

Crawford County Board of Commissioners

Regular Board Meeting of January 21, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Crawford County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman, Dave Stephenson at 9:33 a.m. in the Crawford County Building, Grayling, Michigan the 21st day of January, 2009.

Invocation by Commissioner Beardslee.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Hanson.

Roll Call: Stephenson, Rogers, Hanson, Pinkelman, Lange, Anderson, and Beardslee.

Absent – None.

Sandra Moore, County Clerk-Register of Deeds - Present.

Paul Compo, County Controller - Present.

Others present at various times: Kirk Wakefield, Monte Burmeister, Amanda Porath, Mary Jergenson, Ilene Geiss-Wilson, and Dan Sanderson.

Approval of the Regular Board Minutes

Motion by Pinkelman, second by Lange, to approve the Minutes for the December 17, 2008 Regular Board Meeting with the elimination of the word “UP” on page 5 under General Fund Budget Amendments. Ayes (7) seven, nays (0) none, absent (0) none, Motion Carried.

Approval of the Organizational Board Minutes

Motion by Pinkelman, second by Lange, to approve the Minutes for the January 05, 2009 Organization Board Meeting with an elimination by Chairman Stephenson under disclosure announcements. Ayes (7) seven, nays (0) none, absent (0) none, Motion Carried.

Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Hanson, second by Beardslee, to accept the agenda as presented. Ayes (7) seven, nays (0) none, absent (0) none, Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comment – None.

Open Invoice Report and Prepaid Vouchers

Motion by Lange, second by Pinkelman, to authorize payment of the following claims:

General Fund:

Balance from "Open Invoice Rep"	38,222.76
Prepaid Invoices	246,173.78
Gross Payroll	186,973.71
Total General Fund	471,370.25

Millage/Road Patrol Fund

Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	1,221.17
Prepaid Invoices	1,235.92
Gross Payroll	20,489.93
Total Millage Fund	22,947.02

Tri-County 46th Trial Court

Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	
Prepaid Invoices	40,987.10
Gross Payroll	
Total Tri-County Court	40,987.10

Friend of the Court

Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	1,363.44
Prepaid Invoices	1,621.35
Gross Payroll	9,844.32
Total Friend of the Court	12,829.11

Enforcement/Recycle Fund

Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	100.00
Prepaid Invoices	277.00
Gross Payroll	4,921.50
Total Enforcement Fund	5,298.50

<u>COPS in Schools Fund</u>	
Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	
Prepaid Invoices	104.41
Gross Payroll	4,104.48
Total COPS Fund	4,208.89

<u>Building & Zoning Fund</u>	
Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	1,669.62
Prepaid Invoices	228.85
Gross Payroll	5,615.57
Total Building & Zoning Fund	7,514.04

<u>MSU Cooperative Extension Fund</u>	
Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	1,519.49
Prepaid Invoices	512.26
Gross Payroll	900.36
Total MSU fund	2,932.11

<u>County Bldg. Renovation Fund</u>	
Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	4,024.00
Prepaid Invoices	
Gross Payroll	
Total Renovation Fund	4,024.00

<u>Central Dispatch Fund</u>	
Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	
Prepaid Invoices	270.98
Gross Payroll	19,334.46
Total Central Dispatch Fund	19,605.44

<u>Courthouse Preservation Fund</u>	
Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	
Prepaid Invoices	6,058.00
Gross Payroll	
Total Courthouse Preservation Fund	6,058.00

<u>Law Library Fund</u>	
Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	
Prepaid Invoices	739.90
Gross Payroll	
Total Library Fund	739.90

<u>Family/Probate Court</u>	
Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	
Prepaid Invoices	16,257.79
Gross Payroll	8,482.41
Total Family/Probate Court	24,740.20

<u>Animal Shelter Debt Fund</u>	
Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	714.75
Prepaid Invoices	
Gross Payroll	
Total Animal Shelter Debt Fund	714.75

<u>Fish Hatchery Fund</u>	
Balance from "Open Invoice Report"	
Prepaid Invoices	57.59
Gross Payroll	
Total Fish Fund	57.59

Roll Call: Anderson – aye, Beardslee – aye, Hanson – aye, Lange – aye, Pinkelman – aye, Rogers – aye, Stephenson – aye, Motion Carried.

Approval Correspondence

Motion by Hanson, second by Anderson, to accept the correspondence as submitted. Ayes (7) seven, nays (0) none, absent (0) none, Motion Carried.

Correspondence

1. Iron County Board – Request support for Rosalie King on MAC Board.

2. Ottawa County Board – Resolution in support for the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association’s (MITA) Plan to Increase Funding for Roads, Bridges and Transportation.
3. Northern Lake Community Mental Health – Request Dave Stephenson be reappointed to the Northern Lake Community Mental Health Board of Directors for a three (3) year term ending March 31, 2012.

