

Leelanau County Board of Commissioners
Executive Board Session – Tuesday, November 12, 2024
Approved 11/19/2024

Proceedings of the meeting are being recorded (audio and video). The video of the meeting can be found at the following link:
<https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2800#video>

Meeting called to order by Chairman Ty Wessell at 9:30 a.m. Today's meeting is being held at the Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay, Michigan.

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence:

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited, followed by a moment of silence.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	District #1	Vacant	
	#2	James O'Rourke	PRESENT
	#3	Doug Rexroat	PRESENT
	#4	Ty Wessell	PRESENT
	#5	Kama Ross	PRESENT
	#6	Gwenne Allgaier	PRESENT
	#7	Melinda C. Lautner	PRESENT

Guests present.

Approval of Agenda / Late Additions or Deletions:

Interim County Administrator Richard I. Lewis stated he would like to have Agenda Item #10F – Recommendation to Cease Stipends for Chief Deputy Clerk and County Clerk recommendation be removed from the agenda. Lewis explained his reasons for his request and that he is not ready to terminate the assistance because the majority of the new employees have only been here weeks and the assistance is needed through negotiations.

Commissioner Rexroat stated he would like to keep it on the agenda.

Commissioner Lautner stated she agrees with Lewis and would like it removed from the agenda.

MOTION BY LAUTNER THAT THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion – Commissioner Lautner said the Finance Department and HR are all new and the Board should wait to discontinue the assistance.

AYES – 1 (Lautner)

NO – 5 (O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)

MOTION FAILED.

Chairman Wessell called for a vote of the agenda as presented.

AYES –5 (Wessell, Allgaier, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross)

NO – 1 (Lautner)

MOTION CARRIED.

Communications, Proclamations, Presentations –
Administrator Update:

► Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis updated the Board regarding the Leelanau Tower site and the 2025 Budget Hearing for November 19, 2024, at 7:15 p.m.

Lewis introduced Patrick Roach, Leelanau County Facilities Director, who started with the County on November 12, 2024.

County Clerk Michelle L. Crocker, Administrative Deputy Clerk Alison Middleton, and Deputy Clerk Lynn Drzewiecki updated the Board regarding election results processing for the General Election on November 5, 2024. Crocker explained the process of canvassing the results and how the process works, along with replying to Commissioner questions.

Public Comment (agenda specific):

The following individuals spoke in person: Sam Getsinger, Dr. Bob McCormick, and Rick Robbins.

Commissioner Comments:

None.

Sheriff's Office – Clothing Allowance:

Sheriff Michael Borkovich and Undersheriff James Kiessel were present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE UNIFORM AND GUN ALLOWANCE FOR THE NON-UNION PERSONNEL (SHERIFF, UNDERSHERIFF, AND MARINE DEPUTIES) THROUGH PAYROLL, WITH APPROPRIATE TAXES WITHHELD, IF RECEIPTS ARE NOT PROVIDED. FUNDS TO COME FROM 101.225.301.703.742 AND 101.225.331.703.742 AS BUDGETED. SECONDED BY REXROAT/O'ROURKE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Sheriff's Office – Food Service Agreement:

Sheriff Michael Borkovich and Undersheriff James Kiessel were present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO WAIVE BOARD POLICY ON BID REQUIREMENTS AND APPROVE THE 5-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH CANTEEN SERVICES INC. FOR INMATE FOOD SERVICE AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Sheriff's Office – Fingerprint Scanner Replacement:

Sheriff Michael Borkovich and Undersheriff James Kiessel were present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A NEW LIVESCAN UNIT FROM ID NETWORKS FOR THE QUOTED AMOUNT OF \$10,298.00. FUNDS TO COME FROM FUND BALANCE FORWARD. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Sheriff's Office – Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) Employed Recruit:

Sheriff Michael Borkovich and Undersheriff James Kiessel were present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ALLOW THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO PROCEED WITH AN EMPLOYED RECRUIT AND ENTER INTO THE PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM/GRANT PROCESS WITH THE MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE FOR THE POLICE ACADEMY THAT STARTS ON JANUARY 27, 2025. FUNDS FROM THE GRAND TO BE PLACED INTO A SPECIAL, YET UNDETERMINED, ACCOUNT AND USED TO COVER THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACADEMY AND HIRING PROCESS. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Chairman Wessell announced that since Emergency Management Director Matt Ansorge was not present he is moving Agenda Item – #5 Veteran's Services up on the agenda for presentation now.

