

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes February 1, 2006

Members present: Joe Allen, Larry Bargy and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood and Jack White

1. Meeting called to order at 11:10 a.m.

2. Drain Commissioner

Mark Stone, Drain Commissioner, indicated he would like to drop his membership with the Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners (MACDC) and get a membership with the Michigan Independent Power Producers Association (MIPPA). The Committee felt it was a good move if Mr. Stone has the dollars in his budget. Mr. Stone indicated that he does.

Mr. Stone informed the Committee that the voltage regulators that are hooked up to the Hydro dam are quite old and, according to Traverse City Light and Power, if they ever need to have parts replaced they likely would not be able to find parts. Traverse City Light and Power proposed two options for Mr. Stone and the Committee to consider.

Two options:

- ❖ Option 1: Filter the oil and provide limited inspection.
Cost: \$6,500
- ❖ Option 2: Replace the regulators with reconditioned regulators.
Cost: \$19,722

The Committee agreed that the Board of Commissioners should hold off on approving replacement or maintenance of the current regulators while we get more information.

3. Solid Waste Advisory Committee Mileage Reimbursement

Joe Meyers, Associate Planner, joined the meeting. Mr. Meyers informed the Committee that the Solid Waste and Recycling Council has requested that Leonard Klein (a member of the Solid Waste & Recycling Council) be allowed to attend the Solid Waste Advisory Committee meetings at the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments and receive reimbursement for mileage.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners approve that Leonard Klein (a member of the Solid Waste and Recycling Council) be allowed to attend the Solid Waste Advisory Committee meetings at the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments and receive reimbursement for mileage. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control (SESC)

❖ Contract

Janet Person, Director of the Antrim Conservation District (ACD), joined the meeting. The Committee reviewed and discussed the draft contract, between the County and the ACD, for administering the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program from January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006.

Ms. Person questioned the intent of Section 2.2.8. Mr. Garwood indicated that the section referred to the review of the program the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) conducts periodically. Under the section the ACD must notify the County of the results and implement any requirements ordered by the DEQ as a result of the review.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners approve the contract between Antrim County and ACD for the administration of the SESC program, at a cost of \$73,000 for the year 2006. Motion carried – unanimous.

❖ SESC Fees

Ms. Person indicated that the County should consider increasing the fee for excessive repeat visits and engineering review fees. A recommendation will be formulated and the issue will be added to the next month's agenda.

❖ Contractor Workshop on Building Codes and the Soil Erosion Control Statute (attachment)
Bob Massey, Building Official, joined the meeting. Ms. Person and Mr. Massey outlined the agenda for the Contractor Workshop on Building Codes and the Soil Erosion Control Statute.

Mr. Massey expressed his disappointment with the Board of Commissioner's action to give contractors a free re-inspection fee. He felt it will encourage the contractors to call for an inspection when they are not ready, knowing it will not cost them anything if the inspector has to come back. He was also concerned it would adversely affect the revenue side of an already strained budget. The Committee assured Mr. Massey they will request his presence and input in the future when issues (requiring action) regarding the Construction Code department come up at the Board of Commissioner's meeting.

5. Construction Code Department Update

Mr. Massey provided a report on the previous month's activity (attachments).

❖ Laptop Computer

Mr. Massey requested a new laptop computer for Mike McPherson, the new building inspector, at a cost of \$1,487.00.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend to the Finance Committee and the Board of Commissioners approve the purchase of a new laptop computer for the new building inspector at a cost of \$1,487.00, out of the Building Department budget. Motion carried – unanimous.

Irregular Part-time Clerk Position

Mr. Massey requested the part-time clerical position in the office be increased to a regular full-time position.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Administration Committee and the Board of Commissioners approve making the irregular part-time clerical position a regular full-time position. Motion carried – unanimous.

❖ Mileage Reimbursement (attachments)

Mr. Massey requested an increase in the mileage reimbursement rate. The Committee indicated to Mr. Massey that this issue will be handled by the Administration and County Services Committee.

❖ Firewall Issues

Mr. Massey indicated that since the firewall went up on the County computer network the programmer from his software company cannot access his departmental computers through the internet. Mr. Garwood and Mr. Massey will bring this concern up to the Bellaire Computer Center and the Administration and County Services Committee.