Motion by Hanson, second by Lange, to reappoint Dave Stephenson to the Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Board of Directors for a three (3) year term ending 3-31-2012. Ayes (7) seven, nays (0) none, absent (0) none, Motion Carried.

4. MAC – Legislative updates for December 19, 2008 and January 9 & 16, 2009 and a summary entitled “American Recovery and Reinvestment”.
5. NEMCOG – Notice of Intent by NEMCOG to apply for federal assistance from USDA.
6. Court of Appeals – All four (4) appeals for the 46th Circuit Trial Court –vs- Crawford County dismissed.
7. Crawford County Economic Development Partnership – Resolution to support the Traffic Study of North Down River Road Interchange as a full interchange.

Motion by Lange, second by Hanson, to adopt resolution 12109 and support the recommendation of the Grayling Area Traffic Study to make the North Down River Road/I-75 Interchange a four way interchange to better serve our community. Roll Call: Beardslee – aye, Hanson – aye, Lange – aye, Pinkelman – aye, Stephenson – aye, Rogers – aye, Anderson – aye, Motion Carried.

8. Michigan Stormwater Floodplain Association – 22nd Annual Conference in Bay City.
9. MAC – 2009 Legislative Conference set for February 8 – 10, 2009 in Lansing.
10. Department of Natural Resources – Two (2) applications for Natural Rivers Permits.
11. News Article – Alpena to be one of three sites in MI as newest centers of Energy Excellence.
12. MI State Housing Development Authority – Amendment to Grant to extend to 12-31-09.

Motion by Hanson, second by Lange, to authorize the extension of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) Grant to 12-31-09. Ayes (7) seven, nays (0) none, absent (0) none, Motion Carried.
13. NEMCOG – Notice of Intent by Friends Together to apply for federal assistance from USDA and Public Notice of projects within Crawford County.
14. NEMCOG – Unofficial copy of the County Recreation Plan and request signatures by Township officials (Plan placed on file). Commissioner Anderson requested the Recreation Plan to be part of the Countywide Master Plan. Commissioner Hanson when GRA gets their Articles of Incorporation approved it will allow them (GRA) to seek grants direct from the State. Commissioner Anderson requested the document be forwarded to the Planning Commission.

Department Reports

Clerk Report

The Clerk updated the board with the 2009 schedule of board meetings; an elected official list; board member appointments which expire in 2009 and commissioner 2009 assignments.

Controller Report

Controller Compo advised the auditors have been working on the 2008 audit. There is a meeting Friday the 23rd at 10:00 a.m. to continue discussion on the consolidation of Central Dispatch. The POAM union will continue negotiations on Tuesday, February 3rd at 2:00 p.m. The Controller advised Beaver Creek Supervisor has inquired if the County couldn’t place a surcharge up to \$25.00 on all property tax owners in lieu of the present recycling funding request. The Board did not appear to be in favor of the issue and Chairman Stephenson offered to join the committee meeting tomorrow. The Controller requested a closed session at the end of the meeting regarding mediation and potential litigation strategy.

Motion by Hanson, second by Lange, to amend the agenda to include an Executive Session after announcements. Ayes (7) seven, nays (0) none. absent (0) none, Motion Carried.

Court Security

Judge Burmeister identified a few of the security issues he's had over the past couple of years and requested a dedicated court bailiff to accommodate the courts schedule. In the past, either a road or correction's officer has attended court, which creates a staffing issue within the Sheriff's department. The Judge requested the part time employees be sheriff employees with funding to come from the increase in district court cost assessment of \$7.00 for all criminal and civil infractions. This change will allow Crawford to be consistent with Kankaskia and Otsego counties. Court Administrator, Tom Haskel was available to answer revenue questions. Commissioner Hanson advised the position is justified and we simply can't afford to have an incident. Commissioner Lange inquired on the funding source and scheduling issues with the Sheriff. Sheriff Wakefield advised he already has employees that could possibly accommodate the courts schedule. Judge Burmeister remarked it is beneficial to have the appropriate caliber of employee in the courtroom to protect the county as some litigants have serious mental health issues. Commissioners further recognized this is one of the many facets to rectify the security issues the county has. Amanda Porath from NorthWest Design Group was in the audience and advised she has reviewed the Supreme Courts security designs and is taking them into consideration as they review the courthouse expansion needs. Judge Burmeister and Sheriff Wakefield are working to improve better communications with the community mental health (CMH) office. Senator Stamas' representative Mary Jergenson remarked that many people today are desperate and it's a difficult time. Chairman Stephenson offered to call a meeting with the CMH representative, the Sheriff and Judge Burmeister to address mental health concerns.