Veteran's Services – Contract with Grand Traverse County:

Grand Traverse County Veterans Affairs Director Michael Roof was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY AND GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY VETERAN'S AFFAIRS FROM 2025-2028 FOR AN ANNUAL COST OF \$56,618.00. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Emergency Management – Maple City Tower Lease Agreement:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis and Assistant 9-1-1 Director Kelly LaCross were present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO TOWER SPACE LEASE AGREEMENT FOR VERIZON AT THE MAPLE CITY TOWER SITES AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Emergency Management – AT&T Lease Amendment:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis and Assistant 9-1-1 Director Kelly LaCross were present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE THIRD AMENDMENT TO TOWER SPACE LEASE AGREEMENT FOR AT&T AT THE MAPLE CITY, OMENA, AND NORTHPORT TOWER SITES, PENDING FINAL APPROVAL FROM LEGAL COUNSEL, AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE AMENDMENTS. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Emergency Management – 9-1-1 Radio Console and Recorder Annual Maintenance Contract:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis and Assistant 9-1-1 Director Kelly LaCross were present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE THREE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FOR MAINTENANCE ON THE 9-1-1 DISPATCH RADIO CONSOLES AND NICE [NEPTUNE INTELLIGENCE COMPUTER ENGINEERING] RADIO RECORDER EQUIPMENT AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Equalization – L-4402 Apportionment Report Update:

Equalization Director Andrew Giguere was present for the Agenda Item.

MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE AGENDA ITEM EQUALIZATION – LEELANAU COUNTY APPORTIONMENT REPORT (L-4402) TO THE REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Clerk – MERS Service Credit Purchase:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis and County Clerk Michelle L. Crocker were present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE BY RESOLUTION THAT JENNIFER L. ZYWICKI BE AUTHORIZED TO PURCHASE SIX (6) MONTHS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTAL SERVICE CREDIT FROM MERS, AS DESCRIBED IN THE APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL SERVICE CREDIT PURCHASE, AT A COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$12,785.00, TO BE PAID BY THE SAID EMPLOYEE. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Senior Services – Agreement Renewal, Linda Lingaur, D/B/A Linda Lou Hair and Nails:

Senior Services Director Lena Vander Meulen was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES AND LINDA LINGAUR, DBA LINDA LOU HAIR AND NAILS FOR FOOT CARE SERVICES AT A RATE OF \$35.00 PER SERVICE, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026.

SECONDED BY REXROAT/ROSS.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Senior Services – Agreement Renewal, Flowers Help Services, LLC:

Senior Services Director Lena Vander Meulen was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES AND FLOWERS HELP SERVICES, LLC TO PROVIDE MEDICATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES AT THE RATE OF \$37.50 PER 15 MINUTES WITH A 3% INCREASE EACH YEAR, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026. SECONDED BY ROSS/ALLGAIER.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Senior Services – Agreement Renewal, Health Department of Northwest Michigan:

Senior Services Director Lena Vander Meulen was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO WAIVE ITS BID POLICY AND RENEW A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES AND THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF NORTHWEST MICHIGAN TO PROVIDE DENTAL SERVICES THROUGH DENTAL CLINICS NORTH, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026. FUNDS TO COME FROM ACCOUNT #281.000.000.801.014 DENTAL NEEDS. SECONDED BY REXROAT.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Senior Services – Agreement Renewal, Leelanau County Family Coordinating Council:

Senior Services Director Lena Vander Meulen was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO WAIVE ITS BID POLICY AND RENEW A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES AND THE LEELANAU COUNTY FAMILY COORDINATING COUNCIL, TOTALING \$2000.00 TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE LEELANAU LAUNDRY PROJECT BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026, FUNDS TO COME FROM 281.000.000.801.000, CONTRACTUAL SERVICES. SECONDED BY ROSS.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Senior Services – Agreement Renewal, Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency:

