

Iosco County Board of Commissioners

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

January 5, 2022

COURT HOUSE
Tawas City, Michigan 48763

BOARD-IN PERSON WITH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AVAILABLE THROUGH ZOOM

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

Commissioners Present via Zoom: None.

Absent: Huebel.

Vacant: None

Also Present: Nancy J. Huebel, County Clerk/Co-County Administrator; Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Financial Director; Mike Eller, 911 Director; Brian Golden, Captain/Jail Administrator; Raymond Bruning, EMS Operations Manager; Scott Frank, Sheriff; Ericka Earl, Register of Deeds; Jenny O'Farrell

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

New Business:

Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director – Well Access Agreement

This has already been approved by the Parks and Recreation Committee Board and has been looked at by the Iosco County attorney and MMRMA insurance company. The attorney and MMRMA representative have made changes to the well access agreement and have given consent to move forward. The Air Force would like to drill wells on the property identified by tax parcel code 063-028-100-010-25 to test for PFOS, PFAS, and PFOA. The wells will remain in place for at least five years and will not disrupt the use of the property. Dutcher motions for the well access agreement to go to the full board and Finley supports. All ayes. Motion carried.

Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director – OSHA Vaccine Requirements

The courts have reinstated OSHA and President Biden's vaccination mandate. However, the Supreme Court will look at the mandate further on January 7, 2022. They may place a hold on the vaccination mandate. If they do not place a hold, Iosco County needs to be in compliance by February 9, 2022. This means that employees will either have to get vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination or have to wear masks and submit to weekly Covid-19 testing. Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County

Controller/Finance Director, will present more at the January 19, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Cathy Anderson, County Treasurer – Advertise and Hire a Part-Time Tax Specialist

C. Anderson would like to hire a tax specialist to come in two days a week to maintain services for Iosco County residents. This individual would be paid out of the Delinquent Tax Fund. J. Carruthers-Soboleski suggested hiring a full-time employee that would be split either between the Register of Deeds and the Treasurer's offices or between the Register of Deeds and the Equalization offices. However, this needs union approval. C. Finley would like a study to be conducted of what each department does and what the inefficiencies are in each office. Dutcher motions to bring to the full board to hire a part-time tax specialist for the Treasurer's office and to bring back to the Committee of the Whole a plan for an inefficiency study with Equalization, Register of Deeds, and the Treasurer's offices, and a plan regarding a full-time employee to split between two offices. Miner supports. All ayes. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

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

1. Mike Eller, Director of Emergency Services/ 911 Director; Raymond Bruning II, EMS Operations Manager; Katherine St. Clair, EMS Administrative Assistant; and J. Carruthers-Soboleski met with two billing companies. Both companies are very competent. At the January 19, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting a recommendation to hire one of the companies will be presented.
2. Working on the operating millage with the attorney.
3. There has been zero interest from the newspapers to be on the Housing Commission board.

Any Other Matters:

J. Miner – Eaton County Resolution was a reference to be used for the OSHA vaccine mandate.

Public Comments:

Fred Lewis – Thanks the Board of Commissioners for their consideration to bring back employees and would like to see ARPA funds to be used to do this.

Cynthia Swedler – COVID rapid tests can be bought through CVS.com.

Claims and Accounts: Bills reviewed and approved by Finley, Miner, and O'Farrell.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully: Kathleen M. Murphy, Board of Commissioners Secretary

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR January 19, 2022