

November 1, 2023

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

BOARD-IN PERSON WITH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AVAILABLE THROUGH ZOOM

Commissioners Present in person: Dutcher, Finley, Loeffler, and O'Farrell.

Absent: Huebel.

Vacant: None.

Also Present: Nancy Huebel, County Clerk/Assistant Controller; Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director; Scott Frank, Iosco County Sheriff; Kathleen Murphy, Board Secretary/Housing Director; Cathy Anderson, Iosco County Treasurer; Raymond Bruning II, EMS Operations Manager; Mike Eller, Director of Emergency Services; Ron Whitney, Veterans' Service Officer; Tim Hissong, Press

Meeting called to order after a five-minute recess following the Full Board meeting.

New Business:

Ron Whitney, Veterans' Service Officer – Credit Card for Veterans' Affairs Building

Currently Whitney has been using the County Clerk's credit card. Carruthers-Soboleski has provided Whitney with the Credit Card Policy. Whitney requests a \$1,000.00 credit card from Huron Community Bank. Loeffler motions to take this to the full board for consideration and Finley seconds. All ayes; motion carried.

Old Business:

None.

County Controller's Report: Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director

- **Blight Elimination Grant**
 - **Two structures on separate properties were demolished.**
- **Union Negotiations are still ongoing.**
- **Carruthers-Soboleski sent the Personnel Policy to the labor attorney to review some changes for the non-union employee Personnel Policy.**
- **Health Insurance**
 - **Carruthers-Soboleski and N. Huebel met with Tawas Bay Insurance Agency to discuss bids for health care.**

- The self-insurance refund will be used by the end of 2024. This will mean out-of-pocket costs to the employees will increase significantly as the county has been paying a portion of the out-of-pocket costs with the self-insurance refund.
- The bids that were received were comparable with Blue Cross/Blue Shield.
- The county will be offering a new plan with no out-of-pocket costs per pay check. However, the employee would have to cover the cost if they go outside of the Blue Care Network.
- Carruthers-Soboleski will try to get letters of understanding from the unions to change the union contracts so that the county can look at plans that would be more cost effective for the employees and be not locked into the SB 1000 plan that the union contracts say that the county must offer.
- Consumers Energy
 - Carruthers-Soboleski attended a meeting regarding the dams.
 - Consumers Energy will not ask for an increase from MPSC to cover dam capital improvements.

Any Other Matters:

None.

Public Comments:

None.

Claims and Accounts: Bills reviewed and approved by O'Farrell, Finley, and Dutcher in the amount of \$238,401.92.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully:

Kathleen Murphy
Board Secretary/Housing Director

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR November 14, 2023