

**EMMET COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
200 DIVISION ST. PETOSKEY, MI 49770
March 3, 2025 - 6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Dave White, at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Members present: Chuck Laughbaum, Brett Gooding, Don Mapes, Rich Ginop, Brian Gutowski, Dave White, Matt Koontz.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Gutowski and seconded by Commissioner Mapes to approve the agenda with the addition of an item under new business titled "competitive bid process" as requested by Commissioner Laughbaum. Motion passed by voice vote.

Yes - Ginop, Gooding, Gutowski, Koontz, Laughbaum, Mapes, White

No -

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Mapes and seconded by Commissioner Laughbaum to approve the February 13, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion passed by voice vote.

Yes - Ginop, Gooding, Gutowski, Koontz, Laughbaum, Mapes, White

No -

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPEARANCES

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Report

Dave Boyer reported that the Parks and Rec Department is hiring their seasonal workers, and there were 120 people that attended the ice fishing event at Camp Petosega. He also noted that the Crooked River Locks are scheduled to open on April 28th. At the airport, United Airlines will be starting flights to Chicago in May, and airport staff is currently working on two grants. Boyer announced that Tom Doss will be taking over Martie VanBerlo's position as Building Department Director, and the Board will be seeking members for the Opioid Settlement Committee.

Seasonal Hiring

State of the Community

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

PPTXT24-07, Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment, Article 20, Site Plan Review

Motion by Commissioner Gutowski and seconded by Brett Gooding to approve PPTXT24-07 - Emmet County Planning Commission, to repeal and replace Article 20 Plot Plans & Site Plan Review and adopt the attached Ordinance to replace Article 20. Motion passed by roll call vote.

Yes - Ginop, Gooding, Gutowski, Koontz, Laughbaum, Mapes, White

No -

Planning & Zoning Grant Approval- Housing Readiness Incentive

Motion by Commissioner Koontz and seconded by Commissioner Mapes to approve the Housing Readiness Incentive Enhancement grant award of \$50,000.00 for the Planning Commission's Master Plan update and authorize the County Administrator to sign the same. Motion passed by roll call vote.

Motion passed by roll call vote.

Yes - Ginop, Gooding, Gutowski, Koontz, Laughbaum, Mapes, White

No -

Independent Appraisal Services Agreement Extension

Motion by Commissioner Mapes and seconded by Commissioner Ginop to approve 2025 Independent Contract Appraisal Services to be provided by David and Jill Brown, not to exceed \$40,000.00, pending a suitable agreement to be determined by Civil Counsel and the Administrator, and authorize the Administrator to sign the same. Motion passed by roll call vote.

Yes - Ginop, Gooding, Gutowski, Koontz, Laughbaum, Mapes, White

No -

Equalization- Pivot Point Agreement

Motion by Commissioner Koontz and seconded by Commissioner Laughbaum to approve the Equalization Department's request to enter into a service agreement with Pivot Point to provide Field App in the amount of \$1,296.90 for the first year, pending a suitable service agreement to be determined by Civil Counsel and the Administrator, and authorize the Administrator to sign all necessary documents. Motion passed by roll call vote.

Yes - Ginop, Gooding, Gutowski, Koontz, Laughbaum, Mapes, White

No -

Fair- 2025 Monster Truck Throwdown Agreement

Motion by Commissioner Gutowski and seconded by Commissioner Mapes to approve the attached agreement in the amount of \$36,500.00, with Monster Truck Throwdown to provide a monster truck show on August 21 and August 22, 2025 and authorize the Administrator to sign the same. Motion passed by roll call vote.

Yes - Ginop, Gooding, Gutowski, Koontz, Laughbaum, Mapes, White

No -

Board of Commissioners - Mileage Reimbursement

Boyer noted that the Blissfest Committee and the Board of Health were added to the committees that receive mileage reimbursement.

Koontz expressed concern about approving a benefit for themselves that county employees do not receive. He requested to postpone this item for more research and a possible resolution that follows consistency. He feels that traveling to various committee meetings is part of a commissioners job and a mileage reimbursement benefit is not required. He also noted that in 2022 the Commissioners were given a base salary raise from \$6,000 to \$14,000.

Other commissioners noted that the current policy already includes mileage reimbursement for many of the committees. In addition, there is no change to add mileage reimbursement for regular Board meetings.

Koontz questioned when the changes to this policy would take effect. Boyer will consult with legal counsel to get an answer.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes and seconded by Commissioner Ginop to approve the updated Mileage Reimbursement schedule dated March 3, 2025, including the addition of mileage reimbursement for Blissfest and Health Board. Motion passed by roll call vote.

Yes - Ginop, Gooding, Gutowski, Laughbaum, Mapes, White

No - Koontz

Competitive Bid Process

Laughbaum asked the Board to consider the county's competitive bid process. He feels that attendance at the pre-bid meeting should not be required, walk throughs should not be mandatory, and post-bid meetings should be scheduled at a mutually agreed time and place.

Gutowski stated that he whole-heartedly supports Boyer and the staff on their recent bid selections and added that large projects require everyone to be on the same page and have the same information. Other Board members agreed.

Boyer noted that there have been no issues with the bid process after Mapes asked about this.

Ginop added that it is good to review the policy from time to time, and to bring public awareness to that fact that the county has, and is following, a policy.

COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Commissioners meeting will be held on March 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the

Board of Commissioners room, 200 Division St. Petoskey, 49770.

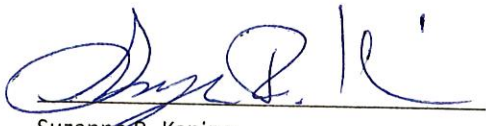
ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Ginop and seconded by Commissioner Mapes to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. Motion passed by voice vote.

Yes - Ginop, Gooding, Gutowski, Koontz, Laughbaum, Mapes, White

No -

Dated: 3/13/2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne R. Kanine', written over a horizontal line.

Suzanne R. Kanine
Emmet County Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David M. White', written over a horizontal line.

David M. White
Board Chair, Emmet County Board of Commissioners

