Iosco County
Board of Commissioners

COURT HOUSE
Tawas City, Michigan 48763

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

May 4, 2022

BOARD-IN PERSON WITH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AVAILABLE THROUGH ZOOM

Commissioners Present in person: Huebel, Dutcher, Finley, Miner, and O'Farrell.
Commissioners Present via Zoom: None.
Absent: None.
Vacant: None.

Also Present: Nancy J. Huebel, County Clerk/Co-County Administrator; Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Financial Director; Raymond Bruning II, EMS Operations Manager; Chuck Allen, Undersheriff; Jason Ogden, Press; Cathy Anderson, Treasurer; Jenn Donner, Iosco-Arenac District Library District Director; Scott Frank, Sheriff; Brian Hart, Michigan Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine Chief Executive Officer; Steven Hiiter, Medical Examiner Investigator; Dr. Roshan Mahabir, Chief Medical Examiner; Juli Montgomery, IT Director; Robert Tasior; Planning Commission Representative; Richard Castle, Community Affairs Manager Northeast Michigan

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

New Business:

Brian Hart, Michigan Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine Chief Executive Officer – Medical Examiner Office Services Proposal

Michigan Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine will handle every aspect of a scene of death. They will have Medical Examiner Investigators (MEI) on the scene to work along side local first responders. MEIs will take photos of the scene, family information, transport the body, handle storage, and contact the local funeral home and next of kin. If an autopsy is needed, they will transport the body to Saginaw. The lab will do blood work, toxicology and will coordinate with law enforcement, funeral home, and the family. MEIs are retired or active police, firefighters, nurses, and EMS personnel from the county. Most autopsies take 90 days to complete because of lab work. Michigan Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine will usually take 60 days to complete. Any additional tests that are needed to determine cause of death are done with no extra charge. The cost of services would be $50,000. Currently, Iosco County pays around $94,000 for Medical Examiner services. Dutcher moves to form a committee and look into whether Iosco County's residents would benefit from Michigan Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine's services and Miner seconds. Ayes: Dutcher, Miner, Huebel, and O'Farrell. Nays: Finley. Motion carried with a majority vote.

Richard Castle, Community Affairs manager Northeast Michigan – Update on Consumer's Energy and Solar Energy

Castle is offering Iosco County an Energy Audit to look at energy waste reduction. There may not be a cost associated with this audit but Castle will have to research this and bring the quote back to the Committee of the Whole. The biggest cost savings would be switching to LED lights. Other cost saving measures to consider would be motion sensor lights and smart thermostats.

Consumer's Energy is looking into solar expansion. They do not have specific locations at this time. However, they are spreading awareness that townships, cities, and the county may want to develop a solar ordinance. Consumer's Energy would like to move away from coal-based energy by 2025 and move towards more renewable energy sources, such as solar.

Brenda McNeill, Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport Authority Representative – Appointments to the OWAA Airport Zoning Board

McNeill would like to reappoint Leisa Sutton and appoint Greg Schulz to the Zoning Board. Huebel motions and Dutcher seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Jenn Donner, District Director for the Iosco-Arenac District Library – Annual Report and Millage Renewal Facts

Donner is the new District Director. The library has purchased new computers for all the libraries and headquarters. They have upgraded the fiber cabling to better provide internet and Wi-Fi services, which has helped students to log into online classes during the pandemic.

The Millage renewal is for a ten-year period. There is no increase and it accounts for 97% of the total income of the library. If the library does not have a millage, then they cannot apply for state aid.

Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director – Website Upgrade Bids

Juli Montgomery, IT Director; Nancy Huebel, County Clerk; and Carruthers-Soboleski met with three companies to design the new Iosco County website. Only two bids were brought before the Committee of the Whole. Webtecs is the best quote. However, the upfront cost is more expensive but the annual maintenance is less. The cost will even out in eight years. The website would incorporate all Iosco County departments including EMS, 911 Dispatch, and the Animal Shelter. The content of the website will be managed by Montgomery. The cost associated with Webtecs is a one-time fee of $26,000 and an annual fee of $4,250 for hosting services and maintenance to be charged to the American Rescue Plan Funds until 2024. Dutcher moves to take the Webtecs bid to the Full Board and Miner seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director – Purchase IT Inventory Software

The software from BMC Software, Inc. is needed for Iosco County to remain in compliance with Lien. The software will save the county approximately $100 annually. Finley moves to take the purchase of BMC Software, Inc. for $2,605.68 to the Full Board and Dutcher seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director – Phone Contracts

Currently Iosco County uses Avaya, which the contract is up in May. Carruthers-Soboleski supplied the Committee of the Whole with three out of four quotes that were received. The fourth quote was higher than what the county is currently paying. Go-to-Connect is a cloud-based phone system. Iosco County would rent the phones from Go-to-Connect for three years, which if anything is wrong with the phones, the company will replace or fix. After renting for three years, the phones will become Iosco County's property. The rental cost per month would be $2,247.66. Certain departments, such as Dispatch, will stay on an analog system. Finley motions to take renting Go-to-Connect's phone system for $2,247.66 per month to the Full Board for consideration and Dutcher seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director – Master Engagement Agreement with MGT of America Consulting, LLC

Iosco County uses MGT of America Consulting, LLC with the Child Enforcement Grant. This is a top-of-the-line company and they prepare monthly reports. Huebel motions to take the Master Engagement Agreement to the Full Board and Finley seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director – Building Security Upgrades

The Building Security meeting was last week. Court traffic will increase due to high profile cases. Judge Riffel requested additional security including bullet resistant doors for the Prosecuting Attorney's office. Redfield Construction would replace two doors with bullet resistant doors and install a new door. The total cost of this project is $29,130.00. Finley moves to take Redfield Construction's bid to the Full Board for consideration and Dutcher seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Scott Frank, Iosco County Sheriff – Advertise and Hire Deputy Sheriffs

Frank would advertise for one tier 2 part-time Deputy Sheriff and one full-time tier 1 Deputy Sheriff. These Deputy Sheriffs will be stationed at the entrance to the County Building and will have arrest powers and be armed. They will have a rotation with other hired deputies in the Sheriff's Department. The metal detector

will also be brought back. Frank will be in charge of the Deputy Sheriffs but will work with Brian, Court Administrator. The tier 1 full-time Deputy Sheriff will make $21 an hour plus benefits and is a union position. The tier 2 part-time Deputy Sheriff will make $17 an hour and will not be a union position. Both Deputy Sheriffs' wages will be paid with the American Rescue Plan Funds. Finley moves to take this matter to the Full Board and Dutcher seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Old Business:

None.

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

Recycling – Carruthers-Soboleski has a meeting with Alpena County's consultant regarding a recycling program starting in Iosco County. EGLE will eventually require a materials-based plan. It may be more cost efficient to use Alpena's recycling plan than to build our own. Carruthers-Soboleski asks the Commissioners to see what their district constituents think about a recycling program with drop off locations throughout the county.

Housing – Currently taking classes that could help direct how to set up the Housing Commission.

TIFA hand out information was given to the Commissioners.

Any Other Matters:

None.

Public Comments:

Thomas Emery, Baldwin Township resident – Support Operating Millage. It is not a burden.

Claims and Accounts: Bills reviewed and approved by Miner, O'Farrell, and Huebel in the amount of $143,003.76.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully: Kathleen M. Murphy, Board of Commissioners Secretary

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR May 18, 2022