

MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 25, 2022
4:00 PM

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Carr at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Bruce Anna from Pine Grove Church in Stanton offered invocation.

Members present at roll call: Commissioners Miller, Painter, Beach, Johnston, Kohn, Carr, Baker, Bresnahan and Petersen. Members absent: None.

Others present: Kristen Millard, Brenda Taeter, Michelle Becker, Lisa Petersen, Amy Thomas, John Kroneck, John Hoppough, Armon Withey, Trevor Wright, Deb Ballard, Christopher Smith, Eric Smith, Mike Fitzpatrick, Sara Burkholder, Kristi Jeffery and Elisabeth Waldon.

Moved by Commissioner Johnston supported by Commissioner Beach to approve the June 27, 2022, regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johnston, supported by Commissioner Miller to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. Christopher Smith, Bushnell Township Supervisor and President of the Sheridan Fire Association, addressed the board regarding the 800 MHz radios that the County Fire Association has requested thru ARPA funding. He stressed how important these radios are to the safety of the public and the fire fighters. He stated that the Sheridan Fire Association is looking for ways to come up with funds to help with this purchase. Mr. Smith also stated that this purchase will help all of the department be able to work together more efficiently.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Painter to enter into a Public Hearing at 4:07 p.m. for the purpose of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Motion carried.

Chairman Carr stated the Public Hearing is now open for anyone, the public or commissioners, to give public comment or ask questions regarding the CBDG Block Grant. Chairman Carr stated that the Public Hearing will remain open should anyone decide to ask any questions or give any comment.

At 4:10 p.m. Karen McFadden, Kim Cain, Mike Helmer, John Kroneck and Meg Mullendore were in attendance to discuss the distribution of the Opioid Settlement funds. Montcalm County will soon be receiving \$120,000 in Opioid Settlement funds resulting from a federal lawsuit against opioid medications distributors. Ms. McFadden stated that Have Mercy and Randy's House are each requesting 1/3 of the Opioid funds and the final 1/3 is being requested to be split between the Adult Recovery Court and the Montcalm Alano Club.

John Kroneck stated that while Jenny Kipp has already requested funds at a previous Board of Commissioners meeting, Sheridan Community Hospital has stated that they are interested in re-opening their treatment facility. Since the hospital is already set up and ready to immediately begin treatment, Mr. Kroneck feels that the Hospital should be the one to receive the funds.

Discussion took place on the fact that the Opioid funds haven't been received yet, therefore many of the commissioners aren't comfortable with voting to commit those funds to anyone yet. The recommendations heard today will be taken under advisement.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Miller to close the Public Hearing at 4:23 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Miller to approve the CDBG guidelines and authorize the appropriate signatures. Motion carried.

Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, provided the board with the FY2023 County Veteran Service Fund Grant Request. Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Beach to approve the 2023 MVAA Service Fund Grant submission packet and allow for the appropriate signatures. Motion carried.

Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, provided the board with the proposed FY 2022/2023 Child Care Fund Budget. Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Miller to approve the FY 2022/2023 Child Care Funds Budget as presented. Motion carried.

Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, provided the board with the MERS Resolution creating a Retiree Health Funding Vehicle to allow the county to set up an OPEB trust account with MERS in order to satisfy the requirements of PA 202 of 2017. Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Kohn to adopt the MERS Retiree Health Funding Vehicle Uniform Resolution and allow the Controller to utilize \$175,000 of fund balance from the Retiree Health Internal Service Fund to initially fund the OPEB trust fund, with continued funding over the next four years to meet the 40% funded threshold. Motion carried.

Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, provided the board with FY2022 budget adjustments. Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Kohn to accept the budget adjustments as presented by the County Controller:

Account Number	Account Name	Original Expense Approp	Adjusted Expense Approp	Net Change in Fund Increase/(Decrease)
Government Activity Funds				
General Fund				
101-228.00-816.000-0ARPA	Contracted Services	-	67,400	67,400.00
101-430.00-704.000	Wages-Permanent Part-Time	19,414	29,500	10,086.00
101-430.00-713.000	Wages-Overtime	300	1,800	1,500.00
101-430.00-718.000	Health Insurance	6,106	15,120	9,014.00
101-430.00-726.000	Workers Compensation	1,866	3,866	2,000.00
101-430.00-759.000	Gas/Oil/Grease	1,500	2,500	1,000.00
101-430.00-760.000	Medical Supplies	1,500	2,500	1,000.00
101-995.00-995.000-0ARPA	ARPA Funds Appropriations	2,850,890	4,266,711	1,415,821.00
101-000.00-528.004	ARPA Revenue	(2,850,890)	(4,266,711)	(1,415,821.00)
101-711.00-630.005	Abstract Services	(20,000)	(65,000)	(45,000.00)
101-711.00-632.000	Register of Deeds Transfer Tax	(206,000)	(253,000)	(47,000.00)
	Fund 101 Total cost/(savings) of adjustments:			0.00