❖ Rental Complaints

Mr. Massey indicated there is no department in the County that handles complaints about rental homes. The Committee agreed that this issue is not a responsibility of the building department.

❖ LP Tanks

Currently, the Building Department is requiring that when an LP tank is set in the winter they must dig a trench and bury the pipe. In the past they allowed the pipe to be laid on the top of the ground during the winter months (on a temporary basis). The Building Department would then spend the next spring and summer trying to track the companies down to have them bury it safely. The Committee agreed with the new policy.

The Committee reviewed a complaint from Derrer Oil that the fee for setting an LP tank in Antrim County is \$89 and in surrounding counties the fee is \$50. Derrer Oil also complained about having to bury the pipes in the winter when a LP tank is set. Mr. Massey explained that the application fee (\$30 initially, \$31.50 after adding the 5% approved by the Board of Commissioners) is what makes the permit more expensive. After some discussion, the Committee agreed that the permits for setting an LP tank, as well as the permit for setting an electrical service pole, are very minor in nature and should be exempt from the application fee.

Motion by Larry Bargy, supported by Gene Dawson, to support the Building Department's policy to require the pipe from a tank larger than 200 lbs. be buried year round including the winter months. Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners approve not charging the "application fee" for an LP tank permit and an electrical service pole permit which will reduce the current permit fees to \$52.00 and \$42.00 respectively. Motion carried – unanimous.

❖ Waiving of Fee for Interpretation to the Board of Appeals

After extensive discussion on the issue the Committee decided to take no action on this issue.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes March 1, 2006

Members present: Larry Bargy and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood

1. Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. Public Comment – None.

3. Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Stormwater Runoff Control Ordinance

The Committee reviewed the draft Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Stormwater Runoff Control Ordinance and discussed the options for proceeding toward a vote by the Board of Commissioners.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy to recommend the Board of Commissioners hold a public hearing at their April meeting on the Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Stormwater Runoff Control Ordinance. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Building Department Update

Bob Massey, Building Official, presented the financial report for the Building Department. The report indicates the department has been operating in the red for the last two (2) months.

Inspections for the last two (2) months have been averaging between seven (7) and fourteen (14) per day. A report of department activities is attached.

Revenues from Civil Citation Fines

Mr. Massey inquired as to whether the fines paid from civil citations will or should be deposited in the building department fund.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy to recommend the funds from the civil citations issued by the Building Department be placed in the Building Department fund. Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Sanitary Code – (attached)

Gerry Chase, Director; Scott Kendzierski, Head Sanitarian; and Chuck Edwards, Sanitarian, all from the Northwest Michigan Community Health Agency, joined the meeting. The group proceeded to review the draft amendments to the sanitary code on a page by page basis.

Mr. Kendzierski presented a summary of the changes in the code, (attached).

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes April 5, 2006

Members present: Larry Bargy, Joe Allen and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood, Jack White, Heidi Lang, Jim Ferguson, Christie Roman were present until the Building department report.

1. Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Elk Rapids Dam

Mark Stone, Drain Commissioner joined the meeting with Joe Cultenbach and Glen Dine, from Traverse City Light and Power (TCLP).

The TCLP representatives informed Mr. Stone the regulators at the dam have never been serviced or replaced. Mr. Stone reviewed the options for servicing the regulators. (See last months minutes).

1. Do nothing. Take our chances nothing will happen between now and decommissioning in 2014.
2. Replace the regulators. Would take approximately a long week to complete, according to Mr. Cultenbach. Getting the new regulators in the building could be a challenge. The cost will be \$20,000.
3. Filter the oil, replace some seals and conduct a limited inspection. With this scenario it is hard to tell what they would find once they open up the regulators. If the inside of the regulators are in good condition, this option will cost \$6,500.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Joe Allen, to recommend the Board of Commissioners approve choosing the replacement of the regulator option at \$20,000 to be paid out of the Dam Reserve Fund. Yes - Dawson, Allen No - Bargy

Mr. Bargy indicated he would opt for the "do nothing" scenario.

Mr. Stone presented a spreadsheet which illustrated the hydro facility expenditures and revenues for 2005. The spreadsheet showed the revenues ahead of the expenses by about \$25,000, which makes it one of the best years ever.

Mr. Stone indicated he had been approached by a company who was interested in purchasing the power from the hydro facility. However, the price they were willing to pay was not that different from what we are receiving from TCLP, making it not worth consideration.

4. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Joe Meyers, Associate Planner, presented the 2006 draft contract between the County and the Antrim Conservation District for administration of the HHW Days.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners approve a contract with the Conservation District for administration of the 2006 Household Hazardous Waste Days (attachments). Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Stormwater Control (SESSC) Ordinance

Charlie Koop, Legal Counsel, reviewed a memorandum he wrote to the Board of Commissioners regarding the draft SESSC ordinance.

6. Soil Erosion Feasibility Study (attachments)

Mr. Garwood distributed and reviewed the Soil Erosion Feasibility Study. The study illustrated that it would cost the County less to administer the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control program in house. However, there may be philosophical reasons to leave the administration with the Conservation District. The Committee deferred action to a future meeting.

7. Building Department (attachments)

✧ Residential Heating System

The issue is whether the Building department should require sizing calculations for heating system in residential homes. Mr. Massey informed the Committee that a survey of Construction Code Departments from surrounding counties and the State revealed that none of them are requiring sizing calculations.

The committee agreed the department should not change their requirements for heating systems.

Mr. Allen left the meeting.

Mr. Massey informed the Committee the part-time irregular plumbing inspector has resigned.

Mr. Massey reviewed his monthly report with the Committee.

Mr. Massey discussed the department policy regarding the need for sealed drawings for fire sprinkler plan review with the Committee. The Committee agreed with how Mr. Massey indicated his office will handle it.

Mr. Massey informed the Committee that a study of the number of building permits in 2005 (622) compared to the average from 1999 to 2004 (1100) indicates a substantial shortfall. If the number of permits continues to stay low then we need to find other ways to supplement the department's income. Many ideas for solving the problem with having more expenditures than revenues in the department were discussed including waiving the rent, waiving the loan to the department, raising commercial plan review fees, and raising inspections fees. The Committee decided to revisit the issues of waiving the rent and loan later in the year.

Mr. Massey asked the Committee to revisit the plan review charges for commercial structures. Mr. Massey indicated the way the fee structure is now, the large developments get a break and the small developments get over charged. To illustrate his point, Mr. Massey reviewed a comparison using the ICC fees for the Hawks Eye Lodge and the Bellaire Review construction projects. Mr. Massey indicated that with the current system both businesses paid the same fee for plan review even though Hawks Eye is a much larger development with a restaurant, lodging, retail, etc.

Larry Bargy indicated that he has heard some concerns over the possibility of fees for re-review of plans.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners approve an increase of the commercial plan review fees based on the ICC recommended fees for Antrim County. Motion carried – unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes May 3, 2006

Members present: Larry Bargy, Joe Allen and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood, Jack White, Mark Stone and Joe Meyers.

1. Meeting called to order at 11:03 a.m.

2. Public Comment
None.

3. Elk Rapids Hydro Dam

Peter Garwood, Coordinator/Planner, distributed a memorandum (attachments) regarding early decommissioning of the hydro facility and/or paying off the debt.

Mark Stone, Drain Commissioner, informed the Committee that he was contacted by an individual interested in purchasing the hydro facility. He has not received a written proposal as of yet.

Mr. Stone also informed the Committee of a meeting he attended at the Village of Elk Rapids, between the Village and Jon Bech, regarding Mr. Bech's property across from the hydro dam.

The Committee decided to refer the issue of the financial benefits, of decommissioning early or paying the bond off early, as well as whether or not to replace the regulators, to the Finance Committee.

Next Public Works Committee is to be at Elk Rapids for a site visit to the dam.

4. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Days (attachment)

✧ Dates

Joe Meyers, Associate Planner, informed the Committee that the Solid Waste and Recycling Council recommended we change our HHW days from one in the spring and one in the fall to two in the fall, specifically September 10 and October 9.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to approve changing the HHW days from one in the spring and one in the fall to two in the fall, specifically September 10 and October 9, 2006. Motion carried – unanimous.

