**BARAGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**October 11, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Rolof called the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m., in the Circuit Courtroom, Baraga County Courthouse, 16 N. Third Street, L’Anse, MI 49946.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

Chairman Rolof led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

**ROLL CALL:**

Chairman Rolof instructed Clerk Goodreau to take Roll Call with the following results:

Present: Gale Eilola, District 1, Brad Dakota, District 2; Dan Robillard, District 3; and Lyle Olsen, District 4; William Rolof, District 5.

Absent: None.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve the Agenda, with the following changes and additions; i. Sheriff’s Dept., security camera and j. Personnel Committee, union negotiations. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to approve the minutes for the Regular meeting held on September 12, 2022 and the Special Meeting held on September 28, 2022. On Voice Vote, the motion.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-Agenda Items Only:**

No public comment received.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

As presented by Treasurer, Jill C. Tollefson.

**REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:**

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve the BCMH Trustee Per Diem for September 2022 ($1,020.00). On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to approve the payment of the Claims and Accounts for the period of September 29, 2022 through October 11, 2022 in the amount of $43,596.97. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to approve the payment of the Prepaid Bills and Trust and Agency Accounts for the period of September 29, 2022 through October 11, 2022 in the amount of $472,228.43. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to approve the Sheriff’s Dept. Account expenditures for September 2022 in the amount of $7,766.57. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to allocate $20,000 of ARPA funds to the Baraga County Trails Authority. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to allocate ARPA funds to the Baraga County First Responders as follows:

Village of L’Anse Fire Department, $50,000

Village of Baraga Fire Department, $50,000

Bay Ambulance, $50,000

Arvon/Skanee Fire Department, $12,500

Aura Fire Department, $12,500

Keweenaw Bay Fire Department, $12,500

Covington Fire Department, $12,500

Michigamme/Spurr Fire Department, $12,500

Pelkie Fire Department, $12,500

On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Abstain: Commissioner Olsen. Absent; None.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Michigan No-Fault Auto Insurance Reform Act of 2019 introduced a fee cap, which, took final effect on July 1, 2021; this cap set percentage limits on how much residential care facilities, home health care providers, and other persons can be reimbursed for providing treatment/care to auto accident victims, and;

WHEREAS, these reimbursement caps are 55% on the reimbursement rates that Home Care Providers were collecting in 2019, and;

