the vacant office previously housed by the Equalization Department on the First floor.

Discussion followed.

**NO VOTE TAKEN**

Commissioner Bargy requested the action be **TABLED** to expedite moving the Building Department.

It was moved by LaVanway, seconded by VanAlstine, that the Claims and Accounts in the amount totaling \$323,687.66 be approved and paid. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Bargy, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Marcus; No – None; Absent – Watrous, Boettcher, Helwig.

It was moved by VanAlstine, seconded by Ricksgers, to approve the amended Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Policy as corrected and that the following be added:

- Definition Index
- Section 6 – Clarification of armed forces and military

Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Bargy, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Marcus; No – None; Absent – Watrous, Boettcher, Helwig. **EXHIBIT “A”**

The Board reviewed the **Educational Assistance Policy** draft dated January 22, 2019. Discussion followed.

- Recommended changes: Passing grade from a C or better to a **B or better** and add the **component for the financial budgeting** of educational assistance by departments.

The Board reviewed the **Inclement Weather Policy** history provided by the County Administrator. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Ricksgers left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

The Vice-Chair moved the time scheduled for the memoranda of understanding – 86<sup>th</sup> District Court Sobriety and Drug Courts to 11:15 a.m.

It was moved by LaVanway, seconded by Heeres, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the 86<sup>th</sup> District Court effective October 1, 2018, through September 31, 2020, and to authorize the Board Vice-Chair to sign the MOU indicating the Board’s support of a Drug Court and a Sobriety Court which will also allow the District Court to accept grant funds from the State Court Administrative Office. Motion carried as follows: Yes- Heeres, Bargy, VanAlstine, LaVanway, Marcus; No – None; Absent – Watrous, Boettcher, Ricksgers, Helwig.

It was moved by Marcus, seconded by LaVanway, to approve the Antrim County Social Media Internal Use Policy as proposed with the addition of related records referenced at the end of document. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Bargy, VanAlstine, LaVanway, Marcus; No – None; Absent – Watrous, Boettcher, Ricksgers, Helwig. **EXHIBIT “B”**

It was moved by Marcus, seconded by Heeres, to approve the Antrim County Social Media Public Use Policy as proposed with the addition of related records referenced at the end of document. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Bargy, VanAlstine, LaVanway, Marcus; No – None; Absent – Watrous, Boettcher, Ricksgers, Helwig. **EXHIBIT “C”**

The Vice-Chair appointed Jeannette Hayes to the Antrim County Housing Committee to fill the vacant partial term expiring December 31, 2019.

It was moved by Marcus, seconded by Heeres, that the Vice-Chair's appointment of Jeannette Hayes to the Antrim County Housing Committee to fill the partial term set to expire December 31, 2019 be approved. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

The Vice-Chair appointed Bryan Smith to the Antrim County Housing Committee to fill the vacant partial term expiring December 31, 2020.

It was moved by VanAlstine, seconded by Heeres, that the Vice Chair's appointment of Bryan Smith to the Antrim County Housing Committee to fill the partial term set to expire December 31, 2020 be approved. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

The Vice-Chair appointed Libby Hiser to the Antrim County Veterans Affairs Board to fill the vacant partial term set to expire December 31, 2019.

It was moved by Marcus, seconded by Bargy, that the Vice-Chair's appointment of Libby Hiser to the Antrim County Veterans Affairs Board to fill the partial term set to expire December 31, 2019 be approved. Motion as follows: Yes – Bargy, Marcus; No – Heeres, VanAlstine, LaVanway; Absent – Watrous, Boettcher, Ricksgers, Helwig. **MOTION FAILS**

It was moved by Heeres, seconded by LaVanway, that Calvin Shooks be appointed to the Antrim County Veterans Affairs Board to fill the partial term set to expire December 31, 2019 be approved. Motion carried as follows: Yes -Heeres, VanAlstine, LaVanway; No – Bargy, Marcus; Absent – Watrous, Boettcher, Ricksgers, Helwig.

The Vice-Chair appointed Rick Teague to the Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) Committee to fill the vacant position.

It was moved by Marcus, seconded by VanAlstine, that the Vice-Chair's appointment of Rick Teague to the Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) Committee to fill the vacant position be approved. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

The Vice-Chair appointed Blaze Budd to the Antrim Creek Natural Area Commission to fill the vacant partial term set to expire December 31, 2021.

