

Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners
Resumption of Regular Meeting 12-14-2011
December 16, 2011
(UNAPPROVED)

Meeting called to order by Chair Michael Cox at 4:00 PM, in Room #103, Kalkaska County Governmental Center. Roll call of Commissioners: Present-Michael Cox, Antonio Martini, Stuart McKinnon, David Ritter, Carroll Sexton and Craig Wood. Absent-Debra Kimball. Present-County Controller Frank Wright and Teresa Nichol.

Pledge of Allegiance given by all. Invocation by Commissioner Wood.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Martini to approve Agenda with addition of Closed Session as requested by Chair, review of server expense approval, vacancy review document and request for department reports to Board. Supported by Ritter. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

Motion by McKinnon to enter into Closed Session to discuss labor negotiation issues. Supported by Martini. Roll call vote: McKinnon, yes; Martini, yes; Ritter, yes; Sexton, yes; Wood, yes; Cox, yes. Kimball, absent. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

**Board entered into Closed Session at 4:04 PM.
Board returned to Open Session at 4:13 PM.**

Motion to return to Open Session by Wood. Supported by Sexton. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

Chair called for break at 4:15 PM, meeting to reconvene in Circuit Court Room.
Chair called meeting back into session at 4:25 PM in Court Room.

Public Input:

Steve Brown: Addressed Board of need to move to different community, following military service and return to Kalkaska, given lack of community support and consideration for county employees.

Lisa Hoppe-Cadillac Insurance: Addressed Board/audience regarding transition of insurance, will assist with transition and appreciation for past years of service.

Dave Hein: Addressed Board of concern/impact of increased health care costs to county employees who have minimal wages compared to other counties; advised of seriousness/dangers of many duties by county staff, concern for needed support of employees.

Sue Vowels: Reserved time.

Bonnie Gaylord: Addressed Board regarding obligations of communication from elected officials and representation of entire community.

Eric Hendricks: Reserved time.

Robert Dryden: Inquired of Board for reason for Closed Session.

Renee Morrison: Addressed Board regarding concern for employee loss of income if health care costs are increased.

Reagan Forster: Addressed Board as new member of community, concern with wage and increased health care that other choices may need to be made.

Christie Hoenicke: Addressed Board with concerns/effects of budget cuts and effects on community/employees and future of county.

Jean Green: Addressed Board regarding income after 21 years of employment is minimal, with added costs of health care will create unbearable hardship.

Rich Gillissee: Addressed Board regarding difficult decisions, requested consideration for employees making minimal income with added health care costs. Reserved balance of time.

Appointments:

None.

Unfinished Business:

Chair requested report of 2012 budget status. Wood reported with numerous revisions of Proposed 2012 Budget, requested Finance Committee to meet as soon as possible to review. Discussion regarding 80/20 Health Care option, Hard Cap (no action) or opting out...discussion including review of increased hours, cost of hard cap to employees, fund balances with changes and discussion with Controller. Consensus no action on Resolution 2011-09 regarding health care at this time, resulting in hard cap. Finance to meet 12-22-2011 for review of 2012 proposed budget noting changes resulting from hard cap, maintaining 2011 budgets.

Motion by McKinnon to purchase 2 servers as recommended by Empiric for \$35,844.44, to be paid from Contingency Fund. Supported by Martini. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

McKinnon requested review of proposed Human Resources Policy resulting from vacancy issues, (Copy filed with Clerk) to be added to agenda for 12-28-2011 Budget Hearing for approval, as advised by legal counsel.

Chair called for break at 5:35 PM.

Chair called meeting back into session at 5:45 PM.

Wood requested review of sick leave policy, recommending October 19 document. **Motion** by Wood to adopt policy by Teamster's unused sick time for non-union employees. Support by Sexton. Discussion. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

Chair advised need to review life and disability insurance given change in 3rd party health care and self insurance. Discussion. Consensus for Chair to review with Dewey and present options.

Public Input:

Sue Vowels: Advised Board of potential value of particular piece of property which was deeded back to county, need for tracking and MHSDA services to assist. Discussion, McKinnon

reported current communication with MSHDA for housing, concerns with poor administration of previous program. Discussion.

Christie Hoenicke: Inquired Board of position with 80/20 or hard cap decision given concern of inability to attend 12-28-11 meeting.

Bonnie Gaylord: Addressed Board regarding budget cuts, additional expense including Axe report and concern that previous projections have been exaggerated.

Motion to adjourn to call of the Chair by Sexton at 5:55 PM. Supported by Wood. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

Respectfully submitted:

Deborah Hill, Kalkaska County Clerk and
Clerk of Board of Commissioners

Michael Cox, Chairman of
Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners

These minutes are not official until they are approved at the next regular Board of Commissioners meeting.