
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Whole
Arenac County Board of County Commissioners:
May 11, 2021 @ 10:00 a.m.**

Present: Commissioners Woolhiser, Mrozinski, Salgat, Burke and Hergott.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chris Pinter – Bay Arenac Behavior Health – Provided a summary for 2020-21 which included data on the downtrend of patients; due to COVID-19; Continued services with BABHSA & Recovery Pathways; Resupply kits of NARCAN to Arenac Sheriff Dept.; Covid-19 Vaccination clinics; Information on the possibility of redesigning the state and county partnership for public mental health care by transforming these services to private/commercial managed care insurance corporations; BABHA opposes the Senate proposal.

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

Arenac County Independent Articles – Mr. Hergott – stated his first articles will focus on flag disposal and drains.

MCOG – Mr. Hergott - ARP cautioned spending the ARA funds immediately.

FEMA – Hazard Mitigation Plan– Mr. Hergott - FEMA would like more than a 5 year plan developed.

Road Commission – Mr. Hergott – Graveling of road projects have started.

Flag Disposal Program – Mr. Hergott – Usually held in June with the Boy Scouts.

Drain Communications – Mr. Hergott – An informational meeting pertaining to the Rifle River drainage district was held at Big Bend Campground. Topic of discussion included defining the district as well as protocol and process's to be completed if maintenance is to occur. There will be additional meetings in the future.

COUNTY AFFAIRS:

Arenac Public Transit Authority – Ms. Mrozinski – Letters were sent to individuals appointed as board members of the Arenac Public Transit Authority. An organization meeting is set for May 13, 2021. APTA Service Agreement is placed as an action item on afternoon agenda.

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Auditor Update - A teleconference with auditors was had to discuss the general overview of the past fiscal year. Participants included the Arenac County Treasurer, Arenac County Clerk, Deputy Clerk and chairman of Arenac County Board of Commissioners.

Animal Shelter – Is a recipient of the Two Seven Oh, Inc. grant. Placed as an action item on afternoon agenda.

HEALTH & PUBLIC SAFETY:

Property at Cass & James: - Ms. Burke – Discussion pertaining to sale of property located east of current county storage building. Space is needed for county records and county equipment.

Consumer Energy's Lithium Battery Fire – Ms. Burke – Concerns were raised after a fire broke out at the Consumer Energy's lithium battery station, located in the City of Standish. A "shelter in place" was issued for surrounding area until the fire was under control. Consumer Energy is in the process of writing protocol in the event that this should happen again.

JUDICIAL & LEGAL:

MGT Title IV-D Reimbursement Agreement – Ms. Salgat - Price increase in 4D program. Agreement placed as an action item on afternoon agenda.

CCAB 2022 Grant Application – Ms. Salgat - Community Corrections Advisory Board; to assist released individuals in making better choices. Ms. Salgat would like to see statistics showing how successful the program is. Application placed as an action item on afternoon agenda.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Drain Clerk Position – Mr. Davis, Arenac County Drain Commission – Due to the resignation of the current part time drain clerk, Mr. Davis is requesting that the board approve additional funding to hire a full time drain clerk, 35 hours/week. Due to the increased amount of work with different projects as well as registering all drain easements with the Register of Deeds, Mr. Davis stated that a full time employee is needed. Mr. Borushko advised the board that they could allow additional funding for the drain department budget and that Mr. Davis would be responsible for hiring within his office, pursuant to the union contract, including proper posting. After discussion, Mr. Davis would be in agreement to a six (6) month review pertaining to the necessity of a full time position. Request will be placed as an action item on afternoon agenda.

Rifle River – Mr. Davis gave an update on the Rifle River Inter-county drain. A legal opinion of the Rifle River Drainage District is currently underway to determine if Ogemaw County is included in the final notice of determination. A well-attended informational meeting was held at Big Bend Campground. Attorney Stacy Hissong of Fahey Schultz Burzych and Rhodes, as well as Engineer Ron Hanson of Spicer Group explained the process and actions needed to move forward in defining the Rifle River drainage district. The defining of the district will aid in moving forward with cleaning the logs and debris along the drain as well as possibly restoring the drain to its original width and depth. The next scheduled informational meeting is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., May 26, 2021, at Big Bend Campground. Mr. Davis would like the board to consider a revolving fund for the Rifle River to cover current expenses until a roll is created for the Rifle River District.

Riverside Drain – Mr. Davis stated the City of Au Gres is moving ahead with hearings for expansion of the Riverside Drain.

Adjourn at 12:05 p.m.