Total net change in Government Activity Fund balances: 0.00

Capital Project Funds

Equipment Purchase and Replacement Fund

402-172.00-981.000-0ARPA	Vehicle - Controller/Admin Bldg	-	15,715	15,715.00
402-228.00-980.000-0ARPA	Equipment	-	24,000	24,000.00
402-265.00-981.000-0ARPA	Vehicle - Maintenance	-	20,800	20,800.00
402-296.00-980.002-0ARPA	Computer Equipment - PA	-	11,250	11,250.00
402-351.00-980.000-0ARPA	Equipment	5,300	173,000	167,700.00
402-430.00-981.000-0ARPA	Vehicle - Animal Control	-	40,700	40,700.00
402-000.00-528.004	ARPA Revenue	(93,139)	(373,304)	<u>(280,165.00)</u>
	Fund 402		Total cost/(savings) of adjustments:	<u><u>0.00</u></u>

Total net change in Capital Project Fund balances: 0.00

Total net change in All Fund balances: \$0.00

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Miller to approve warrant report number 07252022 in the amount of \$1,310,214.82. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Beach to approve consent agenda items 6 through 8 and move stated action:

Controller	Letter of Understanding with Montcalm and IAEP Local 16	Place on file
Controller	FY2021-22 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant	Place on file
Controller	June Dodge Report	Place on file

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Johnston to allow the Solid Waste Committee to use \$40,000 of fund balance this current fiscal year to assist in the development of infrastructure to support recycling compactors in a 50/50 partnership with the respective supporting municipalities. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Johnston to approve the ARPA request to purchase 104 – 800 MHz radios in the amount of \$246,262.80.

Under discussion Commissioner Johnston stated that he feels that this is a very important public safety request, therefore he made the motion to approve this request, and will still support it. Commissioner Petersen stated that the true intent of the Board was to hear all of the ARPA requests and following all of the presentations then the board would make the final decision on which request would be approved.

Commissioner Beach stated that he has heard from constituents that the 800 MHz radios has a higher level of priority than other requests the board has received, therefore he supports this motion also.

Commissioner Bresnahan stated that she feels that the Board should start from the beginning again and turn down all of the ARPA requests that were recommended to be approved at the previous Committee of the Whole meeting.

Roll call vote on 800 MHz radios: Ayes: Commissioners Baker, Johnston, Beach, Kohn and Painter. Nays: Commissioners Miller, Petersen, Bresnahan and Carr. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Bresnahan to grant Pierson Township \$148,597.19 to purchase recreation equipment for their new park. Roll call vote: Ayes: Commissioner Johnston, Petersen, Bresnahan and Baker. Nays: Commissioners Beach, Kohn, Painter, Miller and Carr. Motion failed.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Petersen to grant Have Mercy \$100,000 in ARPA funding to remediate their losses caused by COVID-19. Roll call vote: Ayes: Commissioners Beach, Painter, Miller, Petersen and Johnston. Nays: Commissioner Kohn, Bresnahan, Baker and Carr. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Petersen to authorize the Controller to issue a check to CASA, from the ARPA funds, in the amount of \$200,000 for COVID-19 related crisis intervention for program years 2023 and 2024. Roll call vote: Ayes: Commissioners Painter, Miller, Petersen, Johnston and Beach. Nays: Commissioners Kohn, Bresnahan, Baker and Carr. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Painter to approve for signature the AAAMM Contract Amendment to move \$7,000 from Commission on Aging allocated funding for Congregate Meal Services and allow for its use for home delivered meal program instead. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Kohn to approve for signature the Reliance Contract Amendment that increases the reimbursement for the transportation program to \$.62 per mile. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Miller that Shannon Doolittle be recognized as a Clerk II CEO; that her pay rate increase from \$16.04/hour to \$18.06/hour; and that pay rate increase be retroactive to June 15, 2022. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Painter to reclassify the Office Assistant position in the Vital Records/Elections Office to an Administrative Aide, and allow the County Clerk to rehire Candis Thomas at the top of the Administrative Aide pay scale, starting at \$19.44 per hour. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Johnston to approve warrant number 07112022 in the amount of \$257,554.47. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Beach, supported by Commissioner Johnston to place the July 11, 2022, Committee of the Whole minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Johnston to place the July 13, 2022 Committee of the Whole minutes on file. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Johnston to place the July 15, 2022, Committee of the Whole minutes on file. Motion carried.

Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, reminded the board that there is a Budget Work Session on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Carr informed Commissioner Bresnahan that she is set to chair the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Beach to set the deadline for any additional ARPA requests for Friday, July 29, 2022 at 4 p.m. Motion carried with Chairman Carr voting no.

Public comments were offered. Kim Cain, Have Mercy, thanked the board for passing the ARPA funding request for Have Mercy. She stated that it was interesting to hear the board members work through the ARPA funding requests today.

Sara Burkholder, Pierson Township Clerk, addressed the board regarding Pierson Township's request which was the only one denied today. Ms. Burkholder stated that Pierson's request was the only one that was submitted under the direction the board had set forward for recreation.

Commissioner Petersen stated that he would like to establish a plan moving forward that the board will stick to. Lengthy discussion took place on the action was taken today on ARPA requests and that fact that there wasn't consistency and the action taken was not equitable.


Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, informed the board of the ARPA requests that she is aware of that are still coming in.

Commissioner Painter asked for clarification that the Pierson Park request is still up for consideration, to which the answer was yes.

Moved by Commissioner Bresnahan, supported by Commissioner Petersen to go back to the Rubrics for the rest of the ARPA money. All requests will be heard, scored and voted on after they have all been scored. Motion carried with Chairman Carr voting no.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Painter to adjourn at 5:39 p.m. Motion carried.


Kristen Millard, County Clerk


Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman