

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting  
July 17, 2019

Chairman Hentschel called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the Governmental Center.

OPENING CEREMONIES, EXERCISES OR INVOCATION

Commissioner Hundley gave the opening remarks, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PRESENT: Addison Wheelock, Jr., Gordie LaPointe, Brad Jewett, Bryce Hundley,  
Betsy Coffia, Ron Clous and Rob Hentschel

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of July 3, 2019 Regular Meeting

Moved by Clous, seconded by Coffia to approve the minutes listed above. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following people addressed the Commissioners during Public Comment:

**Rick Brown**  
**Matt Schoech**  
**Jim Tuller**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by LaPointe, seconded by Jewett to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The purpose of the Consent Calendar is to expedite business by grouping non-controversial items together to be dealt with by one Commission motion without discussion. Any member of the Commission, staff or the public may ask that any item on the Consent Calendar be removed and placed elsewhere on the agenda for full discussion. Such requests will be automatically respected.

If any item is not removed from the consent calendar, the action noted (receive & file or approval) is approved by a single Commission action adopting the consent calendar. All Information identified on the Consent Calendar can be viewed in its entirety at [www.grandtraverse.org](http://www.grandtraverse.org)

A. RECEIVE AND FILE

1. Grand Traverse Community Collaborative minutes of June 27, 2019
2. Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency minutes of May 16, 2019

- 3. Grand Traverse Conservation District June 2019 Report
- 4. Grand Traverse County Road Commission Monthly Report
- 5. Northern Michigan Regional Entity – Substance Use Disorder Oversight Meeting Minutes of May 6, 2019
- 6. Expenditures Greater than \$5,000.00 Report (June 8 – July 8, 2019)

**B. APPROVALS**

- 1. Resolution 100-2019  
Resource Recovery  
2019 Hauler Licenses
- 2. Resolution 101-2019  
Finance  
Budget Amendments
- 3. Resolution 102-2019  
Finance  
June 2019 Claims Approval
- 4. Child & Adolescent Health Center – Mental Health Expansion Funding Agreement  
Kingsley Middle School and TC West High School – Removed from calendar.
- 5. Additional Policy Updates – Removed from calendar.

**ACTION ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

After the County Clerk read the Consent Calendar for the record, the following items were removed:

b-4	Page 60	By LaPointe
b-5	Page 71	By LaPointe

Moved by Wheelock, seconded by Jewett to approve the Consent Calendar minus items b-4 and b-5.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 7

**SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS**

None

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

**b-4 - Child & Adolescent Health Center – Mental Health Expansion Funding Agreement  
Kingsley Middle School and TC West High School**

Wendy Hirschenberger, Health Officer, and Andrew Waite, Adolescent Health Program Supervisor, explained the grant services and answered commissioners’ questions. Joe Esper, Traverse City West High School Principal, spoke about the mental health issues in the schools.

Resolution 103-2019  
Health Department  
Michigan Primary Care Association (MPCA)  
Kingsley Middle School  
Traverse City West High School  
Mental Health Expansion Grant Agreement

Moved by Hundley, seconded by Coffia to approve Resolution 103-2019. Motion carried.

**b-5 – Additional Policy Updates**

Donna Kinsey, Human Resource Director, answered commissioners’ questions regarding the policy changes.

Resolution 104-2019  
Policies and Procedures  
Update of Additional County Policies

Moved by LaPointe, seconded by Coffia, to approve Resolution 104-2019. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT ACTION ITEMS

**a. Administration and Finance**

1) Amended Fund Balance Policy

Nate Alger, County Administrator, and Dean Bott, Finance Director, explained the request to increase the Fund Balance Policy from 15% to 25%.

Resolution 105-2019  
Policies and Procedures  
Fund Balance Policy

Moved by Wheelock, seconded by Jewett to approve Resolution 105-2019. Motion carried.

2) Deficit Elimination Plans

Dean Bott, Finance Director, explained that the State of Michigan requires that the County submit a Deficit Elimination Plan for both the Building Authority and the Drain Commission to show how the deficits showing on the 2018 audit will be eliminated.

