

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

Present: David Heeres, Bob Wilson, Karen Bary, Ed Boettcher, Bryan Smith, Michael Crawford  
Laura Stanek, Chuck Johnson, Christian Marcus.

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.

Moment of Silence

The Chairman requested Public Comment. Sheriff, Dan Bean introduced the new Office Manager, Elizabeth Putz. Jim Gurr asked the Board to reject the reorganization recommendations as proposed in the Antrim County Parks & Recreation Structure Plan as recommended in Mr. Stone's study and that the structure be kept as they are now, as our current structure has served Antrim County well. Linda Gallagher spoke in support for the \$25.00 surcharge per household per year to fund the recycling program. Public comment closed at 9:12 a.m.

Polly Cairns, Equalization Director spoke to the Board requesting their support and approval of the request to hire an Assistant Equalization Director.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by Bary, seconded by Marcus that claims and accounts in the amount of \$320,501.35 be approved and paid. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bary, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

#### **RESOLUTION #08 -16 By Karen Bary, seconded by Christian Marcus**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended (Act 51), it is necessary for the Antrim County Board of Commissioners, (hereby known as THE APPLICANT) established under Act 941-933 to provide a local transportation program for the state fiscal year of 2017 and, therefore, apply for state financial assistance under provisions of Act 51; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the governing body, to name an official representative for all public transportation matters, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to certify that no changes in eligibility documentation have occurred during the past state fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, the performance indicators have been reviewed and approved by the governing body.

**WHEREAS**, THE APPLICATION, has reviewed and approved the proposed balance (surplus) budget, and funding sources of estimated federal funds \$132,347, estimated state funds \$295,653, estimated local funds \$166,000, estimated fare box \$172,700, estimated other funds \$60,300, with total estimated expenses of \$827,000.

**Resolution #08-2016 continued.**

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved that THE APPLICANT hereby makes its intentions known to provide public transportation services and to apply for state financial assistance with this annual plan, in accordance with Act 51; and

**HEREBY**, appoints Alan Meacham, ACT Director as the Transportation Coordinator, for all public transportation matters, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51 for 2017.

Yes – David Heeres, Bob Wilson, Karen Bargy, Ed Boettcher, Bryan Smith, Michael Crawford, Laura Stanek, Chuck Johnson, Christian Marcus;  
No – None;  
Absent – None.

**RESOLUTION #08-2016 DECLARED ADOPTED.**

It was moved by Bargy, seconded by Marcus that the County Financial Fiscal Officer, Deb Haydell be authorized to make 2016 budget amendments in the Revenue account (#101-000-575) be reduced by \$15,179.00, changing the balance from \$46,529.00 to \$31,350.00, and; the General Fund, Survey and Remonumentation for contractual service line item (#101-278-802) be reduced by \$15,250.00, changing the balance from \$44,000.00 to \$28,750.00 be approved. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

It was moved by Bargy, seconded by Marcus that the County Financial Fiscal Officer, Deb Haydell be authorized to post funds from the Antrim County Commission on Aging Fund #297 to the Antrim County 2015 General Fund #101 in the amount of \$106,463.00 be approved. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

It was moved by Bargy, seconded by Marcus that the County Financial Fiscal Officer, Deb Haydell be authorized to post a 2016 budget amendment to transfer from the General Fund Capital Outlay line item equipment I.T. line item (#101-901-980.228) in the amount of \$15,882.84, to new General Fund Department, Capital Outlay Computers (#101-902-980.980.136) in the amount of \$2,372.94; and (#101-902-980.172) in the amount of \$834.52; and (#101-902-980.191) in the amount of \$703.90; and (#101-902-980.228) in the amount of \$709.08; and (#101-902-980.257) in the amount of \$703.90; and (#101-902-980.301) in the amount of \$5,631.20; and Building Code Fund (#249-902-980.371) in the amount of \$1,407.80; and Commission on Aging Fund (#297-902-980.686) in the amount of \$3,519.50, totaling \$15,882.84 be approved. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson; Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

**Consent Agenda – Continued.**

It was moved by Bargy, seconded by Marcus that the County Financial Fiscal Officer, Deb Haydell be authorized to post 2016 budget amendments to the 2016 General Fund budgets by increasing the wage, salary and corresponding benefit line items in each department budget in the amount of \$169,028.00 to be transferred from the General Fund, Special Projects Cost Center line item Contingencies (#101-895-999) in the amount of \$169,028.00 be approved. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

