

Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners
Special Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2019
(UNAPPROVED)

Meeting called to order by Chair Fisher at 5:34 PM, Conference Room, Kaliseum Recreational Complex, 1900 Fairgrounds Dr., Kalkaska, MI. Present Commissioners David Comai, Patty Cox, Craig Crambell, Kohn Fisher, Leigh Ngirarsaol, James Sweet, John West and County Clerk Deborah Hill. Pledge of Allegiance by all. Invocation by Commissioner Cox.

Public Input:

Charles Garrison: Reserved time.

Jack Tanner: Tanner addressed Board noting concerns for the size of the Kaliseum project; inquired as to the budget/plan, record keeping, cash flow report/accountability, energy audits; also noted the prior community survey/5 year plan will be helpful for millage preparation.

Randy Tester: Tester addressed Board noting his continued request for assurance of plan, accountability/incentive; noted disagreement with hiring a marketing vendor.

Marsha Hanna: Reserved time.

Purpose of Meeting:

Chair Fisher called for Board review of Resolution for Kaliseum Millage language. Fisher noted history from 1996 when the operational millage failed separate from the millage to build the Kaliseum; the drain on the general fund until 2010 when the operational millage passed; noted both millages expire in 2019; noted Schedule of Projected Millage Revenue and Estimated Debt Service from PFM for the 1.5 mill/\$7,600,000, to provide the reserve fund for necessary repairs and operations; noted energy savings from lighting of county buildings; intended pool expansion; need for strategic plan with all user groups/community organizations; need for centralized scheduling and oversight; continued efforts with the release of cell tower/reverter to allow for grants and other funding; noted the submission of the Recreation Plan confirmed by Networks Northwest; noted current fee schedules in place for county facilities and necessity to offset costs; noted management, accountability and oversight with current Director. Discussion.

Public Input:

Charles Garrison: Garrison inquired as to the millage language addressing the DDA obtaining any portion of the millage and the cost for the energy lighting portion of the project.

Public: Inquiry regarding the overlapping of the millages. (Board noted they do not overlap)

Chair Fisher called for Board discussion regarding the Resolution and millage language. Comai advised he preferred the matter to go to the August election and to review other funding options. Crambell noted necessity to make repairs to Kaliseum, to allow the use of the entire

facility which will generate more revenue, offsetting the future debt. Fisher noted the current Board has the past experience to make the correct decisions going forward.

Public Input:

Christopher Cinader: Cinader addressed Board noting need of facility for future generations including ice arena and recommended a staging area; noted facility should at least cover its costs.

Sally Grose: Grose addressed Board noting concern with imposition of length of time tax payers will be responsible; noted revenues, expenses and overall cost figures provided by Mr. McKinnon.

Chair Fisher again called for Board review of proposed Resolution and language. Discussion. Call to Bond Counsel Eric McGlothlin. Board inquired as to the absence of the language “pursuant to State law”, as stated in prior county millage language, regarding the DDA. McGlothlin advised he would add the verbiage as discussed; Board noted concern with the language and did not want it to appear that it was the County’s request and that it does not mean that any funds will go to the DDA. **Motion** by Crambell to approve Resolution 2019-10 Approving Submission of Millage Proposition to Electors. Supported by Cox. Discussion. Roll call vote: Crambell, yes; Cox, yes; Comai, no; Ngirarsaol, yes; Sweet, yes; West, yes; Fisher, yes. 6 yes. 1 nay. **Carried**.

Board discussion regarding committee/public organization for millage elections preparation, noted several individuals have expressed interest. Fisher noted pending the May election, the process would commence with an engagement letter with Ameresco, with the project beginning shortly thereafter; noted immediate need for scope of work to prepare the plan document to answer all inquiries; noted to commence within 1-2 weeks; involved the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Social Media Manager. Consensus to set a Special Parks and recreation meeting 2-25-19 at 5:30 PM at the Kaliseum to assist with organization.

Public Input:

Charles Garrison: Garrison addressed Board noting appreciation for Boards decision to move forward; noted the costs for the facility is minimal compared to the services provided.

Mary Janek: Janek addressed Board noting the value of the county resources such as the Kaliseum is of value to the property owners and people moving to the area.

Marsha Hanna: Hanna addressed Board noting request for the business plan, potential growth and need for future generations; need for an information packet; need to look forward to the next 20 years with the correct plan and not repeat the past 20.

Arthur Caden: Caden addressed Board requesting the full scope of work and the calculations the Board is using for the project.

Board noted appreciation for all input.

Charles Garrison: Garrison addressed Board noting interest in support involvement and requested meeting to organize be held at the Kaliseum.

Randy Tester: Tester addressed Board noting appreciation for the reduced millage amount and he looked forward to the information regarding the plan, financing and other funding options.

Motion by Comai to adjourn at 7:52 PM. Supported by Crambell. 7 yeas. 0 nays. **Carried**.

Respectfully submitted:

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

Kohn Fisher, Chair of
Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners

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