Senior Services Director Lena Vander Meulen and Finance Director Cathy Hartesvelt were present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO WAIVE ITS BID POLICY AND RENEW A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES AND NORTHWEST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY TOTALING \$75,000 TO PROVIDE MEALS ON WHEELS TO SENIORS IN LEELANAU COUNTY BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026. FUNDS TO COME FROM 281.000.000.801.008, MEALS ON WHEELS. SECONDED BY ROSS.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Senior Services – Agreement Renewal, ShareCare of Leelanau, Inc.:

Senior Services Director Lena Vander Meulen was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO WAIVE ITS BID POLICY AND RENEW A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES AND SHARECARE OF LEELANAU, INC. FOR THE FOLLOWING SERVICES BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026. VOLUNTEER COORDINATION AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, UP TO \$56,000 AND WELLNESS PROGRAMMING, UP TO \$44,000; FUNDS TO COME FROM 281.000.000.801.001, SHARECARE. SECONDED BY ROSS.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Senior Services – Agreement with Catholic Human Services:

Senior Services Director Lena Vander Meulen was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO WAIVE ITS BID POLICY AND APPROVE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES AND CATHOLIC HUMAN SERVICES, INC., FOR THE SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026, FOR UP TO \$8,000.00, FUNDS TO COME FROM 281.000.000.801.006. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Senior Services – Out-Of-State Travel:

Senior Services Director Lena Vander Meulen was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE LENA VANDER MEULEN, SENIOR SERVICES DIRECTOR, TO ATTEND THE AMERICAN SOCIETY ON AGING 2025 CONFERENCE TO BE HELD APRIL 21-24 IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA. FUNDS TO COME FROM THE SENIORS SERVICES EDUCATION AND TRAVEL ACCOUNTS. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Chairman Wessell called for a break at 10:58 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 11:10 a.m.

Finance – Rehman Robson Service Contract:

Finance Director Cathy Hartesvelt was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO WAIVE BID POLICY AND APPROVE THE [ACA FORMS PREPARATION] SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH REHMANN ROBSON, LLC FOR SERVICES AS OUTLINED IN THE AGREEMENT. FUNDS TO COME FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONTRACTUAL SERVICES 101.100.101.801.000. [FUNDS NOT TO EXCEED \$5,700.00] SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Planning – 2025 Tire Recycling Agreement with ERG:

Planning Director Gail Myer was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE TIRE RECYCLING AMENDMENT #4 WITH ERG FOR 2025, AS SUBMITTED. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Planning – 2025 Mattress Recycling Agreement with BARC:

Planning Director Gail Myer was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE 2025 MATTRESS RECYCLING AGREEMENT WITH BAY AREA RECYCLING FOR COMMUNITY (BARC), AS SUBMITTED. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Parks and Recreation Commission – Set Public Hearing on Parks and Recreation Master Plan 12/17/2024 6:30 p.m.:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE LEELANAU COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN – FEBRUARY 2025 FOR DECEMBER 17, 2024 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS, GOVERNMENTAL CENTER. SECONDED BY ROSS.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Administration – Appropriations Act Resolution and Budget Rules:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis and Finance Director Cathy Hartesvelt were present for the Agenda Items and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE FORWARD AGENDA ITEM ADMINISTRATION – APPROPRIATIONS ACT RESOLUTION AND BUDGET RULES TO THE REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Administration – Set Date for the Committee of the Whole Session – Recommendations on Boards and Commissions:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

Handout provided and can be found at the following link:

https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/boards_authorities_and_commissions_handout_11122024_2.pdf

Commissioner discussion ensued.

Interim Administrator Lewis stated he will place this request as a late agenda item for the Regular Session on November 19, 2024, to set the date for the Committee of the Whole for December 10, 2024.

