

Leelanau County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session – Tuesday, March 15, 2016
Approved 4-19-16 – Meeting Recorded

(Proceedings of the meeting are being recorded and are not the official record of the meeting, the formally approved/accepted written copy of the minutes will be the official record of the meeting.)

Meeting called to order by Chairman Carolyn Rentenbach at 7:10 p.m. Today's meeting is being held at the Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay, Michigan. Rentenbach asked that all cellular telephones be turned off for the duration of the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Rentenbach, followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call:	District #1 – Vacant	
	#2 – Debra L. Rushton	PRESENT
	#3 – William J. Bunek	ABSENT (prior notice)
	#4 – Ty Wessell	PRESENT
	#5 – Patricia Soutas-Little	PRESENT
	#6 – Carolyn Rentenbach	PRESENT
	#7 – Melinda C. Lautner	PRESENT

Guests present.

Communications, Proclamations, Presentations and Awards:

Administrator Chet Janik noted that today's is Eric Carlson's birthday.

Approval of Minutes —

Special Session, December 31, 2015:

#083-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 31, 2015. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

Special Session, January 19, 2016:

#084-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 19, 2016, SPECIAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY LAUTNER & WESSELL.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

Regular Session, January 19, 2016:
Place on the April agenda.

Special Session, January 21, 2016:
Place on the April agenda.

Executive Board Session, February 9, 2016:
#085-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SESSION MINUTES OF THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FEBRUARY 9, 2016. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek)

MOTION CARRIED.

Executive Board Session, March 8, 2016:

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SESSION OF THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MARCH 8, 2016. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – Chairman Rentenbach indicated that she had a correction on the bottom of the first page that the forward slash "/" should be a period ".". Commissioner Soutas-Little indicated that for clarification she requested a correction to page nine, last paragraph, where it indicates that she applauds Commissioner Lautner and that it is a totally symbolic gesture and that \$2.00 per taxpayers does more to benefit the citizens of the County if it remains in the budget than to be returned. Discussion ensued between Commissioners regarding the request for the clarification and/or corrections to the minutes. It was referred back to County Clerk Michelle L. Crocker for follow-up.

Commissioner Rushton withdrew her motion.

Special Session, March 8, 2016:
Place on the April agenda.

Approval of Agenda:

Chairman Rentenbach has received a request from Sheriff Mike Borkovich for acceptance of a grant for the State Budget Year 2016 for enforcement of the State's Medical Marijuana Laws and would suggest this be added as Action Item #1a; Commissioner Lautner is requesting permission to attend a meeting in Gaylord that she has been invited to regarding the full alliance meeting for the Northern Michigan Public Health Association, Rentenbach would suggest this be Action Item #6; Rentenbach also requested that Claims and Accounts be added to the agenda, as it was omitted.

#086-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY WESSELL TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. SECONDED LAUTNER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek)

MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment:

► Steve Mikowski from Lake Leelanau. Mikowski distributed a handout to Commissioners which is on file in the Clerk's office regarding the impacts on various bond sales and the impact on taxes and Cited from the document regarding the sale amount/principal, interest and total costs. He spoke about the impact of bond sales to people and their taxes. Mikowski continued that public government bodies rarely tell the public the full cost of bonding and he has never seen any public official stand up and say this is what was paid and he believes that it is very unusual. He continued that the Law Enforcement Center bonds were absolutely unnecessary as the County had the funds "squirreled" away in multiple accounts. Comments continued on bonding and he believes that bonding triggered a massive over building of this facility.

Review of Financials:

► Commissioner Lautner had a question on one of the invoices in the late Claims and Accounts on page three, as does Commissioner Rushton. It is for a pair of Red Wing Boots and believes it is for the Building Official. Administrator Janik confirmed. She is going to request that it be removed until there is further discussion. Janik indicated that he can give an update, as he has spoken with Building Official Steve Haugen about this. Janik said Haugen has indicated that when he put together his 2016, budget he requested \$2,000.00 for shoes and uniforms. Lautner responded that uniforms are purchased for maintenance workers and shoes have not been purchased in the past and certainly not \$175.00 boots. Deputies interface with the public and we do not purchase their boots. We purchase uniforms for Deputies, 9-1-1, and Maintenance. She is guessing these are steel-toed shoes and Janik confirmed. If they are necessary for the job, they should be purchased for all the Inspectors. Janik indicated that Haugen placed it in the budget. Perhaps a stipend should be considered, and then they can go and get as fancy as they want. It is not like he is running mowers, which she could get past that.

