

**Arenac County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes of the Whole
January 26, 2021 @ 10:00 a.m.**

Present: Commissioners Woolhiser, Mzorinski, Salgat, Burke and Hergott

Public Comment:

Drain Commissioner, Larry Davis, inquired about the process of assigning committee members to the departments as well as the checks and balances that go along with those assignments. Davis discussed the vast amount of damage to the drains from the flood of 2020 that were not addressed after the flooding. Davis is currently working with NRCS on a few areas, and is looking for additional funding sources to help with the cleaning and repair work needed on many other drains.

Chair Woolhiser stated that the Chair and Emergency Manager, Mike Bowers, have been working on the updating of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, which was assumed to be updated by the previous Emergency Manager, but was determined after the Flood of 2020, that in fact it was not. This process will allow the county to be in compliance when applying for grants for such disasters in the future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building & Grounds: Mr. Borushko requested clarification of the position title of the Drain Clerk. Mr. Borushko stated that it should be "Part time appointed Chief Deputy Drain Clerk". Ms. Selle stated that the position is in the union, which Mr. Borushko acknowledged that yes, it is still a union position, it needed to have the word "appointed" applied.

Budget & Finance:

Director for the Arenac Public Transit Authority, Denise Dunn, was in attendance to introduce herself as the new APTA Director. Ms. Dunn provided statistics on the rider use and updated the board on the current status of the APTA as well as goals that they are working on. Ms. Dunn will provide quarterly reports to the board. Ms. Dunn invited the board to visit and tour the county using APTA.

Patrol Car – Sheriff Mociski offered to the county, a retired patrol car for use as a county use car. The current county car is worn out and repairs are increasing. The old county car would be retired and sold by means of a sealed bid public auction, advertised in paper, as is. Insurance and title work for both vehicles will be taken care of by Clerk Selle. Discussion was had pertaining to the upkeep of the county car when employees used it. It seems as individuals are not adhering to the policy when using the county car. Ms. Salgat stated the policy needed to be reviewed.

Health & Public Safety:

The Covid-19 vaccine is still trickling in slowly. As far as the second doses, they are on a separate order for Arenac County and put on reserve. Questions were asked as to who and how is the selection decided on when it comes to giving out the vaccine at each phase. Ms. Salgat thought all teachers in both schools, in Arenac County, would have the opportunity to get vaccinated not just Standish-Sterling.

Judicial & Legal:

Assistant Building Clerk: Ms. Irving, Building Clerk submitted a letter to be placed on record of the minutes. Ms. Irving discussed the procedures when hiring individuals for the Building Department, as done in the past. Ms. Irving asked the board how many hours this position is being allowed, since her request was for 21 hours. Ms. Salgat stated that the position is on the afternoon meeting agenda, as a motion item, to hire a replacement for her office since the current assistant is retiring. The current rate

for the current assistant is \$16.08 an hour, at 14 hours a week. Due to increased county coverage, and work load, Ms. Irving is requesting addition hours for the next assistant to be at 21 hours a week. Mr. Borushko stated that the board could hire an individual at the 21 hour per week status, for a trial period of one year. At the end of the trial year, the board could revisit the agreement and determine if the agreement needs to be adjusted.

EDC Appointments: Add on Arenac County Meeting Agenda; under “Motions to be acted upon”
#7 – EDC Appointments

Parks Board Appointments: It was discussed to reappoint Duane Hadley and appoint new member, John Cline to the Parks Board Committee for a three (3) year term, January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2024; as recommended by the Arenac County Planning Commission Board.

MSU-E Advisory Committee – Ms. Burke attended a virtual quarterly meeting with Phil Durst as speaker. In spite of the Covid-19 Pandemic lockdown, MSU-E developed online programs, podcasts, clubs, etc. to bring the community educational resources pertaining to adults and children. Mr. Woolhiser stated he would like to see more MSU-E presence in the community.

Ms. Burke would like to see the department head meetings start up again, with the possible use of the Circuit Court room. Mr. Woolhiser stated that when Arenac County reaches Phase 1, meetings could be allowed again, without restrictions. We are currently in Phase 2.

Old Copier: The board needs to identify when old copiers/computers are to be disposed of as unusable equipment. Netsource will send their truck to pick up old unusable equipment. Mr. Stawowy, County Treasurer, stated if equipment is on his fixed asset list, that the board would have to vote to have them removed from list. The afternoon agenda will have added #8 Dispose of unusable/scrap equipment according to Department of Treasury guidelines and update the fixed asset list.

Planning Board: Mr. Woolhiser researched and found that only one board of commissioners can sit on a planning board. Therefore #4 on the agenda for afternoon meeting is to stricken.

Restrooms: Ms. Burke stated that the only handicapped accessible bathrooms are located on the 1st floor. Mr. Woolhiser would like to get bids/costs to upgrade bathrooms on second and basement floors.

Old Cabinets: Old file card cabinets were removed from Clerk’s office. Jeri Klabis would like to purchase three (3) of those cabinets at \$5.00 per cabinet.

Public Comment:

Treasurer - Financial Reports: Mr. Stawowy inquired each of the commissioners as to how they would like to receive his reports; electronically, paper, single or double sided. He would also leave out the “account number” listing at the beginning of the reports if that was requested by the board.

Hardship Policy: Mr. Stawowy asked if the board would consider suspending the Hardship Policy for one additional year, an extension for the tax year of 2018. Out of 130 remaining parcels, Mr. Stawowy, stated maybe six or seven would qualify. Mr. Hergott asked if that would create a precedent. Due to questions, legal advice was suggested. Chair would like to table until legal advice is received.

Meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.