It was moved by Heeres, seconded by Marcus, that the Vice-Chair's appointment of Blaze Budd to the Antrim Creek Natural Area Commission to fill the term set to expire December 31, 2021 be approved. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

The Vice-Chair appointed Donald Halstead to the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan Board of Directors to fill the vacant partial term set to expire December 31, 2019.

It was moved by VanAlstine, seconded by LaVanway, that the Vice-Chair's appointment of Donald Halstead to the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan Board of Directors to fill the vacant partial term set to expire December 31, 2019 be approved. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

Peter Garwood, County Administrator addressed the Board on Farmland Preservation. Discussion followed.

- Advertise/Letters of Interest/Interviews (County Administrator/Chair of Board of Commissioners/GT Land Conservancy/Townships) Chair makes recommendation to full Board
- Six (6) Members as follows: 2 - Agricultural (1) Operations (1) Business  
1 – Conservation 1 - Township Government 1- Real Estate 1 - Board member

Discussion followed.

Tim Reicha presented the Glacial Hills Quarterly update.

County Administrator, Peter Garwood addressed the Board with his report:

- Update - Deputy Administrator position – hiring process
- Court Case Update: Zettle vs Antrim County: CT #2 & CT#3 Dismissed, County Treasurers' names eliminated from case title
- Rave Update: Questions and Answers (Members & Sgt. Gank)
- Facilities Master Plan – Gosling Czubak report forthcoming
- Medical Examiner – Investigator Update
- Michigan Indigent Defense Commission Update
- Cairn Monument Update (County/Township/Road Commission)
- County Building Security – Update
- Personnel Handbook – Update

Discussion followed.

Sarah Lucas, Networks Northwest – presented the Board with the proposed Antrim County Facilities Open House Forum Agenda, proposed venue location and dates in April to schedule the forum/open house.

Discussion followed. Commissioner Bargy spoke of the need to hold forums throughout the County.

The Board agreed upon April 23, 2019 with alternate dates, being April 29, 2019 and April 30, 2019 with doors opening at 5:30 P.M. and forum starting at 6:00 P.M.

Chief Administrative Officer, Deb Haydell presented finance reports:

- January 2019 General Fund Revenue and Expenditure Report

Commissioner Bargy thanked Deputy County Administrator, Mathew Cooke for his dedication and service to the citizens of Antrim County and staff.

The Vice-Chair requested Public Comment. Deb Peters, Veterans Affairs Director addressed the Board on their appointment to the Antrim County Veterans Affairs Committee, thanking Commissioners Bargy and Marcus for their support and asked the Board to reconsider their appointment. (Memo attached – page 6)

Commissioner Bargy opened the floor to members to reconsider Veterans Affairs Committee appointment. There was none.

The Vice-Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:31 p.m.

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Vice-Chair, Karen Bargy

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County Clerk, Sheryl Guy

I first want to thank Vice-Chair, Karen Bargy for making the motion to appoint Libby Hiser to the Antrim County Veterans Affairs Committee, hereafter referred to as ACVAC and Christian Marcus for his support of said motion.

I believe the Vice-Chair did her homework and gave her motion much thought and consideration. She pointed out her reasons for making the motion to appoint Libby and you chose to ignore them. The reasons being were that all current members of the ACVAC are Vietnam era, as well as the others that submitted their notice of interest; one applicant would be unavailable during the winter months; one applicant withdrew his name due to recent employment; AND Libby was the recommendation of the ACVAC.

Terry VanAlstine voiced his concern that if Libby were appointed to the ACVAC there may be a conflict of interest, in that her husband is a veteran and is also an employee of the County. I can assure you this is not so. In the past, we had two members of the ACVAC that were also employees of Antrim County.

In not appointing Libby, you not only went against the recommendation of the Vice-Chair, but also the recommendation of the very committee she would have served on. Realize this, the four current committee members were appointed by the BOC. Therefore, those current members had your vote of confidence. At the last ACVAC meeting the members reviewed all notices of interest, had much discussion and made a unanimous recommendation that Libby Hiser be appointed. By not accepting the recommendation of the ACVAC, you are in essence discounting the opinions of the members you previously appointed AND telling them that you know better than they, who should serve on their committee. I find this truly disheartening.

I believe that Libby Hiser should receive the appointment and strongly ask you to reconsider for the following reasons:

- Libby is a veteran of the Gulf War era, specifically Operation Enduring Freedom while all others are of the Vietnam era. This would enable her to bring a fresh perspective and new ideas to the ACVAC.
- Libby would be the first female to serve on the ACVAC.
- And last but certainly not least, Libby was recommended by the ACVAC.