Commissioner Rushton would like to say that boots are not being bought for the Sheriff's Office. This is not a requirement of the position, she agrees that it is pretty costly and it could become very costly if this is going to be done for every department. This is a trend we don't want to get started.

Commissioner Soutas-Little questioned if Haugen had justification for this – why was it requested? It is an unusual request without justification. Administrator Janik did not want to speak on his behalf. Janik said Haugen had put \$1,200.00 in the budget for boots and shirts and believes that it is a safety issue. The budget was approved, so he bought the boots.

Commissioner Lautner said that is why these things are reviewed and brought before Commissioners. Lautner asked if Haugen is doing that many inspections and thinks the chances of a board falling on his foot is pretty small. Janik in response to Lautner's further question indicated that Haugen is planning to purchase these for all of his Inspectors. Lautner questioned even the contractual ones? She could understand uniforms at budget time, like shirts as they interact with the public. We shouldn't be buying boots for contractual employees.

Commissioner Wessell commented that he understands Commissioner Lautner's concern and continued that Commissioners ought to learn a lesson from this. Haugen went out and made the purchase thinking he had the approval as his budget was approved.

Commissioner Lautner agrees with Commissioner Wessell, as long as it stops for further purchases.

Commissioner Rushton wanted to ask at the time of the budget submission, was the purchase of shoes/boots divided and specified so that Commissioners would know of the intent, or was it all combined under uniforms? If it was segregated, Haugen may have thought one thing and Commissioners another thing. If he wrote in "shoes" it should have been caught at budget time.

Action Items —

Sheriff's Department - MMRMA RAP Grant, Police Body Cameras:

#087-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY WESSELL TO ALLOW THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO SUBMIT A RISK AVOIDANCE PROGRAM (RAP) GRANT TO MMRMA FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$1,452.50 IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENCY'S POLICE BODY CAMERA PURCHASE. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek)

MOTION CARRIED.

Late Addition – Medical Marihuana Operation/Oversight Grant:

Administrator Janik gave a brief overview of the request. The information for this grant was received at the end of December 2015, with an application deadline of January 1, 2016. He had discussed this with Undersheriff Steve Morgan and it was decided to apply for the grant and see what would happen. The grant in the amount of \$6,121.00 was awarded to Leelanau County and can be used to offset wages for the TNT (Traverse Narcotics Team) deputy.

#088-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO ALLOW THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE (LEELANAU COUNTY) TO ACCEPT \$6,121.00 IN FUNDING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS UNDER GRANT 2016BPLMMOG-LEELANAU FOR STATE BUDGET YEAR 2016. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – Commissioner Lautner commented on having recently attended a presentation by Sheriff Mike Borkovich and Prosecuting Attorney Joseph T. Hubbell and what they are facing, this is very timely and she is very thankful for the additional funding.

AYES – 5 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)
NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

Register of Deeds –

2016 Monumentation/Re monumentation Agreements — Leelanau Land Surveying:
#089-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE THE MONUMENTATION/ REMONUMENTATION SURVEYOR SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH LEELANAU LAND SURVEYING FOR WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN 2016 NOT TO EXCEED \$11,919.00. PAYMENTS TO BE MADE FROM ACCOUNT #101.475.245.801.00. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)
NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

2016 Monumentation/Re monumentation Agreements — Inland Seas Engineering:
#090-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE THE MONUMENTATION/ REMONUMENTATION SURVEYOR SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH INLAND SEAS ENGINEERING FOR WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN 2016 NOT TO EXCEED \$9,750.00. PAYMENTS TO BE MADE FROM ACCOUNT #101.475.245.801.00. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)
NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

