

Leelanau County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session – Tuesday, May 17, 2016
Approved 7-19-16 – 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 7:01 p.m. Today's meeting is being held at the Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay, Michigan.

Chairman 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	PRESENT
	#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:
None.

Approval of Minutes —

Executive Board Meeting, April 12, 2016:

MOTION BY BUNEK TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2016, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – Commissioner Rushton noted that on page 19, paragraph two should be changed from "difference" to "decision".

#132-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY BUNEK AMENDED TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2016, WITH THE CORRECTION AS NOTED TO PAGE 19, PARAGRAPH TWO, "DIFFERENCE" CHANGED TO DECISION". SECOND BY WESSELL AMENDED.

AYES – 6 (Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Special Session Board of Commissioners, April 12, 2016:

#133-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY BUNEK TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL SESSION BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2016, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Regular Session Board of Commissioners, April 19, 2016:

#134-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2016, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY BUNEK.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Executive Board Meeting, May 10, 2016:

#135-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY WESSELL TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 10, 2016, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Wessell, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little,)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Additions or Deletions –

Chairman Rentenbach commented that three requests have been received and she would like to add the following: Family Court as Action Item #7; Northport Tower as Action Item #8; and Certification of Housing #9. There was also a request for reconsideration of the Recycling discussion. Commissioner Bunek questioned the Recycling – action or discussion – and Rentenbach restated discussion.

#136-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY SOUTAS-LITTLE TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY BUNEK.

Discussion – Commissioner Lautner questioned if the Recycling is being added for discussion and Chairman Rentenbach confirmed.

AYES – 6 (Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment:

► Bruce Price of Lake Leelanau. Price spoke regarding the 2% allocations and what got to him was that after Prosecuting Attorney Hubbell explained how important it is and that it is legal, (Commissioner) Lautner okayed it, but the Republican right didn't come

through and get someone to run against her, like they did Hubbell. Price continued about the “far right” in this County wanting a Dictatorship, and he just doesn’t understand. Commissioners had a chance to put Mr. Ansgore in office and the County wouldn’t be having the 3-3 votes and he (Ansgore) wouldn’t have to be running for the vacancy right now. Price also mentioned he goes to all the meetings, and we as taxpayers give the Commissioners a “Cadillac insurance policy” and what he doesn’t understand is the Vice Chair of the Republican Party has leaned on you not to vote on the 2% money (allocation), but he did get good use from the Health Insurance that was paid for by the taxpayers and doesn’t understand the rationale. Republicans always preach against what they take. Brief comments.

►Bill Perkins, Chairman of Recycling Board (Leelanau County Solid Waste Council). Perkins asked Commissioners for reconsideration of funding for the Cedar Recycling site. Please use the recommendation of the Solid Waste Council and fund the recycling site. The Council has found the money to do the improvements. One-third would be using grant funding from the 2% allocation and the rest of the funding to come from a line item within budget for site improvement. Perkins continued the public voted overwhelmingly (70%) to support recycling and tax themselves; those are the people you should be listening to. They are the people that are going to lose and no one is paying attention to them.

►Patricia Soutas-Little received a letter from Jan Frazee to be read into the record:
“Good morning everyone, I appreciate all that is being done to save our much needed and widely utilized recycling center in Cedar. One thought I had about the monies that are set aside for all sites for “capital improvement’s” [sic] that might be a fair way to distribute the \$\$\$ [sic] could be, set the money aside and let each site that needs money put in a bid for what they need. The Solid Waste Board could prioritize the needs and grant the funds based on need. This could be like when roads need repair. Not all roads need the same amount of work and some can wait until another budget cycle.”

“Just trying to think of ways the Leelanau Co [sic] Board could move forward with granting monies that would let everyone have an opportunity to receive what they need within a set timeline. Right now it seems Cedar needs the money (based on what the Solon Township Board) is requesting to keep the site open.”

“Patricia and Bill, does this seem like an idea that could move this situation forward before the July deadline for closing Cedar occurs?”

“Thanks. Jan Frazee, 7426 Rosinski Rd., Cedar, MI 49621”

►Mike Taylor, resident of Centerville Township. Taylor spoke in favor of the recycling program on a Countywide basis, and believes the closing of the recycling center in Cedar does not make any sense. Taylor stated if you have a Countywide recycling

program, you need to have strategically located pick-up points. It seems as though there has been a committee working on this for a long time, and they seem to have come to a logical conclusion. Taylor stated he believes the Board should support it.