It was moved by Bargy, seconded by Marcus that the County Financial Fiscal Officer, Deb Haydell be authorized to post 2016 budget amendments by increasing the wage, salary and corresponding benefit line items; Fund #249 Construction Code in the amount of \$1,594.000, and Fund #259- 911-training in the amount of \$270.00, and Fund #362-911-operating in the amount of \$24,535.00, and Fund #279 Snowmobile Grant in the amount of \$816.00, and Fund #297 Commission on Aging in the amount of \$7,148.00, and Fund #581 Antrim County Airport in the amount of \$2,687.00 with the corresponding decrease in the Fund balance of each of these funds. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent -None.

It was moved by Bargy, seconded by Marcus that the Financial Fiscal Officer, Deb Haydell be authorized to make General Fund budget line item transfers in the Equalization Department in the amount of \$62,733.00 from item (702) to line item (802) and to transfer \$17,267.00 from line items (716 and 716.008) to line item (802) for contractual services be approved. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

It was moved by Boettcher, seconded by Johnson that the minutes of January 14, 2016 be approved. Motion carried – Unanimous.

Theresa Kent, Antrim County Abstractor, presented the Abstractors 2015 Annual Report.

It was moved by Wilson, seconded by Johnson the Antrim County Abstractor Annual Report for 2015 be accepted. Motion carried – Unanimous.

Peter Garwood, County Administrator reported to the Board that at this time there is no information to report in the matter of Mr. Johnson's claim for short term disability with carrier Mutual of Omaha. At the November 20, 2015 the Board requested that Mr. Johnson provide his entire file to the County Administrator so that they may assist and investigate whether or not Mutual of Omaha Insurance Company followed its own rules and protocol in the denial of Mr. Johnson's claim and that the file be shared with County's legal counsel and that legal counsel be authorized to assist with research without representation and that the cost be paid by the County.

John Amrhein, Michigan State University Extension gave presentation to the Board on Strategic Planning processes and his role as a facilitator of the programs planning processes and work sessions.

It was moved by Bargy, seconded by Wilson that the **Tabled** motion from the December 10, 2015 Board meeting to execute three (3) transmission line right-of-way easement agreements with Wolverine Power Cooperative from Graves Crossing to Central Lake be picked up from the table and that action be taken.

It was moved by Bargy, seconded by Marcus that the execution of three (3) transmission line right-of-way easement agreements with Wolverine Power Cooperative from Graves Crossing to Central Lake be granted. Motion carried – Unanimous.

It was moved by Boettcher, seconded by Wilson that the funds be released and authorize the Antrim County Prosecutor to engage in the hiring process for the vacant full-time Victim's Advocate/Witness Coordinator position to be paid at the hire-in rate of \$15.73 per hour and be afforded all full time benefits per the General Bargaining Unit Agreement. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

It was moved by Boettcher, seconded by Heeres that the funds be released and authorize the Antrim County Register of Deeds to engage in the hiring process for the irregular part-time Clerk II position, with the position to be filled no sooner than February 18, 2016 at the hire-in hourly rate of \$13.69 per the General Bargaining Unit Agreement. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

It was moved by Boettcher, seconded by Heeres that Polly Cairns, Equalization Director be approved to create the full-time position of Assistant Equalization Director and that the hiring process begin, and that the starting salary be \$38,863.00 with all the full-time benefits provided to the unrepresented employees. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Johnson; No – Wilson, Stanek, Marcus; Absent – None.

It was moved by Boettcher, seconded by Heeres that the request from Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy to waive the fees and approve the provision of the parcel line spatial data from the County Geographical Information System (GIS) database be approved. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson; No – Marcus; Absent – None.