2016 Monumentation/Re monumentation Agreements — Nicholas O’Non, PS:
#091-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE THE MONUMENTATION/ REMONUMENTATION SURVEYOR SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH NICHOLAS O’NON, PS, FOR WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN 2016 NOT TO EXCEED \$6,300.00. PAYMENTS TO BE MADE FROM ACCOUNT #101.475.245.801.00. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)
NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

2016 Peer Group Member Agreement – Steven Smith, PS:

#092-03152016 Regular Session

**MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE MONUMENTATION/
REMONUMENTATION PEER GROUP MEMBER AGREEMENT WITH STEVEN SMITH,
PS, FOR WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN 2016 WITH EXPENSES NOT TO EXCEED
\$900.00. PAYMENTS FROM ACCOUNT #101.475.245.801.00. SECONDED BY
SOUTAS-LITTLE & WESSELL.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 5 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach)
NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.**

2016 Peer Group Member Agreement – Christy Anderson, PS, Andersen & Crain, Inc.:

#093-03152016 Regular Session

**MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE MONUMENTATION/
REMONUMENTATION PEER GROUP MEMBER AGREEMENT WITH CHRISTY
ANDERSEN, PS, FOR WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN 2016 WITH EXPENSES NOT
TO EXCEED \$900.00. PAYMENTS FROM ACCOUNT #101.475.245.801.00.
SECONDED BY LAUTNER.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 5 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach)
NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.**

2016 Peer Group Member Agreement – Steven Bye, PS:

#094-03152016 Regular Session

**MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE MONUMENTATION/
REMONUMENTATION PEER GROUP MEMBER AGREEMENT WITH STEVEN BYE,
PS, FOR WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN 2016 WITH EXPENSES NOT TO EXCEED
\$900.00. PAYMENTS FROM ACCOUNT #101.475.245.801.00. SECONDED BY
LAUTNER.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 5 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach)
NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.**

2016 Peer Group Member Agreement – Nicholas O'Non, PS, O'Non Land Surveying:

#095-03152016 Regular Session

**MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE MONUMENTATION/
REMONUMENTATION PEER GROUP MEMBER AGREEMENT WITH NICHOLAS
O'NON, PS, FOR WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN 2016 WITH EXPENSES NOT TO
EXCEED \$900.00. PAYMENTS FROM ACCOUNT #101.475.245.801.00.
SECONDED BY LAUTNER.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 5 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach)
NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.**

Prosecuting Attorney / Leelanau Christian Neighbors 2% allocation contract:

#096-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY WESSELL TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LEELANAU AND LEELANAU CHRISTIAN NEIGHBORS AS PRESENTED BY THE ATTORNEYS. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 4 (Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach, Soutas-Little)

NO – 1 (Rushton) ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

Leland Dam Authority – Control Software:

Administrator Janik commented Drain Commissioner and Leland Dam Authority member Steve Christensen was present before the Executive Board last week regarding a control software package that is very outdated at the Leland Dam. The software was installed in 2005/2006 and this is a separate issue than was discussed at this afternoon's meeting. Commissioner Wessell questioned that if there are future changes at the Dam, this would still be needed and Janik confirmed and that it would be utilized.

#097-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO WAIVE THE COUNTY BOARD POLICY TO GO OUT TO BIDS AND PROCEED FORWARD WITH THE QUOTE RECEIVED BY ERICKSON ELECTRIC SERVICES FOR THE PROPOSAL FOR DAM CONTROLLER UPDATES IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,500.00, WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM THE FUND #805. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – Commissioner Rushton commented that this software is proprietary so this is not any other choice. Janik confirmed.

AYES – 5 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Lautner commented how improved the system is now and referenced a thunder/lightning storm many years ago wherein Maintenance Director Culman was hanging out over the dam pulling logs with a flashlight shining on him.

Administrator – MERS Health Care Savings Plan:

#098-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY SOUTAS-LITTLE TO APPROVE THE MERS HEALTHCARE SAVINGS PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY AND TEAMSTERS 214 WITH FUNDS TO TRANSFERRED FROM THE GENERAL FUND, FUND BALANCE. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion – none.