► Tony Anson, 10101 E. Carter Road, Elmwood Township. Anson stated everyone is in favor of recycling. Nobody is arguing against it. If the Board sees fit to give Solon Township \$38,000.00, he sees no reason why Elmwood Township shouldn't be reimbursed even more. They spent over \$60,000.00 on their recycling center, which is the most used site in the County. If you are going to be fair, you should reimburse Elmwood Township for the amount they put in for the recycling center. If you are not going to ask Solon Township to put in money. It is just a matter of fundamental fairness. Yes, it is a countywide program, everyone is in favor of it, and everyone should be treated the same — fairly.

Review of Financials:

No questions.

Action Items:

Senior Services – Acceptance of Donation / The Mead Foundation:

#137-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO ACCEPT THE CONTRIBUTION GIVEN TO LEELANAU COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES FROM THE MEAD FOUNDATION TOTALING \$1,100.00 AND THAT THE FUNDS BE PLACED INTO LEELANAU COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES' CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PRIVATE SOURCES ACCOUNT #281-000.000-675.000. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Sheriff's Office – Leelanau of Understanding, Leelanau County Sheriff and POAM:

#138-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO ALLOW THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO ENTER INTO A "LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING" WITH THE POLICE OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN ADDRESSING ARTICLE IX-VACATIONS, SECTION 9.3 IN THE CURRENT LABOR AGREEMENT WITH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPUTIES OF OUR AGENCY. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Emergency Management – Switching 9-1-1 service over to Peninsula Fiber Network:

#139-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY WESSELL TO ALLOW THE COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK IN ORDER

TO PURSUE FIBER CONNECTIVITY TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY 9-1-1 DISPATCH CENTER AFTER REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OUR LEGAL COUNSEL. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – Commissioner Rushton questioned if this has been approved by the County's Legal Counsel and the Administrator affirmed that it has.

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

NO – 1 (Rushton)

MOTION CARRIED.

Emergency Management – Memorandum of Understanding with GTB:

#140-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY SOUTAS-LITTLE TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GRAND TRAVERSE BAND OF OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA INDIANS TRIBAL COURT AND TRIBAL POLICE AND LEELANAU COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PENDING APPROVAL FROM TRIBAL COURT OFFICIALS. SECONDED BY BUNEK.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Emergency Management – County Radio System Upgrade Update:

County Administrator Chet Janik commented that he and Emergency Management Director Matt Ansorge discussed forming a Communication Upgrade Task Force Committee. They also came up with a list of those that could potentially make up the committee, and they are: Emergency Management/9-1-1 Director; County Administrator; Board of Commissioners' Chairman; Undersheriff; two additional Commissioners; Leelanau County Fire Associations' President; 9-1-1 Advisory County Chairman; and two or three Township Supervisors. Janik stated he and Ansorge felt this would be a good cross-reference of people, and also felt that eleven to twelve people on the Board would be a good number.

Ansorge commented they may find that the Fire Board Chairman would suffice in lieu of the Supervisors in the Cedar area. Janik continued, they both agree with Commissioner Rushton that they are going to look at the full picture, and not just the cost of the radios. It would make more sense to see what the total cost would be for the upcoming years, rather than coming back to the Board year after year with cost concerns.

Commissioner Rushton commented that last week Ansorge mentioned having an IT Representative on the Task Force. Janik responded they would be part of the consultants, as needed, for technical support. The County IT Department is part of the 9-1-1 Committee.

Commissioner Lautner questioned who the Fire Chief's Association president is right now. Ansorge responded Chief Royston from Leland Township and he lives in Centerville Township.

Ansorge responded to a question from Commissioner Rushton that Leland Township Fire Chief Royston lives in Centerville Township and works for Leland Township Fire.

#141-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY WESSELL TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION AND ESTABLISH A SAFETY/COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE TASK FORCE. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion. Chairman Rentenbach commented she would like to ask Commissioners Lautner and Wessell to serve on the Task Force and both agreed. No further discussion.