**RESOLUTION #09-2016** By Ed Boettcher, seconded Laura Stanek

**WE**, the **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**, respectfully beg leave to submit the following resolution for your consideration:

**WHEREAS**, in 2015, the Center of Public Integrity and Global Integrity conducted a national study of state ethics and transparency laws and safeguards, in which the State of Michigan was ranked last; and

**Resolution #09-2016 continued.**

**WHEREAS**, some of the reasons cited for the State’s poor ranking was weak public records laws and the absence of laws requiring personal financial disclosures by lawmakers and top state officials; and

**WHEREAS**, another glaring issue cited was the exemption of the governor and the legislature from state open records laws; and

**WHEREAS**, the State has required transparency from local municipalities through EVIP and CIP, yet the State has chosen to not take the opportunity to lead by example; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board feels it is time that State lawmakers and top officials stop exempting themselves from the laws that they expect others to follow; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Antrim County Board of Commissioners urges State lawmakers and top officials to stop the hypocrisy of exempting themselves from the laws that they enact for the governance of the State of Michigan, of which they are included; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Michigan counties, Senator Wayne Schmidt, Representative Triston Cole, Governor Rick Snyder, and the Michigan Association of Counties.

Yes – David Heeres, Bob Wilson, Karen Bargy, Ed Boettcher, Bryan Smith, Michael Crawford, Laura Stanek, Chuck Johnson, Christian Marcus;

No – None;

Absent – None.

**RESOLUTION #09-2016 DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**RESOLUTION #10-2016** By Ed Boettcher, seconded by David Heeres

**WHEREAS**, SB 703 would amend 1976 PA 388, entitled “ Michigan campaign finance act” by amending section 57 (MCL 169.257), as amended by 2015 PA 269; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendment would remove the unreasonable restriction that was included in 2015 PA 269, that being the inability to discuss ballot questions during the period of 60 days before the election in which the ballot question will appear; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 571 as it was presented to Governor Snyder, which included that a public body shall not discuss local ballot issues during the period 60 days prior to the election in which the issue appears on the ballot; and

**WHEREAS**, in signing the bill, Governor Snyder called for a “trailer” measure to clarify what is proper and improper communications; now

**Resolution #10-2016 continued.**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Antrim County Board of Commissioners support SB 703 to remove this restriction on how County officials communicate with their constituents about local ballot questions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Michigan Counties, Representative Triston Cole, Senator Wayne Schmidt, Governor Snyder, and the Michigan Association of Counties.

Yes – David Heeres, Bob Wilson, Karen Bargy, Ed Boettcher, Bryan Smith, Michael Crawford, Laura Stanek, Chuck Johnson, Christian Marcus;

No – None;

Absent – None.

**RESOLUTION #10-2016 DECLARED ADOPTED.**

Janet Koch, Associate Planner spoke to the Board on the Antrim County Recycling Program and the responses from the fifteen (15) Townships on the P.A. 69 surcharge to property tax bills. The surcharge would be up to \$25 per household and would require agreements with each township. The responses that were not in favor of participating with the surcharge at any level: Central Lake, Chestonia, Custer, Elk Rapids, Helena, Jordan, Kearney, Mancelona, Milton, Star and Warner; those willing to participate at some level with PA 69 are Banks, Echo, Forest Home, and Torch Lake. Responses preferring the county-wide millage option Central Lake, Chestonia, Custer, Forest Home, Helena, Kearney, Mancelona, and Torch Lake. Banks and Echo Townships are uncommitted at this time. Options available: County continue to pay from the General Fund, County propose a County wide millage, County /Township agreement to pay under PA 69 surcharge of up to \$25 per household, County end recycling program, County establish a recycling facility. The American Waste contract for recycling expires September 30, 2016 and it is possible that an agreement be reached to extend our contract to the end of the year as the recycling program is budgeted thru 2016.

Janet Koch, Associate Planner informed the Board that the Superintendent of Alba Public School requested that the recycling bin be removed from the location due to misuse. She and American Waste are currently working on the issues at this site.

The Chairman directed that the issue of the Antrim County Recycling Program be sent back to the Buildings, Lands, and Infrastructure Committee to consider options to reduce costs that could include a request for proposal that splits a recycling contract into processing and hauling.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Smith that the Soil Erosion Officer be approved to continue to enforce the Antrim County Soil Erosion Sedimentation and Storm Water Runoff Control Ordinances as approved on April 10, 2008 and reapproved (after the Department of Environmental Quality approved) on October 9, 2008. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

It was moved by Bargy, seconded by Wilson that the Chairman be authorized to execute the Record of Action Loan Cancellation Discharge of Mortgages and/or Note and Write-off the Debt as follows:

6256 Resort Drive, Ellsworth	\$25,000
2376 Ray Street, Elmira	\$24,658
9982 Windmill Pt., Mancelona	\$20,387

Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

The Chairman appointed Karen Bargy to the 911 Board as the Chairman of the Health and Public Safety Committee is required to be member according to the E-911 Plan as adopted by Resolution #49-2005 and that Ed Boettcher serves on the 911 Board as an alternate.