Administration – GTB 2% Tribal Grant Application Submissions:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO RECOMMENDED THAT THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS BE SUBMITTED TO THE GRAND TRAVERSE BAND FOR CONSIDERATION OF 2% ALLOCATIONS FOR THE WINTER, 2024 CYCLE AS PRESENTED:

- **PARKS AND RECREATION – DISC GOLF COURSE UPGRADE FOR \$18,006.00**
- **ENERGY FUTURES TASK FORCE – ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING SERVICES FOR \$20,000.00**
- **EMERGENCY SERVICES – DISPATCH CONSOLE STATIONS FOR \$125,445.19**
- **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – HOME BUILD IN LEELANAU COUNTY FOR \$50,000.00**
- **HOMESTRETCH HOUSING AND SEEDS – AFFORDABLE HOUSING BUILD IN SUTTONS BAY FOR \$34,947.00**
- **HOUSING NORTH – LEELANAU COUNTY ZONING ATLAS PROJECT FOR \$50,000.00**
- **PLANNING – SOLID WASTE – MATTRESS COLLECTION FOR \$5,000.00**
- **PLANNING – SOLID WASTE – TIRE COLLECTION FOR \$10,000.00**
- **SEEDS SCHOOL COMPOSTING PROJECT FOR \$10,350.00**
- **SENIOR SERVICES – LEELANAU CHRISTIAN NEIGHBORS FOOD PANTRY FOR \$57,800.00**
- **SHERIFF'S OFFICE – BODY CAMERAS AND SUBSCRIPTION FOR \$75,650.00**
- **VFW ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT FOR \$53,000.00**

SECOND BY ROSS.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Administration – Staff Chair Replacement:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF 129 CHAIRS FROM STAPLES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$48,501.86 WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM SPECIAL PROJECTS ACCOUNT #101.100.101.967.000. SECONDED BY REXROAT/O'ROURKE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Administration – T-Mobile Utility on Central Tower:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE ACTION TAKEN TO PERMIT T-MOBILE TO UTILIZE LEELANAU COUNTY ELECTRICAL POWER AT THE CENTRAL POWER SITE FOR ONE (1) MONTH IN EXCHANGE FOR \$750.00, FUNDS SUBMITTED TO THE COUNTY TREASURER. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE/REXROAT.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Administration – Recommendation to Cease Stipends for Chief Deputy Clerk and County Clerk:

Chairman Wessell directed Commissioner Rexroat to start the discussion.

Commissioner Rexroat stated he respects and values the information that the Clerk's Office brings to this process and they do have an endless amount of history and their input is invaluable. But there needs to be a different structure that he proposes to cease the stipends and he believes that the Board took action by motion that they would end in November after the budget. He continued that with due respect to the process and valuing the input from the Clerk's Office that he would recommend establishing an hourly rate and to use them as needed for those things. Rexroat said he doesn't think we need both people and that we don't need 20 hours a month for this effort. His proposal is to end the stipends, which he doesn't think needs any action by the Board and that has already been established. He continued that he would like to enter into an agreement, as needed, the negotiating team would go to a negotiation session and come back and ask the Clerk's Office some questions where they provide the added input and they should be compensated for that but the stipends end. Unless this Board overrides the previous motion, he is trying to value the expertise they represent and the valued input but that the stipends end and you use them on an as needed basis.

Commissioner Allgaier asked Interim Administrator Lewis if it is possible to pay a salary employee an hourly wage? Lewis replied that you can't pay on an hourly basis to a salaried employee, but he will have to do some checking.

Commissioner Allgaier stated that the Clerk's Office needs to be compensated and Lewis has made it very clear that the Clerk's Office expertise is needed.

Interim Administrator Lewis explained that it is part of the expertise that when he started into negotiations that he realized the folks that are to take part in negotiations are not experienced and the Clerk's Office has the needed expertise. The Clerk's Office assistance will also be critical with the lead negotiator and himself who has not been to the negotiating table on behalf of the County. Lewis said he understands where Commissioner Rexroat is coming from because originally, he (Lewis) was looking to end this after the budget but then after last Friday he has realized that will not work so well. He commented that he is not comfortable with Commissioner Rexroat's recommendation and he thinks that would be a futile mistake if he was to agree with that on his part and it would be an exercise going backwards but it does rest with the Board.

Commissioner O'Rourke requested there to be a sunset clause of six (6) months because he thinks that would work. Commissioner Ross interjected that has already been done. Commissioner O'Rourke stated the point is because of the new people and to try to get things to go smoothly, which we like, this has to stay in place.

Commissioner Lautner stated she is favor of keeping the system in place and knows for a fact that she does not want to lose the expertise. Lautner requested Finance Director Cathy Hartesvelt to join the discussion from the presentation table.