AYES – 6 (Wessell, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little,)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Solid Waste Council – Request to increase P.A. 69 Fees:

#142-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY BUNEK NOT TO INCREASE THE FEE FOR PUBLIC ACT 69 AND INSTEAD TAKE \$30,000.00 FROM THE DTR FUND AND ADD IT TO THE SOLID WASTE COUNCIL. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion - Commissioner Bunek stated he made this motion because there is talk about needing more funds to have their fund balance moved up. If you add the \$2.00, it becomes a "rising" of taxes, which is permanent. Bunek continued, if we go through with the recycling site in Solon Township, it would be funded through this. If they go through with funding and can learn to work within their budget, they can see if they need to do it as this would be a one-time transfer. It is an insignificant amount to give back to the people and use funds that we have here and it is a way to give back by not raising the taxes. Bunek stated this is a way to get money back to the people, without raising taxes. This is the same amount of money that would have been generated if the fee were raised by the \$2.00 per household.

Commissioner Lautner questioned the motion and Commissioner Bunek responded that he made the suggestion of taking \$30,000.00 from the DTR Fund based on a recommendation he had from the County Clerk Michelle L. Crocker.

Commissioner Soutas-Little had a question for the Clerk's Office, she wondered what the impact of taking the money from the DTR Fund would be. She also asked about the expenses for 2016. County Clerk Crocker stated that she cannot speak for Planning Director Galla nor can she speak regarding the DTR Fund. In response to comparing the additional \$2.00 per household to taking the funding from the DTR, for this year it would be a "wash".

Chairman Rentenbach stated the Chairman of the Solid Waste Council, Bill Perkins, is here, and would he mind interjecting his thoughts.

Perkins commented that recycling volumes, as well as the hazardous waste collections are increasing. More people are participating in the drop offs. Last weekend they had close to 400. When they started doing the drop sites, they would see about 80 and now

they are doing 300 to 400 very consistently. Perkins stated quite simply, they need a larger budget to do everything that is involved in the hazardous waste collection, as well as the recycling sites.

Commissioner Bunek stated he has been told by a reliable source that American Waste is actually going to provide bins for Grand Traverse County, and Leelanau County is talking about buying bins. Perkins responded he did not think that information is accurate. Perkins continued, Grand Traverse County (certainly the City of Traverse City) does not have drop off's anymore, they have curb-side pickup. Discussion ensued on bins and procedure, as well as curb-side pickups in Traverse City. Perkins also stated he was in favor of the \$2.00 increase versus receiving a lump sum of \$30,000.00 simply because the volume of recycling and hazardous waste continues to increase each year. The funding needs to continue each year, not just for this year. Perkins concluded by saying the community voted overwhelmingly in favor of the \$2.00 increase.

Commissioner Wessell questioned Perkins, if the approved \$30,000.00 is for this year, but you don't get the \$30,000.00 next year, are there planned improvements (like the Leelanau Township site) that will not be done next year? Perkins responded he was not sure, but the biggest expenditures are paying the contractor to pick up the recycling and process it. American Waste has been good to Leelanau County, mainly because they have put a cap on how much they are going to charge. They have also contributed to the different sites. Perkins is hopeful they can help out with the Solon Township site. Since there is more participation, the costs go higher.

Commissioner Rushton questioned fund balance. Commissioner Soutas-Little responded the projected fund balance for 2016 is \$458,932.00, with the projected expenses being \$458,932.00. This is based on previous year's expenses, revenues, and anticipated programs for 2016. It is indicated that the fund balance would be \$37,728.00, which is well below what they were hoping to go into 2017 with, in case revenues fall or costs increase. This projection included the Solon Township site.

Chairman Rentenbach asked Chief Staff Accountant Jen Zywicki to explain the DTR fund and how much the balance is, and what other expenses might come out of it this year. Zywicki gave a brief explanation of the DTR (Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund) and how (if this motion passes) the \$30,000.00 would come out of the DTR and be transferred to the General Fund, since there is a resolution stating so. The General Fund would then pass the money on to the Solid Waste Fund.

Commissioner Lautner stated if we are going to look at funding, this does not have to be decided tonight. Discussion ensued on when the deadline is for the tax bills.

AYES – 2 (Bunek, Rushton)

NO – 4 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Soutas-Little, Wessell) MOTION FAILED.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO POSTPONE THE DECISION TO RAISE THE PA 69 FOR ONE MONTH. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

#143-05172016 Regular Session

***MOTION BY LAUTNER AMENDED TO POSTPONE PA 69 UNTIL BUDGET TIME.
SECOND BY WESSELL AMENDED.***

Discussion. Commissioner Lautner said she would like more time to discuss this issue.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Leland Dam Authority – Lake Level Sensors for Leland Dam Operations:

MOTION BY RUSHTON THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE LAKE LEVEL SENSORS, MAKING THE LAKE ASSOCIATION THE OWNER OF THE SENSORS AND TO ALSO APPROVE HIRING CAL KILLEN TO PROVIDE SOFTWARE INSTALLATION AND LAKE LEVEL SENSORS ON LAKE LEELANAU, TO AID IN THE OPERATION OF THE LELAND DAM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000.00, WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM FUND #805. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – Commissioner Bunek asked if they are going to provide the software to Leelanau County Government, since it sounds like they are going to give it to the Lake Association, but we really want the software here. Bunek is unsure it is clear in that motion. Discussion ensued on who the software will belong to and where it will be located.