A. Building Authority

Resolution 106-2019  
Building Authority  
Deficit Elimination Plan

B. Drain Commission

Resolution 107-2019  
Drain Commission  
Deficit Elimination Plan

Moved by Wheelock, seconded by Clous to approve the Deficit Elimination Plans as outlined in Resolutions 106-2019 and 107-2019.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 7

Commissioners directed staff to contact the Drain Commissioner and request that he appear at the next regular board meeting and bi-monthly after that to give a report on the county drains to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioners took a break at 9:27 a.m.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:38 a.m.

Moved by Jewett, seconded by Clous to direct staff to investigate the possibility of eliminating the Drain Commissioner’s duties and/or elected position.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 7

**b. Michigan State University (MSU) Extension**

1) Annual Report Presentation

Jennifer Berkey, MSU Extension District Director, gave the MSU Extension annual presentation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**a. Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority Appointment**

The Grand Traverse County Commissioners are responsible for appointing 6 members to the Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority representing the following: 1 Primary Consumer, 1 Commissioner (or designee), 1 Mental Health Professional and 3 people from the general public. Chairman Hentschel indicated that Dr. Dan Lathrop qualifies under the Primary Consumer designation.

Moved by Hentschel, seconded by Jewett to approve appointment of Daniel Lathrop to the Community Mental Health Authority as the Primary Consumer position.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 6, No 1

Nay: Wheelock

NEW BUSINESS

**a. 2020 Census**

Moved by Clous, seconded by Jewett to direct staff to draft a resolution supporting the addition of the citizenship question on future census questionnaires. Further, once the resolution is passed, it will be distributed to President Trump and the other 82 counties in Michigan.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 4, No 3

Nay: Wheelock, Hundley and Coffia

**b. Proposed Board Rule Addition**

Commissioners discussed adding a requirement to the Board Rules that the Commissioners attend a sexual harassment training.

Moved by Coffia, seconded by Hundley that the new board rule be approved and applied to current board members by scheduling a sexual harassment training to be completed by all Board of Commission members no later than September 30, 2019.

Commissioner Coffia amended her motion to remove “sexual harassment training” and replace it with just “harassment training”.

Chairman Hentschel suggested the following motion instead (no second to the motion):

“Orientation type trainings shall be made available to elected officials of Grand Traverse County as appropriate to their elected position including but not limited to Open Meetings Act, Freedom of Information Act, Sexual Harassment training, general county policy orientation and meetings with administrative and/or support staff. It shall be the responsibility of the County Administrator to ensure that such trainings are made available by qualified staff or trainers and proactively promoted to elected officials as early as the day in which election results are certified prior to taking office and no later than within 45 days of taking office. Reimbursement of travel expenses associated with such meetings shall be limited to those allowed under the County Travel Reimbursement policy and are subject to approval by the County Administrator.”

Moved by Jewett, seconded by Coffia to table the proposed board rule addition until legal counsel can review it and make a recommendation. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following people addressed the Commissioners during Public Comment:

**Matt Schoech**

**Andy Marek**

COMMISSIONER/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Commissioners gave updates on meetings and events they attended.

**Removal of House at Maple Bay and scheduled Fire/Police Training**

Commissioners discussed the removal of the house sitting vacant on Maple Bay property. The Fire and Police have planned a controlled burn training of the house but there was confusion on who would pay for the clean up after the training. Chairman Hentschel suggested they explore the possibility of giving the house away for free if someone wanted to incur the cost of moving it.

(Under the Board Rules, an item added to the agenda after the agenda is posted requires a 2/3 vote to pass.)

Moved by Wheelock, seconded by LaPointe to allow Emergency Services to utilize the Maple Bay facility for training purposes.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 5, No 2

Nay: LaPointe and Hentschel

NOTICES

**July 24, 2019 study session – Airport Obstacle Avoidance Plan.**

**August 7, 2019 regular session**

**August 18-20, 2019 – MAC Annual Conference**

**August 21, 2019 regular session**

CLOSED SESSION

None

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

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Bonnie Scheele, County Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rob Hentschel, Chairman

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) (Initials)