

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

Meeting called to order by Chair Fisher at 5:30 PM, Conference Room, Kaliseum Recreation Complex, 1900 Fairgrounds Rd. Kalkaska, MI. Present Commissioners David Comai (arrived at 5:48), 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:**

Marsha Hanna: Reserved time.

Sandra Wiczorek: Wiczorek requested use of the Conference room for a Public Forum regarding the Kaliseum. Discussion, meeting to be held tentatively on April 3, 2019 at 6 PM. Meeting to be videoed, news media will be welcomed and noted Guest speakers will be attending. Discussion.

Bonnie Gonyer: Gonyer requested the board to define the millage proposal language; voiced concern with potential for 3 millages to be collected; inquiries regarding the PFM document, intent of when the tax will be collected; Kaliseum budget inquiries and concern with revenue. Discussion; Board noted they would not continue to levy a tax providing sufficient funds are in the account to pay the existing bond, as advised by the Accountant.) Discussion, Board noted absent the operational funds the first 10 years, the operational millage then supported the facility until the structure and mechanical failures commenced; Board to clarify inquiries. Gonyer requested Board to state intentions to eliminate collection of the existing millages.

Sandra Wiczorek: Wiczorek noted need for the Kaliseum resources regardless of revenue generated. Discussion; Commissioner Cox noted COA, Library, Public Transit, Animal Control, etc., are not revenue generating but are beneficial services to citizens.

Jennifer Standerfer: Reserved time.

Elizabeth Dunham: Reserved time.

Susan Withey: Withey addressed the Board with concerns regarding refunds or extension for Kaliseum memberships. Discussion.

Elsie Hughes: Hughes noted appreciation for Bonnie & Dave Gonyer requesting clarification of the proposed millage.

Mary Janik: Janik questioned the cost of upcoming election.

Dave Gonyer: Gonyer addressed the Board regarding concern with lack of clarity for the Public.

(Commissioner Comai left at 6:31 PM.)

Kijlee Goodrich: Goodrich suggested an Advisory Board be reinstated for the Kaliseum project.

Mike Tanner: Tanner addressed the Board regarding a plan if the millage fails.

Elizabeth Dunham: Dunham inquired if the building will be usable, a business plan and who will have oversight; noted her interest in helping; inquired if Director had resigned; concern

with collection of 3 millages; requested where the funds came from for the survey, Ameresco and Apex; asked how Ameresco was selected. Discussion.

**Purpose of Meeting:**

Chair Fisher called for review and discussion of information relative to the Kaliseum millage project.

**Public Input:**

Marsha Hanna: Hanna addressed Board noting request for Business Development Plan.

Elizabeth Dunham: Dunham addressed Board with concerns regarding: usage of Kaliseum if under construction or not; Business plan; offered her help towards a planning committee; questioned where funds came from for the Survey; how Ameresco was selected and cost; Apex cost and questioned the Directors Resignation. (Discussion, Board noted as sufficient funds available, the current two taxes would not need to be levied; Business Plan, the project is the business plan to include marketing and added resources/events for the public; Board to verify which accounts the finances thus far have been paid from. Board noted Ameresco was selected after interviews with RFP vendors.)

Discussion regarding energy lighting, noted the project with all buildings was necessary to obtain the energy reimbursements and to include in the project funding.

Dunham requested status of property 'swap'. Fisher noted the Board is not aware of any offer of property swap; noted the request to lift the reverter from the property where the tower is remains pending with communications with the DNR. Discussion regarding a new group that are looking at property for ball fields.

Chair Fisher noted the Director's resignation will be considered at the Regular Meeting.

Sandra Wieczorek: Wieczorek addressed Board noting appreciation for the Boards steps toward selecting the company and continued efforts to resolve the issues at the Kaliseum.

Discussion regarding the timing of repairs pending the millage and necessity to combine the operational and the repairs together. Fisher noted the information when the Kaliseum was built, the entire grounds and user groups were to provide revenue to assist in the expense; noting when the Board required that the user fees be enforced it caused great negativity with the users that have not been assisting with the revenue and following the fee schedules.

Marsha Hanna: Hanna noted more tours of the Kaliseum may be helpful and the development plan will be helpful for the public. Hanna noted importance of accurate information for the public.

Discussion, Fisher requested Clerk to put the Strategic Plan and the 5 year Parks and Recreations Plan requested be put on the website. Consensus of Board to obtain information to clarify inquires that were not available before the next meeting.

Fisher provided miscellaneous information from other facilities to the Board for review.

Discussion regarding the numerous matters that need to be corrected at the Kaliseum; continued review of membership fees and user fees with the project should the millage pass; noted importance of swim programs and the facility to be cross generational for all resources.

Discussion referring the public to the Equalization site to determine what the dollar amount will be for their taxes. Fisher noted the memberships do not include the numbers of the individuals who use but pay by the day or those who go to scheduled events.

**Public Input:** None further

**Motion** by Crambell to adjourn at 7:41 PM. Supported by West. 5 yeas. 0 nays. 2 absent.  
**Carried.**

Respectfully submitted:

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

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Kohn Fisher, Chair of  
Kaskaska County Board of Commissioners

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