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AMENDED TO PURCHASE THE LAKE LEVEL SENSORS, MAKING THE LAKE ASSOCIATION THE OWNER OF THE SENSORS AND TO ALSO APPROVE HIRING CAL KILLEN TO PROVIDE SOFTWARE INSTALLATION, THAT KILLEN PROVIDE AND SOFTWARE AND THE PURCHASE OF, AND LAKE LEVEL SENSORS ON LAKE LEELANAU, TO AID IN THE OPERATION OF THE LELAND DAM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000.00, WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM FUND #805.

Amendment withdrawn.

Discussion ensued on topic. The software is proprietary.

Commissioner Bunek stated he did not believe the motion was stated correctly, since it does not sound like to County will get this software, it sounds like the Lake Association is going to get it and they are going to help monitor the Dam. Bunek would like clarification that the installation of software is coming to Jerry (Culman), at the County.

Commissioner Rushton questioned whether or not we have a contract? John Popa responded no.

County Clerk Michelle Crocker made the suggestion to include *Leelanau County software installation* to the amended motion. Bunek agreed, that sounds more accurate.

#144-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY RUSHTON AMENDED THAT THE LAKE ASSOCIATION PURCHASE THE LAKE LEVEL SENSORS, MAKING THE LAKE ASSOCIATION THE OWNER OF THE SENSORS, AND ALSO TO APPROVE HIRING CAL KILLEN TO PROVIDE LEELANAU COUNTY SOFTWARE INSTALLATION AND SET UP FOR LAKE LEVEL SENSORS ON LAKE LEELANAU, TO AID IN THE OPERATION OF THE LELAND DAM, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000.00, WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM COUNTY FUND #805. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Government and Law Enforcement Centers Parking Lot Seal Coating & Striping:

#145-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY BUNEK TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM CLARK'S PARKING LOT MAINTENANCE FOR THE REPAIR, SEAL COATING, AND STRIPING OF THE GOVERNMENT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER'S PARKING LOTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,220.00; FUNDS TO COME FROM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND #470. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Teamsters #214 General Unit, MERS Health Care Savings Plan:

#146-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE THE MERS HEALTH CARE SAVINGS PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY AND TEAMSTERS #214 GENERAL UNIT WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM THE GENERAL FUND, FUND BALANCE. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Family Court – Diversion / Prevention Counselor:

#147-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY WESSELL TO APPROVE PLACING MOLLY BUDAY IN A CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYMENT POSITION WITH THE COUNTY FOR ONLY WAGES AND TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT AT THE SAME RATE CURRENTLY SET FOR DIVERSION/PREVENTION COUNSELOR CASSIDY FISHER IN THE MIDHHS RURAL COUNTIES GRANT. SECONDED BY BUNEK.

Discussion – This is to fill in while the current individual is off on leave.

AYES – 6 (Wessell, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little,)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Family Court – MiDHHS Rural Counties Grant / Evaluation Component:

#148-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY BUNEK TO APPROVE A SUBCONTRACT WITH JOY EVANS OF NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE FOR THE EVALUATION COMPONENT OF THE MIDHHS RURAL COUNTIES GRANT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$24,700.00 SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – Commissioner Wessell remarked that \$24,000.00 for the evaluation component of a \$120,000.00 grant sounds like a lot of money and he hopes that they see a smaller bill when it comes in.

AYES – 6 (Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Northport Tower Removal:

Emergency Services/9-1-1 Director Matt Ansorge was present. Northport Village and Leelanau Township would like the tower down. He does have an internal struggle as the lower bid is from Grand Rapids, and the other bid is from Traverse City Radio North who does a lot of consulting for the County. Both companies will do a fine job.

#149-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM GRANT TOWER TO DISASSEMBLE, REMOVE AND TRANSPORT THE OLD COMMUNICATION TOWER AT THE NORTHPORT FIRE STATION TO THE CENTRAL TOWER SITE IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$7,749.00 AND TO BE PAID FOR OUT OF THE COMMUNICATIONS TOWER FUND FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES. SECONDED BY BUNEK.

