

Minutes of the 2021 Arenac County All Funds Budget Hearing
October 27, 2020 10 AM

Board Chair Harold Woolhiser called the Arenac County All Funds Budget Hearing to order at 10 AM in Room 201 of the Arenac County Building in Standish, Michigan pursuant to Public Notice and the Michigan Open Meetings Act with the following Commissioners in attendance: Harold Woolhiser, Sally Mrozinski, Bobbe Burke, Lisa Salgat & Adam Kroczaleski.

Commissioners reviewed the propose budget document for all respective funds. There was no Public Comment at the time. The Chair noted Public Hearing would continue, but the Board would act on other matters, unless someone wanted to discuss the proposed budgets.

Order of the Day: Conference Call with Tony Meygaard, Equalization Director:

Mr. Meygaard and the Commissioners discussed the 2020 Apportionment Report and he further noted contact with local assessing officers regarding L 4029's. After discussion, agreed that the Board would approve the report at this afternoon's Board Session.

Commissioner Reports:

Ms. Mrozinski: Nothing at this time.

Mr. Woolhiser: Discussed matter that the County has received three Proposals for the Five Year Planning Proposal that Local Audit Division of the Michigan Department of Treasury has offered to pay for; and that he and Dennis have recommended one over the other two, being the Rehman Group out of the Saginaw area. He noted this is dependent upon receiving a Grant from the MI Dept of Treasury to fund the proposal with an estimated ceiling cost of \$25,000. He will be requesting a motion to proceed at this afternoon's Board Session.

Ms. Burke: Noted that a scheduled meeting between the Michigan Institute for Forensic Medicine & Science and Local Funeral Homes is scheduled for 11 AM today as there have been issues and concerns. She noted that representatives from the Lee-Ramsay Group & Buresh Funeral Homes will be in attendance later this AM and MIFMS will be on Zoom.

Ms. Salgat: Noted that the proposed Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Rate Structure will be considered later this afternoon.

Mr. Kroczaleski: Updated the Board on the GIS Authority and status regarding. Mark Heideman has assumed the chair of the authority board. He noted there is only one unit that is objecting to joining the authority.

Ms. Salgat: Reported that MIDC Contract will likely be amended and that Barbara will be in attendance at the first meeting in November.

Medical Examiner Discussion:

The time being 11 AM and Mr. David Ramsay from Lee Ramsay Funeral Homes and Matthew Buresh from Buresh Funeral Homes, Inc. who both have facilities in Arenac County, Michigan. No one from MIFSM was on Zoom. The Chair directed as per agenda, that the Board will begin discussion regarding the issues related to the Office of Medical Examiner.

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Mr. Ramsay discussed his concerns including potential liability as well as his concern about timely service. He noted that he requested a "contract" for transport from MIFSM and further noted that all Autopsies are now performed in Saginaw. He is concerned regarding timely performance of the autopsies compared with past history noting that his firm has locations in three Counties and notes further problems with after hours and weekends especially. He also discussed Cremation Permit charges, noting that there should be consideration regarding. He noted that MIFSM instituted a \$63 charge for permits, which are electronically prepared and questioned as to whether or not the MIFSM should be collecting fees versus the respective counties. He also noted that delays in Autopsies as well as access to the deceased affect the work they are able to perform on the deceased for showing/etc.

Mr. Buresh from Buresh Funeral Homes, noted that his firm does business in three Counties and that he too has the same Liability concerns. Timely service, and the fact that autopsies not done in a timely manner affect the family awaiting to schedule whatever (service time), and that delay in receiving the body can have a major effect upon their body preparations.

Mr. Kroczaleski: After discussion ended, requested that both directors put their concerns in writing to the Board of Commissioners.

The discussion then went to Medical Examiner Investigators and each noted that Arenac County currently has only one person so doing such at this time, being Robert Fitzgerald. They both noted that at the present, Gladwin County doesn't have anyone currently. In Iosco, the Police and MSP assist in this function per Mr. Buresh. Mr. Ramsay noted that Dr. Moroni, Bay County Medical Examiner, has their autopsies done at McLaren Bay facility by a pathologist. Mr. Buresh noted that Iosco County autopsies are still occurring at Standish-St. Mary's Hospital. Mr. Buresh noted that Dr. Sankarin, Iosco County ME has always been accommodating and they have been well satisfied.

Both funeral directors noted that with new Emergency Medical Service Policy, that CPR is performed by EMS on location, and if no response occurs, the person is declared deceased on scene. The funeral homes are quite often called to scene for such.

Mr. Woolhiser: Thanked those in attendance. He further noted that the Board will have to work further on this issue.

Budget Hearing Continued:

The Chair asked anyone regarding the proposed 2021 Arenac County All Funds budget and there were none. He then declared the hearing closed at 11:56 AM.

The Board Chair declared the Committee of the Whole Meeting closed.

Sincerely,

Ricky R. Rockwell, Clerk