Roll Call: Soutas-Little – YES; Wessell – YES; Lautner – YES;

Rentenbach – YES; Rushton – YES.

AYES – 5 NO – 0 Absent – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

Administrator – Workforce Development Board Appointment:

#099-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPOINT KELLI STEPKA TO THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 4 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 1 (Rushton) ABSENT – 1 (Bunek)

MOTION CARRIED.

Administrator – Probate Court Door:

#100-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY SOUTAS-LITTLE TO APPROVE THE BID PROPOSAL FROM BLUE LAKE BUILDERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,985.00 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THE INTERIOR DOOR IN THE PROBATE & FAMILY COURT OFFICES, WITH THE FUNDS TO COME FROM THE CAPITAL BUILDING FUND #470-000.000-801.000. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Soutas-Little, Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek)

MOTION CARRIED.

Health Board Attendance:

Commissioner Lautner requested approval for attendance at a meeting in Gaylord that she was invited to attend later this week with the Michigan Public Health and has to do with Community Health Innovative Region – Northern Region – the SIM (State Innovation Model) Project, Collective Vision and Cross Jurisdictional and Cross Sharing and Implementation Program.

#101-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY WESSELL THAT COMMISSIONER MELINDA LAUTNER ATTEND THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC HEALTH MEETING IN GAYLORD LATER THIS WEEK, REGARDING THE COMMUNITY HEALTH INNOVATIVE REGION – NORTHERN REGION – AS OUTLINED AND THAT SHE BE REIMBURSED FOR MILEAGE AND PER DIEM. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – There are occasions when the Health Department will pick up these costs; but this will cover the travel should it not be paid for through them.

AYES – 5 (Wessell, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek)

MOTION CARRIED.

Amendments and Transfers:

#102-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE FY 2016 AMENDMENT #16-004. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – Commissioner Lautner commented that she spoke with Chief Staff Accountant Jennifer Zywicki prior to the meeting regarding the \$2,606.26 EDC 2% Allocation from 2008 and if this could be used for the County Chamber of Commerce. Administrator Chet Janik and Zywicki will follow-up on this and report back to the Commissioners.

AYES – 4 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 1 (Rushton) ABSENT – 1 (Bunek)

MOTION CARRIED.

Claims and Accounts:

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$89,914.05, WHICH DOES INCLUDE THE BOOT PURCHASE. SECONDED BY WESSELL. Discussion – Commissioner Lautner would understand that the Building Official would have the understanding that this would be allowable if he believed it was approved in his budget. She agrees with Commissioner Wessell from the previous discussion that if these have already been purchased – Janik will look into this further. Lautner for discussion purposes does not want boots to be purchased in the future and this could get out of hand. It will go to the deputies next, then dispatch. What about this building where employees are also on their feet all day long?

Commissioner Wessell understands and supports.

Commissioner Soutas-Little is bothered by second-guessing requests if they are safety related and it is incumbent upon Commissioners to ask at the time of the budget request for the details. She thinks that it is certainly within the purview of Commissioners to ask for the justifications, but if that opportunity was missed and what was substantiated at the time. This is not something, for the record, she wants to see Commissioners get regarding items that have already been approved through budget.

Commissioner Rushton stated that she is just looking for clarification. If it was approved in the budget, he will get boots. Rushton continued that she just thinks that there is a better way to handle this. If the County is going to participate with boot purchases, they don't have to go out and buy the "Cadillac" model. You can get steel-toed for a lot less than Red Wings. There are a few decisions that need to be made – did he ask for boots? Did he ask for uniforms? Did the Commissioners have a clear understanding of this at the time? She will support removing the request from the claims until more information is received.

#103-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER AMENDED TO APPROVE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$89,740.04. SECONDED BY RUSHTON AMENDED.

Discussion – Commissioner Lautner commented in response to Commissioner Soutas-Little, that the discussion was not held at budget regarding \$175.00 as she would have been all over it at the time as she has when other things have come up like this. The Board of Commissioners has this authority and oversight of the budget and is much more thorough than other Counties and that is why Leelanau County is among the healthiest because Commissioners do watch for these things. Whether a line item that says uniforms or boots, it doesn't mean the Commissioners are going to support a fancy \$1,200.00 gold-braided uniform just because the money is in the budget or that is their intention. We may need a policy for safety boots. She personally wears

steel-toed boots for safety and has never had a pair of Red Wings and thinks that it is over the top.