Discussion – Commissioner Lautner inquired if the cost is for moving and storing the tower? Ansorge responded the tower will be stored at our central tower site, we will be keeping the tower, and the cost is just to have it relocated.

Commissioner Wessell stated there are a lot of people north, and west of Northport that do not have cell service. Could this tower be moved to a high hill in Leelanau Township so the residents of Gills Pier and Peterson Park area could have cell service? Ansorge stated that would be probable, if they could find a spot. The tower will still be County property, and if a site is found later on, it could potentially be moved. Currently, it will be moved to the County site at Pit Road.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

MiSHDA:

Administrator Janik indicated that these two requests are the same that are required when these grants are received.

#150-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY BUNEK TO APPROVE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BE DESIGNATED AS THE CERTIFYING OFFICER FOR GRANT NUMBER MSC2015-0759-HO, AND AUTHORIZE THE PLANNING DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT THE COMPLETED FORM, PER TERMS OF THE GRANT. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

#151-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY BUNEK TO APPOINT THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AS THE FAIR HOUSING COORDINATOR FOR LEELANAU COUNTY DURING THE TERM OF GRANT NUMBER MSC2015-0759-HO, GRANT EXPIRING 12/31/2017. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Solon Township Recycling:

Commissioner Soutas-Little said that she has had a chance to do a lot more research on this, and believes all the Board members are supportive of recycling. There were some questions that were raised, mainly in that the Solon area is being designated as wetland. Soutas-Little stated in her research, she did not see anything indicating that this was indeed a designated wet-land area. She would like to have another look at the cost issues (possibly a privacy fence, and also trimming back on size of the concrete pad) entailed with the site, and give this another consideration. Soutas-Little also stated she stopped to have a look at the Leelanau School (Glen Arbor) site, which has a lovely privacy fence, and it is her understanding that the gentleman who constructed that fence would be willing to do the same for Solon for around \$1,000.00; however, she is unsure of the exact costs for materials involved. If we are looking for beautification, this would be preferable to a chain-link fence, which wouldn't hide anything. It would also be more cost efficient, since the cost for a chain-link fence is \$6,145.20. She stated she would like to have another look at the cost issues, as well as fencing options, and discuss it again in June to make a decision.

Chairman Rentenbach stated the door is not being closed on recycling. She would like to see Solon Township trim down the proposal to save some money, and possibly come up with some of their own funds to move the project forward.

Commissioner Lautner commented that Soutas-Little will submit her questions to whom? Soutas-Little responded she will direct them to the Solid Waste Council.

Commissioner Bunek read through the minutes of the Solid Waste Council meeting, as well as the agreement and documentation (Planning Director) Galla supplied. The Planning Department addendum stated they will not sign a contract, or start work until Solon Township has signed an agreement to extend it for at least five years, at least that is how he interpreted it, since where Solon Township says *may*, the County says *shall*. That was really a big concern for him, the way it was worded. Bunek continued, it still looks like they were consulted about the environment, since it is right next to the swamp. They have an ugly orange fence surrounding it, and Bunek is assuming the purpose of this is to catch trash from blowing into the swamp. A permanent fence would have to be at least 6-8 feet high. This parking lot is being fixed up for Solon Township, so in a sense we are spending \$28,000.00 to fix up their driveway and parking lot. Bunek gave examples of other Townships and their willingness to help out with recycling. He stated he still has a lot of mixed feelings and also feels as though Solon does not want the site.

Commissioner Wessell stated he would like to hear what Solid Waste Council Chairman (Bill) Perkins has to say in response to the Solon Township's desire to keep the site. Perkins responded, just to clarify, the site is not going to Maple City. The Road Commission is offering to have the site by the Solon Cemetery, which is not nearly as convenient as the current site in Cedar.

Commissioner Soutas-Little commented that the people in the area want it there (in its current site). She has received a lot of positive comments of support. It is good for the business community, in its current location. She agrees with Bunek that if the Solon Township Board could see their way to supporting part of the expenses. There seems to be a strong partnership with all of the other host sites around the County. It would be nice to see a partnership, since the site is beneficial to the area. There is a plan afloat to beautify the area – she can understand why they would not want a recycling site that did not have some sort of screening or fencing. It would be nice to have more information on the proposed improvements. Soutas-Little stated Commissioner Bunek brought up a good point about the cement pad; if the site is moved elsewhere, what happens to the large pad left over?