✧ Tires

The Solid Waste and Recycling Council recommend the County have a tire disposal at all HHW days and sites.

Motion by Larry Bargy, supported by Gene Dawson, to approve having tire disposal at all sites during the HHW days. Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners approve a fee schedule for citizens dropping hazardous waste off at the HHW days as follows:

- ✧ **First fifty pounds free**
- ✧ **Fifty cents a pound after the first fifty pounds.**

Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Soil Erosion Feasibility Study (attachments)

Christy Roman, Executive Director, and Heidi Lang, Soil Erosion Control Officer, joined the meeting. The Committee looked at the Feasibility Study produced by Peter Garwood, Coordinator/Planner, and the budget and spreadsheet submitted by Ms. Roman.

Motion by Larry Bargy, supported by Gene Dawson, to recommend that the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program stay with the Antrim Conservation District. Motion carried – unanimous.

6. Building Department

Bob Massey, Building Official, joined the meeting. Mr. Massey informed the Committee that although income is up, it appears the expenses are greater than the revenues. Mr. Massey provided the Committee with the monthly report (attached).

Mr. Massey discussed personnel and compensation issues with the Committee.

Concerns were raised regarding the fact that the Building Department is currently not able to support their operation financially. The Committee agreed to see what happens to the revenues in the next couple of months.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 a.m.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes June 7, 2006

Members present: Larry Bargy, Joe Allen and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood and Jack White

1. Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Building Department Complaint

Bob Edwards and Cindy Edwards as well as Bob Massey, Building Official, joined the meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards explained that they have purchased a house in Bellaire to be used as their primary residence. However, they are also in the process of beginning operation of a home based business (a financial advisor business) out of a portion of the home. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards were unhappy with the requirements the Building Department was placing on them for the portion of the home in which the business will be located. Mr. Massey explained that what is being required is in accordance with the code. The Committee sympathized with the Edwards. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards were told they could appeal for portions of the requirements to the State Barrier Free Commission and to the Construction Code Board of Appeals (if necessary) for other parts.

4. Building Department Update

Mr. Massey distributed a monthly report to the Committee (attachments). The report showed the revenue for April was behind the expenses by over \$13,000, but the revenue for May looked like it will be above the expenses.

Mr. Massey informed the Committee that the State will be here on June 13 to conduct an audit of the department. If the outcome is positive, the file on Antrim County will be closed.

Mr. Massey presented options for reducing expenses and/or increasing revenues.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners raise the Building Department fees 10%. Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners temporarily waive the rent payment for the Building Department as well as the loan payment to the general fund. Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Elk Rapids Dam

Mr. Garwood informed the Committee about a meeting he participated in with Mark Stone, Drain Commissioner, and three representatives of Michiana Hydroelectric Co. The Committee reviewed the proposal from Michiana Hydroelectric Co. (attachments). The Committee requested the proposal be distributed to the full Board of Commissioners.

The representatives from Michiana Hydroelectric Co. will be on the agenda for the next Public Works Committee meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes July 5, 2006

Members present: Joe Allen, Gene Dawson and Larry Bargy
Members absent: None
Others present: Jack White, Al Luurtsema, Mark Stone, Joe Meyers and Mike Crawford
(not as a voting member)

1. Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. Dams update

Mark Stone, Drain Commissioner joined the meeting to discuss his budget and capital outlay.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to approve the Drain Commissioner budget and capital outlay for submission to the Finance Committee. Motion carried – unanimous.

Mr. Stone explained the proposal for the company wanting to take over ownership of the Elk Rapids Hydro Dam. Mr. Stone noted that this company would pay off the bond and assume liability of the dam. The Committee agreed that they would like to see a presentation in front of the full Board of Commissioners in August.

3. Soil Erosion Control Appropriation

Christy Roman and Heidi Lang of the Antrim Conservation District joined the meeting to discuss the appropriation for the Soil Erosion Control program. Ms. Roman noted that they reduced their appropriation from \$73,000 to \$69,000. Ms. Roman further noted that they would eliminate a cost for a site determination due to the full funding of the program.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy to recommend the Finance Committee approve the 2007 appropriation of \$69,000 for the administration of the Soil Erosion Control program.

4. Planning Commission Budget Request

Al Luurtsema and Joe Meyers presented the 2007 budget for the Planning Commission.

Motion by Larry Bargy, supported by Gene Dawson, to approve the Planning Commission budget for submission to the Finance Committee. Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Budget Request

Joe Meyers presented the budget for the EDC.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to approve the Economic Development Corporation budget for submission to the Finance Committee. Motion carried – unanimous.

6. Resource Recovery Budget Request

Joe Meyers presented the Resource Recovery budget which includes the Solid Waste and Recycling Council and the Household Hazardous Waste Days.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy to approve the Resource Recovery budget for 2007 for submission to the Finance Committee. Motion carried – unanimous.

7. Northern Lakes Economic Alliance (NLEA) Appropriation Request

Andy Hayes, President of the NLEA and Jan Kellogg joined the meeting to request an appropriation. Mr. Hayes outlined what NLEA had done in the past year and gave some background on the appropriation.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to approve the Northern Lakes Economic Alliance appropriation request of \$49,386 for submission to the Finance Committee. Motion carried – unanimous.

8. Construction Code Department

Bob Massey, Construction Code Department Head, joined the meeting and presented the budget request for the Construction Code Department.

The Committee discussed the shortfalls in the budget and discussed ways to balance the budget, which included:

- Suspend the rent payment to the county (\$58,000)
- Suspend the debt payment to the county (\$50,000)
- Cut the Microfilming budget (\$40,000)
- Raise the permit fees 10% beginning on January 1, 2007 (estimated \$59,000)

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy to recommend the Finance Committee consider these changes to the 2007 budget and figure out ways to cut the remaining balance to get the fund out of the red. Motion carried – unanimous.

Tim and Joan Moore entered the meeting to discuss the complaint they had against the building department. The Moores informed the Committee of their complaint and presented all of the information that they had.

The Committee discussed the situation. Joe Allen indicated that he felt that all of the personnel of the Building Department should strive to have better record keeping and for the inspectors to be more receptive to the public when interacting with them.

Mr. Massey gave an update to the Committee on activities regarding the building department. Mr. Massey noted that all of the inspectors have or are finishing their yearly training.

Mr. Massey noted that the State Bureau of Construction Codes and Fire Safety verbally approved their recent departmental audit, which ended the monthly reports to the state.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes August 2, 2006

Members present: Larry Bargy, Joe Allen and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood and Jack White

1. Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Building Department Update

Bob Massey, Building Official, joined the meeting. Mr. Massey gave a written (attached) and verbal report on the activities in the Building department.

Mr. Massey informed the Committee that he is interested in the retired patrol cars for use by the inspectors. With a current expenditure of \$45,000 to \$50,000 annually in mileage reimbursement, Mr. Massey thought he might be able to save some money. The Committee indicated that the patrol cars were well used, high miles vehicles, they would rather Mr. Massey check into leasing fuel efficient, lower mileage vehicles. Mr. Massey will come back at a future meeting with a proposal.

Mr. Massey informed the Committee about some projects he is having trouble gaining compliance on. Charles Koop, Prosecuting Attorney, joined the meeting. Mr. Koop indicated that he will talk to one of the District Court Judges tomorrow about how they want to handle the appearance and compliance requirements through the Court.

Mr. Massey indicated he is also having trouble getting contractors to pay the re-inspection fees. Mr. Koop indicated the ordinance can be amended to include making it a civil infraction if they do not pay a re-inspection fee.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes September 6, 2006

Members present: Larry Bargy, Joe Allen and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood and Jack White

1. Meeting called to order at 11:05 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Soil Erosion Control Program

Heidi Lang, Soil Erosion Control Officer, Christy Roman, Director for the Antrim Conservation District, and Alan Martel, Antrim County Planning Commission member, joined the meeting.

Ms. Lang reported on her recent activities in enforcement of the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Statute.

Ms. Lang indicated that they would like to initiate a new complaint policy, which would require the complainant put their complaint in writing on a form. Ms. Lang distributed a draft copy of the form to the Committee.

Motion Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners adopt the complaint form drafted up by the Antrim Conservation District for the Soil Erosion Control program (attachment). Motion carried – unanimous.

Mr. Martel updated the Committee on the progress of the review of the proposed Stormwater, Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance. Mr. Martel indicated he was hoping to have a final recommendation for the Planning Commission by November and the Board of Commissioners by the end of the year.

4. Building Department Report

Bob Massey, Building Official, reviewed his written report with the Committee. Mr. Massey also updated the Committee on a recent issue regarding how to classify a boat storage facility.

Mr. Massey presented projections for the cost of leasing vehicles for the inspectors in the Building Department. Mr. Garwood and Mr. Massey will look into any additional costs that might be incurred for insuring the vehicles.

Mr. Garwood reminded the Committee of a special Public Works Committee meeting on September 20th in Elk Rapids.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes

September 20, 2006

Members present: Larry Bargy, Joe Allen and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood, Jack White, John Ferrari, Bill Stockhausen, Carole Jean Stockhausen, Frank Walker, Jack Fahlen, Thomas Yocum and Al Wagner

This Public Works Committee meeting is a special meeting held in Elk Rapids specifically to address the future of the hydro power generating facility.

1. Meeting called to order at 10:33 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Elk Rapids Hydro Facility

Joe Allen, Chairman, informed those in attendance that the reason for the meeting was to consider leasing or selling the operation of the Elk Rapids hydro facility (the dam structure and building would remain in County ownership), and give the public a chance to give input.

Mark Stone, Drain Commissioner, gave a short history of the hydro facility and explained the proposal for the purchase/lease arrangement.

The public was given a chance to ask questions about the facility.

Mr. William Stockhausen from Michiana Hydroelectric Co. presented his proposal for leasing the Elk Rapids hydro facility.

The public asked questions of Mr. Stockhausen regarding his proposal.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes October 4, 2006

Members present: Larry Bargy, Joe Allen and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood and Jack White

1. Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Moore Plumbing and Heating Invoice

Joe Allen, Chairman, outlined the circumstances regarding the request from Moore Plumbing and Heating for the County to pay them for their cost in a lawsuit settlement.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners take no action regarding the invoice from Moore Plumbing and Heating. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Elk Rapids Hydro Facility

The Committee discussed the next step regarding the proposal from Michiana Hydroelectric Co. to purchase the Elk Rapids Hydro facility.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners authorize negotiations with Michiana Hydroelectric Co. for the purchase of the Elk Rapids Hydro facility and that the Board Chairman appoint a Committee made up of Mark Stone, Peter Garwood, Leonard Klein, Joe Allen, and Charlie Koop. Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Building Department

❖ Complaint

Bob Massey, Building Official, joined the meeting.

Dr. John Edelman outlined the nature of his complaint about an employee in the building department. The Committee discussed the situation with Mr. Massey and instructed him to handle the situation appropriately.

6. Building Department Update

Mr. Massey distributed a written monthly report (attached). Mr. Massey distributed an estimate on the cost of leasing vehicles for the building department from Ford. He will also get quotes from GM and Chrysler.

Mr. Massey presented a proposal for the County to consider. The proposal involved adding the Building Department to the 800 MHz communication system that is being purchased for the Sheriff Department. The Committee forwarded the request to the Technology Committee.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes

November 1, 2006

Members present: Larry Bargy, Joe Allen and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood and Jack White

1. Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Elk Rapids Hydro Facility

❖ Update

Peter Garwood, Coordinator/Planner, informed the Committee that the Elk Rapids Hydro Facility Ad Hoc Committee met on October 26, 2006 and decided it would be most appropriate to request that Michiana Hydroelectric Company draft an agreement between his company and the County for our review. They also discussed a number of items the County will ask to be included in the agreement.

❖ Dam Trash Racks

Bob Peterson, Elk Rapids Village Manager, joined the meeting.

The Committee reviewed a communication from Mr. Peterson. Mr. Peterson is requesting the Village be relieved of the responsibility of cleaning the trash racks at the Elk Rapids Dam and hydro facility given the County is pursuing the selling of the hydroelectric operation to a private company. The requirement is currently included in the lease agreement between the County and Elk Rapids Village for the County owned property the Village leases next to the dam.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend to the Elk Rapids Hydro Dam Ad Hoc Committee that they include in the agreement with Michiana Hydroelectric a stipulation that they will be responsible for cleaning the trash racks on the hydroelectric facility. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Moore's Plumbing and Heating Issue

The Committee reviewed and discussed the information submitted by Moore's Plumbing and Heating, Inc. regarding their request for the County to reimburse their expenses. Mr. Massey, Building Official, joined the meeting. The Committee listened to Mr. Massey's explanation regarding the Building Department's actions on this issue.

It was the consensus that no action be taken.

5. Building Department Update

Mr. Massey distributed and reviewed his department report. The Committee agreed Mr. Massey should continue to get prices on leasing vehicles for the inspectors.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Public Works Committee

Larry Bargy

Joseph Allen, Chairman

Eugene Dawson

Minutes December 6, 2006

Members present: Larry Bargy, Joe Allen and Gene Dawson
Members absent: None
Others present: Pete Garwood and Jack White

1. Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Public Comment
None.

3. Elk Rapids Hydro Dam Facility Update

Peter Garwood, Coordinator/Planner, informed the Committee that the Elk Rapids Hydro Ad Hoc Committee had met and established a list of concerns that would need to be addressed in an agreement with Michiana Hydroelectric Co. if the County sells the hydroelectric operation to them. The Ad Hoc Committee also generated a communication to Mr. Stockhausen requesting him to prepare an agreement between the County and Michiana Hydroelectric Co. with the inclusion of the County's concerns. It is anticipated that the agreement will be complete for the Committee's review at the beginning of 2007.

4. Household Hazardous Waste Days

Joe Meyers, Associate Planner, joined the meeting. Mr. Meyers explained that the program cost this year exceeded the budget by \$3,459.46. The cost is going up from Drug and Laboratory Disposal and more citizens are using the service.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Finance Committee and the Board of Commissioners approve increasing the 2006 Household Hazardous Waste day budget by \$3,459.46 (attachment). Motion carried – unanimous.

❖ Recycling Program

Mr. Meyers informed the Committee that the Solid Waste and Recycling Council is asking the Committee and the Board of Commissioners to support the Council in proceeding with approaching the Townships for their support of a countywide recycling program utilizing Public Act 138 of 1989.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners support the Solid Waste and Recycling Council in proceeding with approaching the townships for their support of a countywide recycling program utilizing Public Act 138 of 1989. Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Construction Code Department

Bob Massey, Building Official, joined the meeting and presented his monthly report (attachments).

Mr. Massey and the Committee reviewed the results of a survey the Department has been conducting of individuals that use services of the Building Department. The survey, although just a small sample of those who use the Building Department services, indicate by a large margin that most customers are satisfied with the services provided by the Building Department.

Mr. Massey informed the Committee that the Building Code for when an individual desires to put an addition on to a manufactured home has a flaw in it. An individual purchasing a manufactured home is expected to completely set up the manufactured home, put the siding on and get an occupancy permit before they can even consider an addition. Once they get a permit for an addition they then must remove the siding and begin the remodeling.

The Committee discussed the possibility of asking Representative Elsenheimer and Senator Allen to propose legislation to change the above outlined requirement.

Mr. Massey informed the Committee there exist a code change process.

Motion by Gene Dawson, supported by Larry Bargy, to recommend the Board of Commissioners authorize the Building Official to file the proper paperwork to initiate the code change process to address the above problem. Motion carried – unanimous.

Mr. Garwood read a communication from Moore Plumbing and Heating regarding an invoice they sent the County July 27, 2006. Mr. Garwood will prepare a letter for the Committee Chairman's signature, reflecting last month's decision of the Committee regarding the issue.

❖ Permit Fees

Discussion took place regarding whether or not the permit fees should be increased. The Committee decided to wait until the next meeting to consider an increase after they have the financial numbers for the entire year.

Mr. Massey informed the Committee of two issues that may come up in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 a.m.