WHEREAS, 55% of a Home Health Care provider’s 2019 collections, is an unsustainable reimbursement cap to continue caring for catastrophically injured individuals following an auto accident, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Baraga County Board of Commissioners hereby urges the Michigan legislature to amend the Michigan No-Fault Auto Insurance Reform Act to address sustainable fee cap (i.e., Michigan Workman’s Compensation Fee Cap for Ancillary Services) for Home Health Care providers, in order to uphold these benefits that have been paid for by the survivors who are currently receiving and who will receive in-home, long-term care, when purchasing an Unlimited PIP Auto Insurance policy, paid by the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Baraga County Board of Commissioners requests a copy of this adopted resolution be sent to the Governor of the State of Michigan, the State Senate Majority and Minority leaders, the State House Speaker and Minority Leader and all the counties in the State of Michigan.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to approve the 2022 millage rates submitted by Equalization Director Patrick Osterman with the following resolution. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County has examined the Certificates, statements, papers and records submitted to it showing the amount of monies (expressed millage rates) to be raised in the several townships of the County, School, Township and other purposes, now on file in the office of the County Clerk, and properly certified to, no objections being made to raising any such monies by any taxpayer to be affected thereby.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board directs that the several amounts be raised for County, School, Township, and other purposed and that said amount (in millage) be spread on the assessment rolls of the proper township as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2022 MILLAGE RATES | | | | | |  |
| BARAGA COUNTY | | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***ARVON TOWNSHIP*** | |  |  | ***L'ANSE TOWNSHIP*** | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| State Education Tax | 6.0000 |  |  | State Education Tax | 6.0000 |  |
| School Operation | 11.0000 |  |  | School Operation | 18.0000 |  |
| Intermediate School | 0.3952 |  |  | School Bond | 2.7600 |  |
| Intermediate School | 1.9155 |  |  | School Sinking Fund | 0.9990 |  |
| Intermediate School | 0.9875 |  |  | Intermediate School | 0.3952 |  |
| County | 8.5338 |  |  | Intermediate School | 1.9155 |  |
| County Roads | 1.9856 |  |  | Intermediate School | 0.9875 |  |
| Senior Citizens | 0.9923 |  |  | County | 8.5338 |  |
| Township | 0.9258 |  |  | County Roads | 1.9856 |  |
| Township Fire | 1.4037 |  |  | Senior Citizens | 0.9923 |  |
| Township Ambulance | 0.2807 |  |  | Township | 1.0000 |  |
| Township Road | 0.9358 |  |  | Township Fire | 1.0000 |  |
| **NON-HOMESTEAD** | **35.3559** |  |  | Township Ambulance | 1.0000 |  |
| **HOMESTEAD** | **24.3559** |  |  | **NON-HOMESTEAD** | **45.5689** |  |
|  |  |  |  | **HOMESTEAD** | **27.5689** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***BARAGA TOWNSHIP*** | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | ***SPURR TOWNSHIP*** | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| State Education Tax | 6.0000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| School Operation | 17.9820 |  |  | State Education Tax | 6.0000 |  |
| School Bond | 0.0000 |  |  | School Operation | 18.0000 |  |
| Sinking Fund | 2.9970 |  |  | School Bond | 0.0000 |  |
| Intermediate School | 0.3952 |  |  | School Sinking Fund | 1.7291 |  |
| Intermediate School | 1.9155 |  |  | Intermediate School | 0.2030 |  |
| Intermediate School | 0.9875 |  |  | Intermediate School | 1.7314 |  |
| County | 8.5338 |  |  | Intermediate School | 0.2686 |  |
| County Roads | 1.9856 |  |  | County | 8.5338 |  |
| Senior Citizens | 0.9923 |  |  | County Roads | 1.9856 |  |
| Township | 0.9962 |  |  | Senior Citizens | 0.9923 |  |
| Township Ambulance | 1.5000 |  |  | Township | 0.9790 |  |
| Township Fire | 1.5000 |  |  | Township Fire | 2.4474 |  |
| **NON-HOMESTEAD** | **45.7851** |  |  | Township Garbage | 2.2199 |  |
| **HOMESTEAD** | **27.8031** |  |  | Township Roads | 1.9732 |  |
|  |  |  |  | Township Cemetery | 0.3452 |  |
|  |  |  |  | **NON-HOMESTEAD** | **47.4085** |  |
| ***COVINGTON TOWNSHIP*** | |  |  | **HOMESTEAD** | **29.4085** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| State Education Tax | 6.0000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| School Operation | 18.0000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| School Bond | 2.7600 |  |  |  |  |  |
| School Sinking Fund | 0.9990 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Intermediate School | 0.3952 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Intermediate School | 1.9155 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Intermediate School | 0.9875 |  |  |  |  |  |
| County | 8.5338 |  |  |  |  |  |
| County Roads | 1.9856 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Senior Citizens | 0.9923 |  |  |  | | |
| Township | 0.9762 |  |  |  | | |
| Township Recreation | 0.9775 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Township Fire & Amb | 0.9775 |  |  |  | | |
| **NON-HOMESTEAD** | **45.5001** |  |  |  | | |
| **HOMESTEAD** | **27.5001** |  |  |  |  |  |

On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to accept the Baraga County Mine Inspector’s 2022 Annual Report and place it on file in the County Clerk’s Office. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to appoint Steven Koski to the Baraga County Road Commission. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commission Olsen to sign the annual agreement with the Great Lakes Recovery Center for the County’s Employee Assistance Program. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to sign the contract with Nasi Roofing for the removal and replacement of the roof on the Administration Building. Nasi Roofing was awarded the project at the September 12, 2022 Regular Meeting. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to approve the overnight travel request (JOA Conference and placement visitation), October 24-October 28, from Dawn Howe, Juvenile Caseworker. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Robillard, Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

