

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
August 17, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held August 17, 2011, 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River, MI., opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioners present: Ernie Mooney, Frank Stubenrauch, Don Piche, Del Rajala, Randy Eckloff.

Motion by Rajala supported by Mooney and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

The minutes from July 20, 2011 stood as written.

The Treasurer, Sheriff and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Piche reported that he had met with OHM about Courthouse repairs. They are hoping to apply for a Heritage Grant which would be a 50/50 match but would not be available until next spring. Mooney stated that money needs to be worked into the budget for these expenses.

Motion by Mooney supported by Rajala to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$113,555.86 Construction Codes Fund=\$2,766.19 911 Fund=\$22,837.39 EDC Fund=\$10,356.35 Law Library=\$451.96 Child Care Fund=\$3,276.70 County Veterans Affairs Fund=\$415.33. Board polled. Ayes: Mooney, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Eckloff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Mooney supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried to pay for the lodging for the U.P. State Fair representative.

Piche reported that he spoke to the Engineer at the Road Commission about the road to the sewage lagoons at Mt. Horace Greeley. The road will be graded by the Road Commission.

Donna Jaaskelainen approached the Board and requested that the Board go into closed session regarding a court matter. Motion by Mooney supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to go into closed session at 6:45 p.m. regarding pending litigation.

Motion by Mooney supported by Piche and unanimously carried to go back into regular session at 6:55 p.m.

Motion by Mooney supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to authorize the Chairman to sign all documents for pending litigation as presented by the attorney.

Motion by Mooney supported by Piche to adopt the following resolution:

A Resolution of the Keweenaw County, Michigan Board of Commissioners Relative to the Operation of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge

Whereas, The Keweenaw Mountain Lodge is owned by the County of Keweenaw, Michigan, and

Whereas, The Board of Commissioners is ultimately responsible for the financial integrity of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, and

Whereas, the State of Michigan has by statute, designated the Keweenaw County Park Trustees the responsibilities for the day to day operation of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, and

Whereas, The Keweenaw Mountain Lodge has been losing excessive amounts of money during recent winter operations, and

Whereas, The Board of Commissioners has carefully examined actual financial history of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge in reaching the following decision, and

Whereas, The Board of Commissioners is convinced that the following action will be financially beneficial to the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, and will help the Lodge meet the debt service acquired by the recent expansion of the Lodge, and

Whereas, the current economic conditions that exist within the country are in part responsible for the present financial status of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Keweenaw County, Michigan as follows:

The Board of Commissioners strongly recommends to the Keweenaw County Park Trustees that winter operations of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge be discontinued effective in October 2011 and that the management of the Lodge continue with a marketing and operations plan that best benefit the Lodge during the warm weather months.

Be it further Resolved, that the Board of Commissioners continually moderate changing conditions to determine if future winter operations of the Lodge are feasible.

Board polled. Ayes: Mooney, Stubenrauch, Piche, Rajala, Eckloff. Nays: None. Motion carried. (#11-8)

Motion by Mooney supported by Stubenrauch and unanimously carried that the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw Counties Community Corrections Advisory Board's efforts to apply for continuing funds for Fiscal Year 2012.

Mooney stated that he will be getting the appropriate forms out to all departments soon to begin working on the 2012 budget.

The County audit for 2011 was tabled until September.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by Stubenrauch supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Meeting adjourned sine die.

Randy Eckloff, Chairman

Julie A. Carlson, Clerk