Chairman Rentenbach believes that they were purchased and that Haugen believed that it was allowable, but she certainly understands the point. If the clarification is made in the future it may be warranted.

Commissioner Rushton noted that if the invoice were approved today, the Administrator had previously indicated that the Building Official plans to buy boots for the rest of his Inspectors. Administrator Janik interjected that that will not happen. Rushton wants clarification on this and clear this all up.

AYES – 5 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)
NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

Post Audit Claims and Accounts:

#104-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE POST AUDIT CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,552,139.79. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)
NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek) MOTION CARRIED.

Special Reports by Staff, Commissioners, Elected Officials and Affiliated Agencies:

► Commissioner Rushton sent a report on the brief history on the Cherry Capital Airport and also included the Joint Operating Agreement between the two counties and airport and thought that the information may help Commissioners be prepared for any questions that arise now or when the Airport Director is present at the April meeting. Commissioner Lautner thanked Rushton for providing the information.

► Commissioner Lautner spoke about the 25th Annual Farm Women's Symposium that was held in Traverse City from March 9-11, 2016 in Traverse City. Dr. Rob Sirrine from MSU Extension spoke about Hops and everyone just loved him. Jennifer Berkey, our MSU District 3 Coordinator, was also able to attend as was Representative Ray Franz who gave a legislative update. Lautner commented that it was a very good and educational conference.

► Commissioner Wessell commented that all Commissioners should have received the report from the CMH Board regarding the evaluations. There is some good information contained in the document and Commissioners may want to discuss it in the future.

Commissioner Comments – Reports on Committee/Commission Appointments:

None.

Public Comment:

► Gwenne Allgaier from Cleveland Township. Allgaier's husband likes to build and she has spent time around construction. She believes that if employees are being sent out to areas that are dangerous, it sure pays in the long run to make sure that their feet stay walkable. It would seem better than paying Workmen's Comp claims. She believes that this is pretty shortsighted. Red Wings are good and \$175.00 is not out of line.

►Karan Josephus. Josephus commented on the tough job that the Commissioners have and that it can be hard to look at the budget in-dept. She questioned is this a historical purchase or a new purchase? She continued that she appreciates that the County is financially solvent and knows that this may seem "nit-picky". Her husband works with cars and cut metal and his uniforms are provided; but he has to buy his own boots and is not reimbursed for the costs. Josephus concluded that it is also beneficial for government to sometimes work like private business and private businesses don't pay for boots.

►Steve Mikowski. Mikowski began by indicating that this boot thing needs to be recognized as a teaching moment. A budget in the public sector was not a license to buy whenever you had the funding for. It was scrutinized. These are contract employees. We all know the intent as they are not on the payroll and have no benefits. The employees should come ready to work and he couldn't envision hiring someone that didn't come to work ready to work. Mikowski gave an example of another type of boot, how he makes his purchases and how long they last. This is a teaching moment, the case would have been made establishing need or necessity and that should have been established before the budget was put together you need to look at our culture and if you agree that every budget can be spent without further approval and careful review, he is very concerned. This is the problem with government budgeting and it is a way to spend the money as the revenue keeps coming. In the private sector, that doesn't work.

Mikowski requested Commissioners establish a five-member Road Commission to provide all taxpayers a better and improved functioning Road Commission, as they also act as the Board of Public Works. Serious input is needed. Comments continued on the topic of the budget of the Road Commission. Some want to say that the Road Commission is pure perfection sometimes and they do a great job, but it is a continuous progress and room for work. Use the "boot" thing as a teaching moment and does it stand the test or not? Things change all the time in the private sector. Things can be in a state of flux. Brief comments continued.

Adjourn:

#105-03152016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO ADJOURN. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

AYES – 5 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Bunek)

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Carolyn Rentenbach, Chairman
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk
Clerk, Leelanau County Board of Comm.