

Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners
Resumption of Regular Board Meeting of June 8, 2011
June 23, 2011
(UNAPPROVED)

Meeting called to order at 9:34 AM by Chair Pro-tem Commissioner Stuart McKinnon in Room #103, Kalkaska County Governmental Center. Roll call of Commissioners: Present-Michael Cox, Debra Kimball, Tony Martini, Stuart McKinnon, Carroll Sexton and Craig Wood. Absent-David Ritter.

Pledge of Allegiance given by all.

Motion to approve agenda by Kimball. Supported by Cox. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

Public Input:

Robert Dryden-reserved time.

Other Business:

Motion by Wood to approve Proclamation regarding Marvin Walter's retirement from Kalkaska County Sheriff Department. Supported by Sexton. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

Motion by Wood to approve Proclamation regarding Linda Radtke retirement from Veterans Affairs. Supported by Kimball. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

Policies and Procedures: Chair called for review of Board authority with hiring freeze, discussion from 6-8-2011 meeting regarding Prosecutor replacement of 2nd Assistant without communication with the Board, asking county labor attorney, Peter Cohl (present) whether Board has authority to enforce hiring freeze or not. Chair advised Cohl Prosecutor reported they did not. Chair provided copy of unapproved minutes of 6-8-2011, copy of opinion from County Attorney Haider from October 2008 and copy of minutes from June 1997 with record of Board's hiring freeze to Attorney Cohl. (Copies filed with Clerk). Cohl advised he would need to review all facts to offer an opinion. Cohl advised Board general rules are Board is co-employer with elected official, elected official hires, fires and disciplines; Board determines how many employees, to serviceable level with bare minimum, and advised Board adopt line item budget; hiring contingent upon Board approval; to include hiring freeze. Cohl advised Board may require justifiable documentation including facts. Cohl suggested all be included in budget resolution. Cohl requested copy of approved budget for his review. Cohl recommended to look at amount needed to be saved and work out with other line items. Discussion regarding current budget, possible amendment of line items and inclusion into approval of budget. Chair advised all other Department Heads have followed policy, and expressed need was for opinion whether Prosecutor is correct in statement that Board cannot enforce hiring freeze with provided documentation. Cohl to be provided current county Policy and Procedures, Approved Budget, Haider's opinion of 2008, 6-8-2011 minutes and June 1997 minutes with motion implementing

hiring freeze. Chair also requested Cohl to review past practice of unlimited payment of sick or vacation hours to appointed officials upon retirement during contract negotiations.

Public Input:

Robert Dryden-inquired whether there were educational opportunities for the Board regarding FOIA and Open Meetings education. Dryden requested if Controller is FOIA Officer, who is responsible for obtaining response, and advised he would like clarification.

(Chair requested county FOIA Policy to be placed on agenda for review at next meeting under New Business.)

Chris Tredway, newspaper reporter for Leader-advised Board he would be leaving community, enjoyed working in Kalkaska and requested patience with new staff.

Chair called for break at 10:10 AM.

Chair called meeting back into session at 10:19 AM.

Appointments:

Chair called for matter of Closed Session with Peter Cohl, county labor attorney to discuss POAM and COAM union negotiations. **Motion** by Martini to enter into closed session at 10:20 AM to discuss POAM and COAM union negotiations with Attorney Cohl. Supported by Cox. Roll call vote: Martini, yes; Cox, yes; Kimball, yes; McKinnon; Ritter, absent; Sexton, yes; Wood, yes. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

****Board entered into Closed Session at 10:20 AM****

****Board returned to Open Session at 11:55 AM****

Motion by Sexton to return to Open Session at 11:55 AM. Supported by Kimball. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

Public Input:

None

Motion by Wood to adjourn to call of the Chair at 11:57 AM. Supported by Kimball. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

Respectfully submitted:

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

Stuart McKinnon, Chair Pro-Tem of
Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners

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