Recess at 10:41 a.m. and reconvened at 10:50 a.m.

Motion by Lange, second by Hanson, to create two (2) part time bailiff positions within the Sheriff's department. The annual cost of these positions shall not exceed the amount budgeted by the County Board of Commissioners for this function. Roll Call: Hanson – aye, Lange – aye, Pinkelman – aye, Rogers – aye, Stephenson – aye, Anderson – aye, Beardslee – aye, Motion Carried.

NorthWest Design Presentation

Amanda Porath from NW Design Group reviewed the Building and Site Improvements for Phase 1 of the Courthouse expansion project. Ms. Porath advised she has been reviewing documents with Building Director, Joe Duran; has finished design development; met with the building committee and started the MDOT railroad permit process. Ms. Porath indicated she is prepared to work with the Controller through the bonding process and the estimated cost of the project is \$1,237,404. The project will be handled in a lump sum bid and the county to obtain all applicable City building permits. Commissioners reviewed the exits required to meet code and a temporary entrance will be made through the controller's office. The notice of intent to issue bonds by the County should be done by next month and allow 45 days after publication for a petition requesting a referendum upon such question, signed by not less than 10% of the registered electors within the county. Construction should be underway in June, 2009. It was noted that bond rates are good but unstable at this time. Commissioner's reviewed the Engineer's opinion of probable construction cost summary. The parking area will be perpendicular instead of angled with new walkway lights to match those in the city. Mechanical and plumbing will be reviewed and the fire alarm system will be upgraded.

Commissioner Lange advised it may be advantageous to seek additional bonding for Public Health and the Commission on Aging since the county is seeking this bond. The County presently pays \$8,900 to Mental Health for Public Health and the facility is much too small for their needs. HUD may not be willing to renew their lease with the Commission on Aging. Discussion followed on extending the bonds from 15 years to 20 or 25 to accommodate county needs. The Controller, Treasurer and Commissioner Lange met with bond counsel and this would be a viable solution if the county can afford it. The COA will be up for millage in 2 to 3 years. Concerns were addressed that the county is prepared to renovate the county but public health and COA issues need to be researched. The issue to be placed on the Ways & Means Committee agenda.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Rogers – Commissioner Rogers advised she has nothing to report.

Commissioner Hanson - The Commissioner advised there were no Personnel and Labor Committee Recommendations to report. The Commissioner advised he is still awaiting word from the Road Commission as to which proposal the board would like to have. The Commissioner would like them to either: designate roads approved; identify those roads necessary to get gas and food; identify a connection for the three trails. The ordinance is specific to what is necessary.

The Commissioner requested a meeting with Chairman Stephenson regarding the airport changes.

Commissioner Pinkelman – The Commissioner advised she has no Law Enforcement Committee Recommendations to report.

Commissioner Lange –The Commissioner advised he had no Ways and Means Committee recommendations to make. Commissioner Lange circulated a map of the new soccer fields that will be at the sportsplex property, said proposal could cost \$380,000.

Commissioner Stephenson – The Commissioner advised Youth Service is concerned about State cuts by the Governor and he read the notice they received regarding funding of the Strong Family Safe Children program. The Commissioner advised Youth Services needs to do more collaborative work with the school. They typically have 40 cases in Crawford County and presently have 31 cases.

Commissioner Anderson – The Commissioner advised the Planning Commission meeting in Indian River was very informative and appreciated the board approving him to attend. The Commissioner read an article in the Bay City Times that Ogemaw County may purchase the Ford dealership across from the Courthouse and turn it into a 150 bed jail facility for Ogemaw County.

Commissioner Beardslee – The Commissioner advised there is nothing to report.

Extended Public Comment – None.

Recess at 12:39 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Executive Session

Motion by Pinkelman, second by Lange, to recess the Regular Meeting and enter into an Executive Session to discuss mediation and possible litigation (12:46 p.m.) Roll Call: Lange – aye, Pinkelman – aye, Rogers – aye, Stephenson – aye, Anderson – aye, Beardslee – aye, Hanson – aye, Motion Carried.

Executive Session began at 12:46 p.m. and concluded at 12:57 p.m.

Motion by Hanson, second by Pinkelman, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of 1-21-09 as read. Ayes (7) seven, nays (0) none, absent (0) none, Motion Carried.

Announcements – None.

Adjournment

Motion by Hanson, second by Pinkelman, to adjourn meeting at 12:59 p.m. Ayes (7) seven, nays (0) none, absent (0) none, Motion Carried.

Dave Stephenson, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Sandra Moore
County Clerk/Register of Deeds