

September 14, 2021

The regular meeting of the Otsego County Board of Commissioners was held at the Otsego County Library located at 700 S. Otsego Ave, second floor conference room, Gaylord, Michigan 49735. Due to the novel Coronavirus pandemic, this meeting was held remotely for the public as permitted by the Open Meetings Act. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Ken Glasser. Invocation by Commissioner Julie Powers, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by County Clerk Suzy DeFeyter.

Roll Call:

Present: Julie Powers, Henry Mason, Paul Liss, Brett McVannel, Rob Pallarito, Ken Glasser, Doug Johnson, Jason Caverson, Bruce Brown.

Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve the Regular minutes of August 14, 2021 with attachments. Item was removed from the consent agenda and placed under new business as item C.

Chairman Ken Glasser opened the meeting for public comment for agenda items only. Michelle Noirot commented on Resolution 21-25, it should request a clause for firing Lisa Peacock and Josh Meyerson. Kelly Palmer commented on Resolution 21-25, disagree with mask mandate. Stephanie Jacobson comments on Resolution 21-25, good to support the local school system, appreciate the intent of the resolution just is not strong enough.

Special Presentations:

Chairman Ken Glasser presented a certificate and a mug to both Timothy Hohl and John Jordan for their 20 year Anniversary Recognition and thanked them for their service to the County.

Department Head Report: None.

Committee Reports:

Chairman Ken Glasser reported on the Bylaw's meeting. Bylaws have been submitted to legal counsel and should be on the next agenda.

Administrator's Report: Congratulated Timothy Hohl and John Jordan; Economic Alliance annual partner celebration even is scheduled for 9-30-21 at 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Ellison Place.

City Liaison, Township & Village Representative:

Mary Sanders reported on the Hayes Township meeting; Township Association meeting is scheduled for 10-19-21 at the Library, Road funding is on the agenda.

Correspondence: Chairman Ken Glasser received an email from Timothy Miller regarding resolutions.

New Business:

Motion by Commissioner Brett McVannel, seconded by Commissioner Rob Pallarito, to approve the August 31, 2021 Warrant in the amount of \$95,661.92 and one voided check. Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Julie Powers, seconded by Commissioner Henry Mason, to approve the September 7, 2021 Warrant in the amount of \$71,308.48. Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Bruce Brown, seconded by Commissioner Paul Liss, to approve the September 14, 2021 Warrant in the amount of \$597,619.16 and one voided check. Ayes: Julie Powers, Paul Liss, Brett McVannel, Rob Pallarito, Ken Glasser, Doug Johnson, Jason Caverson, Bruce Brown. Abstained: Henry Mason. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Rob Pallarito, seconded by Commissioner Julie Powers, to approve OCR 21-25, Support of the GCS Board of Education's Emergency Operations Plan.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Julie Powers, Paul Liss, Brett McVannel, Rob Pallarito, Ken Glasser, Doug Johnson, Jason Caverson, Bruce Brown. Nays: Henry Mason. Motion carried/Resolution adopted. (see attached)

The Regular minutes of August 14, 2021 were corrected to correct the spelling of Major Jon Turnbull's last name.

Motion by Commissioner Doug Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Rob Pallarito to adopt the correct minutes of 8-14-21. Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Chairman Ken Glasser opened up the meeting for public comment. Jim Flint commented on the 7-27-21 minutes regarding the lease agreement with Signet, cannot exceed 20 years per Michigan Law, no bids were received. Bill Blaker received a response from questions previously submitted, but it raises more questions. What buildings will be vacated; amount per lease; expert professional services provided; competitive bid was not done; requested footprint. Has more questions, to submit in writing. Stephanie Jacobson commented Commission on Aging has the largest millage, concerns on the lease. Dona Wishart responded on the Commission on Aging concerns, offered to meet with small groups to help understand. Vicky Rigney supports the School Board. Shawn Burke comments the health department is doing a good job.

Board Remarks:

Commissioner Paul Liss has concerns with bikers using the highway and not the bike trails; trouble getting ahold of the Road Commission.

Commissioner Julie Powers is in agreement of what the schools put together. Unhappy the way Lisa Peacock handled the mask mandate; masking should be up to the parents.

Commissioner Bruce Brown commented the School Board has worked hard on the plan.

Commissioner Henry Mason thanked Julie Powers for her comments.

Commissioner Jason Caverson reported the planning Commission held a special meeting for a cell tower in Dover Township.

Commissioner Doug Johnson reported on the Parks and Recreation, there is a group that wants to use the tennis court at the Community Center for pickleball ; Irontone Springs has been really busy; Groen Nature Preserve gate almost done, electronic almost done; ADA compliance at the museum, drip irrigation put by the trees; working on the pavilion; trees have been removed along the sidewalk at the Community Center.

Commissioner Brett McVannel commended Rob and Julie for standing up the Health Department.

Commissioner Rob Pallarito thanked the Community for coming together and for the School Board for standing up.

Chairman Ken Glasser commended the Health Department Board members.

Meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Kenneth R. Glasser, Chairman

Susan I. DeFeyter, Otsego County Clerk

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Otsego County Board of Commissioners, held in the second-floor conference room at the Otsego County Library located at 700 S. Otsego Ave, Gaylord, Michigan 49735 on the 14th, day of September, 2021 beginning at 9:30a.m.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Commissioner: _____.

RESOLUTION NO. OCR 21-25

**Resolution Supporting the Gaylord Community Schools Board of Education
Emergency Operations Plan**

OTSEGO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 14, 2021

WHEREAS, the Gaylord Community Schools Board of Education (hereafter, the GCS Board of Education) sent a letter to the Health Department of Northwest Michigan (hereafter, HDNWM) in protest of the HDNWM Public Health Order issued 8-27-2021; and

WHEREAS, the GCS Board of Education worked closely with staff and parents to craft a widely accepted Emergency Operations Plan for the 2021-2022 school year, and

WHEREAS, the GCS Board of Education requested the HDNWM reconsider the proposed Emergency Operations Plan and the Health Officer of the HDNWM has refused; and

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2021, the HDNWM Board of Health voted 6 – 1 to rescind the HDNWM Public Health Order issued 8-27-2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Otsego County Board of Commissioners supports and commends the GCS Board of Education’s efforts to work with parents and staff, and for their commitment to protect students’ health and safety with their widely accepted Emergency Operations Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be delivered to the Gaylord Community Schools Board of Education and the Board of Health members of the HDNWM, and that copies of this resolution be delivered to the county commission boards of Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet Counties.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

YES: _____

NO: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

Kenneth R. Glasser, Chairman

Susan I. DeFeyter, County Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

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COUNTY OF OTSEGO)

The undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the County of Otsego, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Otsego County Board of Commissioners at its regular meeting held on the 14th, day of September, 2021, at which meeting a quorum was present and remained throughout and that an original thereof is on file in the records of the County. I further certify that the meeting was conducted, and public notice thereof was given, pursuant to and in full compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, and of such meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required thereby.

Susan I. DeFeyter, County Clerk

DATED: _____, 2021