Commissioner Lautner stated the cement pad is for cleanup, as people toss glass and it breaks. Solon Township would be in favor of your plan of a buy-in as long as Centerville, Cleveland, and Kasson could partner and pay a quarter each – if those three townships can help pay for the upgrade of the site and then Solon Township would pay their 25%. Soutas-Little asked if anyone from Solon has approached the other Township Boards. Lautner responded yes, and they were flatly denied any funding from Centerville, Cleveland, and Kasson Townships.

Commissioner Rushton added, if we engage in this contract and pay off the \$28,000.00, and continue to pay the \$1,200.00 annually, and they decide after five years they are done, that site would cost almost \$7,000.00 a year to operate. Compared to the other sites, that is very costly. Rushton stated, as she mentioned before, Elmwood Township came to this Board to request money and were flatly refused. This is not fair and she will not support this motion.

Chairman Rentenbach stated what we are possibly looking for is a re-negotiation of some of the terms. If they are willing to make an extension of the contract, to possibly 10 or 20 years, as well as reducing the expenses. She suggested this issue goes back to the Solid Waste Council and see what comes out of it.

Amendments and Transfers:

#152-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE:

**FISCAL YEAR 2016 AMENDMENT #16-006; #16-007; #16-008; and #16-009.
SECONDED BY BUNEK.**

Discussion – Commissioner Bunek questioned if the motion was going to be changed regarding the MERS transfer and the County Clerk responded that they did include the funding with the specific motion in question.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Claims and Accounts:

#153-05172016 Regular Session

**MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT
OF \$123,964.05. SECONDED BY RUSHTON AND BUNEK.**

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Post Audit Claims and Accounts:

#154-05172016 Regular Session

**MOTION BY LAUTNER TO APPROVE POST AUDIT CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$1,377,743.82. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.**

Discussion – none.

AYES – 6 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

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

- Chairman Rentenbach said she received a letter from the Department of Natural Resources stating that our new Regional Coordinator will be Mr. Bill Sterrett. Sterrett is based out of Cadillac, and is the Forestry District Supervisor for the western Lower Peninsula. His contact information is on file at the County Clerk's office.

- Commissioner Wessell noted that the Networks Northwest audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2015 and Northwest Michigan Works! Inc. audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2015 have both been received and accepted. The County Clerk has been provided with a copy of each document.

Public Comment:

▶ George Wellman. Wellman stated recycling makes more sense on a countywide basis instead of a Township level. He personally uses the one in Cedar, and would be disappointed to see it go. He would have no problem making it look nicer; it is used by a lot of people, not just (Solon) Township people. It should be organized and budgeted on a countywide basis.

▶ Mike Taylor, Centerville Township. Taylor said at the risk of beating a dead horse, this is a Countywide recycling program with a facility in Cedar. It is not a recycling center that Cedar operates, it's a countywide recycling program. If you have a Countywide program, are you expecting all the Townships that have one of these centers to pay for it as well? The recycling center was placed in Cedar's front yard and looks like crap. It is the County's responsibility to make this look better than it does. If it is not the County's program, then let the Township handle it. If it is your program, take responsibility for it, and fund it. The voters have provided you with money to do that.

▶ Steve Mikowski. Mikowski commented that there is lots of stuff moving across the desks today. In making some observations, most of this lacks clarity. Limited reports and information and lots of verbalization with a lack of completeness while making decisions. Commissioners are not requesting the thoroughness from the people on the Boards and Commissions that are appointed. Things should have been available. The Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund – a nice slush fund. Always nice to have a round when you need \$10,000,000.00 to build the County Jail. Many people don't come to the meetings because of apathy. Mikowski continued that he remembers at the beginning of the Leland Sewer System, 100 people showed up at the township meetings, but it didn't do any good. Mikowski continued, regarding taxes. The County had a .55 mill west wing fund that was folded into the general fund; the County self-initiated a Commission on Aging fund, and the money couldn't be spent fast enough. The modest proposal to reduce a millage is an honest thing to do for the people. Mikowski commented on short-changing the taxpayers on their money.

Commissioner Comments:

- Commissioner Rushton said as far as a County program for recycling was presented to the Townships individually and it was discussed and arranged, it was agreed that they would participate to a certain level.

Adjourn:

#155-05172016 Regular Session

MOTION BY BUNEK TO ADJOURN. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

AYES – 6 (Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Carolyn Rentenbach, Chairman
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

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