

The Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners met on this date in the Commissioner's Chambers, Ogemaw County Building, West Branch, Michigan.

Chairman Bruce Reetz opened a public hearing at 8:55 a.m. The purpose of the public hearing was to receive public comment concerning a proposed USDA patrol vehicle for the Ogemaw County Sheriff Department. No comment was received. **Motion by Scott, second by Vaughn, the public hearing be closed. Voice vote. Ayes – all. Motion carried. [3-1-#1a]**

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Reetz at 9:00 a.m. All stood for *The Pledge of Allegiance*. Roll call: Scott, Reetz, Vaughn, Neubecker, and David.

Motion by Scott, second by David, the meeting agenda be approved. Voice vote. Ayes – all. Motion carried. [3-1-#1]

Motion by Neubecker, second by Scott, the minutes of the February 27, 2020 meeting be approved. Voice vote. Ayes- all. Motion carried. [3-1-#2]

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sheriff Hanft stated the County Sheriff Dept. and Correctional Facility are busy planning response to corona virus exposure. He also mentioned items that need to be addressed at the March 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Emma Cook, Enbridge Community Engagement representative, provided an overview of Enbridge operations. She also updated the board on the Line 5 pipeline. The general contract for the Line 5 has been awarded to a Michigan contractor. She stated many counties have adopted resolutions of support for Line 5.

Cindy Scott, CPA, Stephenson & Company, presented the 2018-2019, County General Fund audit. She reviewed the following: Ending net position increased \$381,863; County General Fund balance was \$194,228; Enterprise funds, i.e. tax umbrella fund, etc. She compared revenues and expenses over the last three fiscal years. Commissioner Scott stated a more thorough explanation of the audit was done at the last board Committee of the Whole meeting.

OFFICIAL'S REPORTS:

Undersheriff David requested approval to hire three new transport officers. **Motion by Vaughn, second by Neubecker, the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners authorize the hiring of three new corrections transport officers. Roll call vote. Ayes – Scott, Reetz, Vaughn, Neubecker, and David. Motion carried. [3-1-#3]**

Motion by Scott, second by Vaughn, claims in the amount of \$125,512.79 be approved for payment. Roll call vote. Ayes – Reetz, Vaughn, Neubecker, David, and Scott. Motion carried. [3-1-#4]

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Commissioner Scott attended three township meetings and the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting.

Commissioner David attended the County Fair board meeting. Update on the grounds and cleaning is being done. She was in attendance at NEMCSA and Michigan Works! board meetings. Logan Township is dealing with road issues. Prescott Village is working on a 5-year road plan. They also have sewage system issues. Mills Township board meeting is moved to next week.

Commissioner Vaughn did not have any township meetings. He did attend the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting. A new caretaker for the West Branch Secret Campground will start in April 2020. The County Emergency Manager is working on corona virus threat preventative measures.

Commissioner Neubecker will be attending meetings in the near future.

Chairman Reetz attended West Branch Township last night. The County DHHS meeting was cancelled.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Brenda Simmons suggested the county commissioners involved the county elected official's/departments heads in the county administrator hiring process. She questioned whether the county really needed an administrator. Commissioner Scott said the county official's/departments heads provided input into the hiring process. The candidate interviews will be public.

Jack Fritz, Richland Township resident, stated the board should adopt a Line 5 resolution of support. Enbridge is a first class operation.

Motion by Scott, second by David, the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners go into closed session at 10:04 a.m. to discuss county administrator applications. Applicants have requested confidentiality at this stage of the hiring process. Voice vote. Ayes – all. Motion carried. [3-1-#5]

Motion by Scott, second by Neubecker, the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners go into open session at 11:37 a.m. Voice vote. Ayes – all. Motion carried. [3-1-#6]

Motion by Scott, second by Vaughn, the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners “direct the MML Facilitator to contact a short list of candidates to determine their interest in interviewing. The candidates will be identified by name on the Agenda for the interview meeting.” Roll call vote. Ayes – Roll call vote. Ayes – Vaughn, Neubecker, Scott, and Reetz. Absent – David. Motion carried. [3-2-#7]

Motion by Scott, second by Neubecker, the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners, hold a county administrator “meet and greet” on Thursday, March 19, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The board of commissioners shall commence a Committee of the Whole meeting at 10:00 a.m. Thereafter, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., interviews for 3 county administrator candidates shall begin and continue consecutively. Roll call vote. Ayes – Neubecker, Scott, Reetz, and Vaughn. Absent – David. Motion carried. [3-1-#8]

Motion by Scott, second by Vaughn, the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners authorize payment for a motel room for any county administrator candidate at Forward's Quality Inn or Super 8 motel. Roll call vote. Ayes – Scott, Reetz, Vaughn, and Neubecker. Absent – David. Motion carried. [3-1-#9]

Motion by Scott, second by Vaughn, the meeting be adjourned. Voice vote. Ayes – all. Motion carried. [3-1-#10]

Chairman Reetz adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Minutes by Gary R. Klacking, Ogemaw County Clerk.
Attest: Gary R. Klacking, Ogemaw County Clerk.