

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 21, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held January 21, 2015, 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI, opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioners present: Randy Eckloff, Bob DeMarois, Don Piche, Ray Chase, Del Rajala.

The organizational meeting was called to order by the Clerk. Clerk opened the floor for nominations for a chairman. Eckloff nominated Piche for chairman and Chase supported. Clerk asked for further nominations and there being none, motion by Rajala supported by Chase to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Piche as Chair for 2015. Chair Piche took over leading the meeting.

Chairman Piche opened the floor for nominations for vice chairman. Rajala nominated Eckloff for vice chair which was seconded by Chase. Piche asked for further nominations and there being no further nominations, motion by Rajala supported by Chase to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Eckloff as Vice Chairman for 2015.

Motion by Rajala seconded by Chase and unanimously carried to hold official board meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River. Rajala **amended** the motion supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to hold the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. and the official board meetings to follow at 7:00 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River.

Chairman Piche appointed commissioners to the following committees:

Economic Development	Piche	Historic Hiway/Byway	DeMarois
Building & Grounds	Piche	911 Committee	Rajala
Human Services	Piche	MSU Extension	Piche
Manpower Consortium	Eckloff/DeMarois	KEDA	Piche
Health Department	Rajala/DeMarois	Head Start	Rajala
UP Resource Conservation	Rajala	Finance/Budget	Piche
US Port Authority	None-Ron Lahti	Road Commission	Piche
UPCAP	Chase	TriCounty Corrections	Rajala
Planning Commission	Chase	WUPPDR	Chase/DeMarois
Substance Abuse	Eckloff	Mental Health	Eckloff
Community Action	Piche	Recreation Bd-mileage	Rajala
Keweenaw Mountain Lodge	Full Board	Resolutions	Full Board
Freedom of Information	Eckloff	UP Fair Authority	Langdon
Veterans Affairs	Rajala	Grounds/Grounds Care	Piche
Building Codes	Eckloff	Brownfield	Chase
Liaison to Sheriff Dept	Rajala		

Motion by Chase supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to designate the following as depositories for County funds: River Valley, Range, Superior National and First Merit Banks.

Motion by Chase supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to accept the agenda as printed.

Motion by Chase supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to accept the minutes as presented from the December 17, 2014 regular monthly board meeting, the January 6, 2015 special meeting and the January 14, 2015 special meeting.

The Treasurer, Sheriff and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Kim Stoker, Executive Director of WUPPDR came to the meeting to answer any questions that the Board might have had concerning the grant that is being sought from EDA and the letter of agreement from MEDC regarding the study for the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge. The study will contain a commercial appraisal and Stoker will come back to the Board before the study begins to see if there are other things that the Board would like to see in this study. The study will explore possible alternatives for the Lodge also. Stoker also talked about how complicated the housing grant programs have become and how Governor Snyder is pushing for collaboration between agencies.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by Chase supported by Eckloff to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts; General Fund=\$167,467.35 Construction Codes Fund=\$4,355.04 911 Fund=\$977.36 Law Library=\$505.83, Child Care Fund=\$0 County Veterans Trust Fund=\$78.60 Medical Care Fund=\$4,662.06. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, DeMarois, Chase, Rajala, Piche. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rajala supported by Chase to allow Chairman Piche to sign the contract with Bob Mikesch for the 2014 financials for the County as proposed. Board polled. Ayes: Eckloff, DeMarois, Chase, Rajala, Piche. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Chase supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to allow Chairman Piche to sign the letter regarding the proposed incentive from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) for the planning grant study for the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge to explore the possible alternatives for the Lodge which would ensure long term viability of the Lodge and lead to potential future job creation.

The Keweenaw Mountain Lodge meeting dates were dealt with above along with the County Board meeting dates. The County Board has taken over supervision of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge as of January 2015.

Motion by Chase supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve a Release of Mortgage and an Assumption of New Mortgage for Lots 9 and 10 Block "G" in the Village of Ahmeek. This is being done because the property had a life time mortgage based on a single family housing rehabilitation grant and the recipient of the loan passed away and left the home to a family member that also qualified for the housing program.

The Board talked about what the next project would be for the Courthouse and Grounds and the extra voted millage. Piche will talk to OHM regarding siding the buildings and a fire escape for the Courthouse.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business motion by Chase to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Meeting adjourned sine die.

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Donald Piche, Chairman

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Julie A. Carlson, Clerk