Commissioner Olsen provided an update on the Recreation Plan being worked on the by the Parks and Recreation Committee. The survey has currently received 275 responses.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Eilola to approve a contract with Susan Sanford, CPA, for the FY 2022 audit, not to exceed $19,000.00 On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Sheriff Brogan provided the Board with an update on the interview room security camera project. Sydaptic, Inc, can provide the room with security cameras in the amount of $11,893.00. Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to table the request until further information could be gathered. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to enter into closed session per the Open Meeting Act 15.268 Section 8(C) to discuss contract negotiations with the Sheriff Department unions. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Olsen, Commissioner Robillard, and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None. The Board moved into closed session at 5:44 p.m.

The Board entered into open session at 5:58 p.m. Chairman Rolof instructed Clerk Goodreau to take roll call with the following results: Present: Gale Eilola, District 1, Dan Robillard, District 2; Brad Dakota, District 3; and Lyle Olsen, District 4; William Rolof, District 5.

Absent: None.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to approve the minutes from the closed session. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Robillard made a motion, supported by Commissioner Olsen to terms of the Tentative Agreements with the Sheriff’s Deputies Union and the Corrections Officers Unions. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to approve a $2.00/hour raise for the FY23 for the Sheriff’s Deputies and Corrections Officers. On Roll Call Vote, the motion carried. Roll Call was as follows: Yeas; Commissioner Eilola, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Olsen, Commissioner Robillard, and Commissioner Rolof. Nays; None. Absent; None.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

* BCMH Board of Trustee, Minutes
* MAC, Membership Benefits
* PHF, UPSET West, thank you

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Commissioner Eilola made a motion, to table the Resolution In Support of Election Integrity as it Pertains to Unregulated Private Monies For Funding Election. Clerk Goodreau vocalized her support for the Resolution. Commissioner Eilola withdrew the motion to table. Commissioner Eilola made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Baraga County through the Board of Commissioners has the authority to accept or reject a proposed donation/grant to the County in the form of cash, personal property, and real property, and;

WHEREAS, funding and managing elections has always been a government function, not a private one, and for good reason. Private organizations are not subject to the laws for public employees and institutions – they are not required to hold public hearing, cannot be monitored via open records requests and other mechanisms of administrative and financial transparency, are not subject to normal checks and balances of the governmental proves, and are not accountable to citizens if the public disapproves of their actions, and;

WHEREAS, while Baraga County did not accept private funding, considering election irregularities across our nation, it is appropriate to implement a new County policy to eliminate any future possibility of private monies being used to skew elections in our County, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Baraga County Board of Commissioners affirms that funding and managing elections is a government function, not a private one, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that prior to acceptance or any other action including provision of a donation/grant receipt, County Departments shall submit any proposed donation/grant of cash or personal or real property for use in, or purposes of funding and managing elections to the Board of Commissioners for considering of whether such donation/grant shall be accepted or rejected by Baraga County. Proposed donations/grants requiring the Board of Commissioner’s approval shall be placed on the agenda for full Board of Commissioners’ consideration, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is the position of the Baraga County Board of Commissioners that the Board of Commissioners shall not approve or accept donations/grants of private money or personal or real property to the County for the purpose of funding and managing elections, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Baraga County Board of Commissioners support a permanent source of State funding to directly support the local administration of elections, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Baraga County Board of Commissioners directs the County Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to all Michigan Counties and our State Representative, State Senator and Member of Congress.

On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

No Commissioners comments received.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Clerk Goodreau noted the BCMH Trustee Per Diem for September 2022 was actually $1,050.00. Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to approved the BCMH Trustee Per Diem for September 2022 in the amount of $1,050.00 not $1,020.00. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the County Board, Commissioner Olsen made a motion, supported by Commissioner Robillard to adjourn the meeting until Monday, November 7, 2022. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodreau

County Clerk