Finance Director Cathy Hartesvelt explained why she is in favor of keeping the Clerk's Office and their expertise for an additional six (6) months. Hartesvelt stated it was an eye opener being part of the negotiating team and having the Chief Deputy Clerk at the table with what she brings to the table, what we accomplished and that couldn't have been done without the help.

Commissioner Ross stated it has been brought to our attention that there might be a legal problem with making an hourly wage or continuing the stipends if we already decided against them, which was brought up in public comment. Ross asked, do we know if that is true?

Interim Administrator Lewis replied that he believes creating an hourly wage would be the issue versus a flat dollar amount because it is apples and oranges.

Commissioner Rexroat commented that it doesn't mean it can't be done.

Commissioner Allgaier stated the Board needs to make sure that it is even legal to do the hourly wage and how on earth would you charge the County an hourly wage for every time assistance is needed. She said we would be shooting ourselves in the foot and that she supports the voices of the people who are doing the work and to continue with stipends.

Interim Administrator Lewis reiterated that indeed the Finance Department is in its infancy and that the HR Manager has only been here just as long as the Assistant Finance Director, which has only been weeks on the job. He commented that whatever gets negotiated that Finance and HR will have to administer those negotiated contracts, who will be working with the new County Administrator to do so.

Chairman Wessell stated that the stipends were developed on the basis of 10 hours a week for two people, and by his calculations that is 40 hours a month times two people. Wessell commented there is not 80 hours of work that we need in consultations for negotiations. He values the expertise and he thinks the Board can figure out a way to compensate, whether it is hourly or not, but he thinks this Board is being asked to continue to prolong a stipend without talking about some compromise. Wessell said there is not 80 hours of negotiations in the next two months to be done by two consultants. He said the County has an attorney they are paying and that Commissioner Lautner has been on the negotiating team for 110 years and that he (Wessell) has been negotiating for decades. He continued that we do not need 80 hours of consultations for these negotiations and what happens if negotiations go until April, May or June because we don't know when they will be settled. Wessell reiterated that we cannot continue to say we have an unlimited amount of stipend money to pay. He said he would prefer to ask the Administrator because he respects his skills to come back and say and here is what we can do to illustrate a little bit of compromise, because we have a good team in place. He commented that

this Board did say that when we get the book and have the public hearing that we are done with stipends. There are people watching us on that, there are people that care about that and he feels it is really important that we don't just keep each month prolonging the decision. Wessell said he is not in support of a stipend at the rate we have been paying for two people, and yet he wants to make sure he communicates that he thinks they have been wonderful, invaluable and we needed them to put together a Finance Department and now we are in it together and we can make it work.

Commissioner Allgaier said if we are looking for a compromise what would that look like? It would be some help but would look different than what is current and whatever way is legal? She stated she wants to be able to support what the Finance Director and the Administrator are requesting because we cut off too soon the last time and learned a valuable lesson. Allgaier commented she is willing to compromise and she for sure is not ready to say fly your kite you are now on your own.

Commissioner Rexroat stated that with respect to the Finance Department and no disrespect to Hartesvelt that when this decision was made there was no consideration of bargaining, and all this knowledge was available then. There was no discussion at any time to say don't make that decision and that we need help for the next 6 months to a year because that was never brought up during the stipend decision process.

Interim Administrator Lewis said this was his mistake and yes, burn him to the stake. He commented that he blew it and that he is held accountable here and nobody else is. Lewis continued that if he had known it then, he would have done it different.

Chairman Wessell said he is the Board Chair and Lewis stated he is the County Administrator.

Commissioner Rexroat stated he cannot support the ongoing stipends in this matter and will not. If there is another option that someone can bring, then he would be willing to look at it but right now it is his understanding that they are done unless this Board takes action.

Commissioner Allgaier said she would like to see us with a compromise and see what is legal for the support where it is needed. She continued that she would like to work on a new program tailored to what is going on now and come back with that next week.

Chairman Wessell explained that his view is that this isn't this or nothing, but instead what do we have to work to make it all work.

Commissioner Allgaier continued that she doesn't want to leave the Finance Department in a lurch, and they can continue to support and train, along with absolutely being needed in negotiations.