It was moved by Stanek, seconded by Marcus that the appointment of Karen Bargy to the 911 Board as the Chairman of the Health and Public Safety Committee and that Ed Boettcher serve on the 911 Board as an alternate. Motion carried – Unanimous.

Commissioner Wilson requested that the motion **Tabled** at the December 10, 2015 meeting in the matter of the Board making appointments to a Park Study group pick up and discussion be held.

There was discussion on forming a Park Study Group. It was decided that all the managers and directors come together to discuss and define their future goals and objectives. This may create a better understanding for future work plans, which could allow for agreement consolidation. Providing each manager and director participate and speak freely it may allow for better understanding of each group views, and plans, increase consolidated efforts, and build a stronger working relationship, while encouraging cross promotion of programs and services.

It was moved by Marcus, seconded by Bargy that the Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board be **DISSOLVED**. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

Peter Garwood, County Administrator explained to the Board that the Antrim County Conservation District is experiencing a cash flow short fall due to Grant funds not being received for the Invasive Species Program. At this time the Conservation District has requested that the Board approve to advance the Antrim County Conservation District the amount of \$12,350.00 and that the Antrim County Conservation District will immediately reimburse the funds to Antrim County upon receiving grant funds.

It was moved by Smith, seconded by Marcus that funds be advanced to the Antrim County Conservation District in the amount of \$12,350.00 due to the Invasive Species Program grant funds not being received, and that the funds to be taken from the Antrim County Conservation Reserve Fund #165, and that the funds be immediately reimbursed upon receipt to Antrim County. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Bargy, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – None; Absent – None.

It was moved by Boettcher, seconded by Smith that MSU Extensions John Amrhein be hired as the facilitator for Antrim County for the County Strategic Planning Workshop Program and that all Board members, Elected officials, and Department heads take part in a one (1) day session and that the cost of \$55.00 per hour and travel reimbursement be approved for the facilitators services. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Heeres, Wilson, Boettcher, Smith, Crawford, Stanek, Johnson, Marcus; No – Bargy; Absent – None.

**RESOLUTION # 11-2016** by Karen Bargy, seconded by Ed Boettcher

**Local Support for DNR MNRTF Projects**

**WHEREAS**, Antrim County Board of Commissioners supports the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) submission of an application titled, “Copeland Property Acquisition” to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for the acquisition of the Copeland Property located at the Torch River Bridge; and,

**WHEREAS**, the location of the proposed project is within the jurisdiction of ANTRIM COUNTY; and,

**WHEREAS**, with this resolution of support it is acknowledged that **ANTRIM COUNTY** is not committing to any obligations; financial or otherwise.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that ANTRIM COUNTY hereby supports submission of a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application titled “Copeland Property Acquisition” by the DNR.

YES – David Heeres, Bob Wilson, Karen Bargy, Ed Boettcher, Bryan Smith, Michael Crawford, Laura Stanek, Chuck Johnson, Christian Marcus;

NO – None;

ABSENT – None.

**RESOLUTION # 11 - 2016 DECLARED ADOPTED.**

The Chairman requested Public Comment. Linda Cran spoke to the Board regarding the future of the County Recycling Program and the value of the program to the public now and into the future. The services for the drop-off pull and tonnage by the contractor American Waste has worked well and the company has a good reputation. (Bill White spoke to the Board on the future of the recycling program and that this program is not just a township issue but a County issue which voted to provide the service to the Antrim County taxpayers.) Mr. White asked that the Board members be mindful of what the State legislature is passing on election law. Jim Gurr spoke to the Board on the matter of the Parks Plan and that they proceed with caution as the decisions that are made do have an impact on the people and their properties. John Amrhein spoke to the Board on the services that he will provide as a facilitator and that he will run the Strategic Planning process with the County providing the content. These workshops are subject to the Open Meetings Act. Mike Bertram spoke on savings for recycling by use of curb side recycling service. Public comment closed at 1:25 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

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Michael Crawford, Chairman

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Sheryl Guy, County Clerk