

SPECIAL MEETING

This meeting was conducted via Zoom per Governor Gretchen Whitmer's executive orders during the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Pandemic.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present:

Remote: David Heeres, Joshua Watrous, Karen Bargy, Ed Boettcher, Terry VanAlstine, Brenda Ricksgers, Dawn LaVanway, Jason Helwig and Christian Marcus.

Absent:

The Chairman requested Invocation: Moment of Silence.

The Chairman addressed the Board and the public attending the virtual webinar meeting by video and/or phone. MSU District Director, Jennifer Berkey will assist with public comment by screening the public in order of attendance by calling out phone numbers. Deputy Administrator, Jeremy Scott will assist Board members that experience technical difficulties.

The Chairman requested Public Comment. David Christian addressed the Board to provide an update on the progress of the Lake Levels Committee. He reported that the automated data loggers and rain gauges are in place and water measurements recorded. David Springsteen, Partnership Specialist for the U.S. Census Bureau 2020 addressed the Board on the status of self-response from households in Antrim County currently at 37.6%. He requested assistance from the Board to support and encourage public participation and the importance of being counted. Roll call of public attending meeting via Zoom identified that they were present with no public comment. Public Comment closed at 9:17 a.m.

Moved by LaVanway, seconded by VanAlstine, that the Board approve the agenda with the addition of County-Owned Vehicle Maintenance Policy under new business. Roll call vote as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bargy, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

Moved by VanAlstine, seconded by Heeres, that the Board approve the minutes of the March 23, 2020 special meeting as corrected. Roll call vote as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bargy, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

COMMUNICATIONS/NOTICES:

- Letter: Citizens of Antrim County to Governor Whitmer requesting consideration to opening our county due to (COVID-19).
- Email: James Jannausch, Charlevoix resident seeking support from community leaders in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MSHHS) Region 7 to support and encourage our state legislatures to work with the Governor and the Secretary of MDHHS to begin a Phase 1 opening of Region 7 using the Federal Reopening Guidelines.

LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Commissioner VanAlstine – Kearney Township/Village of Bellaire /Grass River Natural Area updates

Commissioner Helwig – Mancelona Village/Palmer Park update

Commissioner Ricksgers – Antrim County Fair – Fundraiser update

Commissioner LaVanway – Northern Lakes Economic Alliance (NLEA) – Hiring process of director - update

Commissioner Boettcher – Antrim County Economic Development (EDC), Emergency Operations Center, local Downtown Development Authorities, and several chambers working together on recovery plan for the county's businesses – "Antrim Promise"
Discussion followed.

Moved by Ricksgers, seconded by Marcus, that the Board approve Claims and Accounts of May 7, 2020 in the amount totaling \$61,674.52 be approved and paid, (reviewed by Board Chairman, County Administrator, and Finance Director). Roll call vote as follows: Yes – Heeres, Watrous, Bargy, Boettcher, VanAlstine, Ricksgers, LaVanway, Helwig, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

2020 CENSUS: David Springsteen

Addressed the Board during public comment.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS UPDATE COVID 19 REPORT: Leslie Meyers

Antrim County Emergency Services Coordinator and Emergency Operations Center COVID-19 Operations: Functions, objectives, donations and recovery planning through May 6, 2020. Joined forces with local chambers of commerce, downtown development authorities and the Northern Lakes Economic Alliance to create plan of procedures for the recovery and the opening of county businesses referred to as the "Antrim Promise".
Discussion followed. Questions and input of members.

COUNTY OWNED VEHICLE MAINTENANCE POLICY

Commissioner LaVanway – Concerns that departments are not following the County Owned Vehicle Maintenance Policy.

County Administrator referred to the original policy adopted by Board of Commissioners on November 8, 2012 and Amended February 7, 2019. He indicated adjustments have been made while staff is working through some issues between departments.

Discussion followed.

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

- Board members questions and input.

Commissioner Bargy: The Board did not give authority to the Chairman, the County Administrator and the Finance Director to change the status of any employees or change any wages.

Discussion followed.

County Administrator addressed the Board that emergency action taken was due to COVID 19 and on a temporary basis.

Discussion followed.

Chair Report, Commissioner Boettcher

- Next Board special meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom virtual webinar by video and/or phone.
- Agenda committee meeting scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom virtual webinar by video and/or phone.
- Suspension of Rules:
 - Board action March 19, 2020: Temporary suspension until such time a quorum of the Board decides to lift the suspension.
 - Governor Whitmer Executive Order extends public meeting held electronically (remote) through June 30, 2020.

VARIOUS MATTERS:

Commissioner VanAlstine – Asked for an update on removal of deer blinds on county property. Representative of the Village of Bellaire reported a bridge in need of repairs at the Richardi Park on County owned property. County Administrator informed the Board that his office would follow up on both questions and report to Board.

Commissioner Bargy – May 21, 2020 Board agenda address: Suspension of Board Rules & MPSCS Mobile Radio Study.

Commissioner LaVanway – No subcommittee meetings: Antrim County Parks & Recreation no plan delays various units the ability to write and submit grant applications.

The Chair requested Public Comment. MSU District Director, Jennifer Berkey will assist with public comment by screening the public in order of attendance by calling out phone numbers. Triston Cole addressed the Board referring to Governor Gretchen Whitmer Executive Orders, which allows construction projects to resume, the effects of which requires permitting and inspections to resume by the Building Department and Health Department. He also addressed the Board on the County owned vehicles and safe driving requirements. Roll call of public attending meeting and there was no additional public comment. Public comment closed at 11:56 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Chair, Ed Boettcher

County Clerk, Sheryl Guy