Commissioner Lautner said she doesn't disagree that you may need to be on track in regards to how many hours are actually needed. She commented that she wished all of the Commissioners could have been present on Friday during negotiations just so that you could watch the machine work because it is an incredible process. Lautner explained that even the County's attorney is fairly new to the County for negotiating and is different from Peter Cohl and what was done previously as this is new to him. The Chief Deputy Clerk Jen Zywicki is our main go to and most

important to us right now. She said that HR Manager Jen Kain will eventually get it and so will the new County Administrator but it is imperative to keep Jen Zywicki on the team. Lautner wants to continue to assist the Finance Department because they are currently on the right track and if we pull them, and we thought we would already be down this road. Money is not the issue and we are spending money like crazy up here. She said the only reason we are hearing about these stipends is because it is particularly one or two people, which it seems to be their life goal to keep hammering this to stop these out of probably personal spite and they know who they are, but that is who is pushing this whole thing. Lautner continued that there could be a compromise and maybe it is in hours and we have to do what is right for Leelanau County and not what is right for a few people out there who are trying run the county from outside.

Commissioner Rexroat clarified that no one is trying to run his opinion from outside and that is his opinion and his alone.

Commissioner Lautner asked Commissioner Rexroat if he has had outside people whispering in his ear about what you need to do about these stipends? Commissioner Rexroat replied, no, but continued that they are the opinion of his constituents.

Commissioner Allgaier asked if there could be a revised proposal?

Commissioner Lautner asked if the negotiating team could create a proposal?

Interim Administrator Lewis stated he will put something together for the Regular Session meeting.

Commissioner Rexroat explained that in his experience within the private sector that advice is invaluable but you are not sitting at the negotiation table and that you come back, which may last a couple hours but that you come back at the next negotiation session. He stated that he sees this as a very limited amount of need not that it isn't extremely needed in the amount that it but that when he looks at the process, as far as the union negotiation side, he doesn't see it as a big amount of time. He agrees the time there is invaluable, but it is going to come back for him it will have to be a limited amount for him to support it.

Commissioner Lautner explained that she sees it as interpretation as well and that Finance can speak to that much better, but for her when she is negotiating, she needs the knowledge at the table regarding such things like allowances for the Sheriff's Deputies, how it effects payroll, what is taxable and not taxable to an employee.

Commissioner Allgaier asked for a more tailored proposal.

Chairman Wessell stated by commissioner consensus there will be a revised proposal created by Interim Administrator Lewis to be reviewed for the Regular Session meeting on November 19, 2024.

Administration – Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) 2024-2025 Dues:

Interim Administrator Richard I. Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE 2024-2025 MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (MAC) ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,000.00 WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES LINE-ITEM ACCOUNT #101.100.101.807.000. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion ensued.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Review Of Financials:

Finance Director Cathy Hartesvelt was present and answered Commissioner questions.

Special Reports by Staff, Commissioners, and Affiliated Agencies:

None.

Public Comment:

The following individuals spoke in person: Harry Steffens, Christine Kramer, Renee Wyler, Steve Mikowski, Jim Kobberstad, and Bill Weisner.

The written comments can be found at the following link:

<https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2800#handouts>

Commissioner Comment:

- Commissioner Allgaier asked when will discussion happen regarding the December meeting schedules and Lewis replied he will have that all to the Board soon depending on the outcome of the interview process.
- Commissioner O'Rourke stated the new office chairs should have an option for seat belts.
- Commissioner Lautner said there has been discussion from Finance Director Hartesvelt in regards to the bumpy ride with the Finance Department and that she knows that getting them off the ground was rough early on but we can't stand for mistakes. She continued that she is happy to be moving in a direction with all the checks and balances that are in place within the Finance Department.

Approval of Financials –

Amendments & Transfers:

None.

Miscellaneous Fund Transfers and Amendments:

None.

Claims and Accounts:

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$190,806.68. SECONDED BY O’ROURKE/REXROAT.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, O’Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)

NO – 0

RECOMMANDATION PASSES.

Post Audit Claims and Accounts:

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE POST AUDIT CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,836,153.87. SECONDED BY REXROAT.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, O’Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Adjournment:

Chairman Wessell adjourned the meeting at 12:53 p.m.

Ty Wessell, Chairman
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Jennifer L. Zywicki, Chief Deputy Clerk for
Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk