

**Leelanau County Board of Commissioners**  
**Executive Board Session – Tuesday, May 14, 2024**  
*Tentative Minutes*

*Proceedings of the meeting are being recorded (audio and video). The video of the meeting can be found at the following link:*  
<https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2731#video>

Meeting called to order by Chairman Ty Wessell at 9:30 a.m. Today's meeting is being held at the Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay, Michigan.

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence:

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

<u>Roll Call:</u>	District #1	Jamie Kramer	PRESENT
	#2	James O'Rourke	PRESENT
	#3	Doug Rexroat	PRESENT
	#4	Ty Wessell	PRESENT
	#5	Kama Ross	PRESENT
	#6	Gwenne Allgaier	PRESENT
	#7	Melinda C. Lautner	PRESENT

Guests present.

Approval of Agenda / Late Additions or Deletions:

Chairman Wessell stated he would like to add Late Addition #1 Leelanau County Energy Futures Task Force – Grant Application as Agenda Item #7a and remove from the Agenda Item #2 Probate/Family Court – Secure Keyed Access for Courtrooms.

**MOTION BY REXROAT THAT THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke)**

**NO – 0**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Communications, Proclamations, Presentations –

Administrator Update:

Tower Update:

- Interim Administrator Lewis stated there is a Public Hearing that has been set for June 13, 2024. He thanked both Executive Assistant Lauren Cypher and Emergency Management/911 Dispatch Director Matt Anson for doing an excellent job putting together a very comprehensive project plan for the Public Hearing.

Commissioner Lautner stated she doesn't think that a representative from Cherryland Electric Cooperative will be able to attend the Public Hearing.

- Interim Administrator Lewis commented that he has let the Planning Commission know who all the parties are that are involved with the Leelanau Tower Project.

Chairman Wessell said he reminded the Planning Commission that it was actually the Leelanau Township Board and the Planning Commission who petitioned the Board of Commissioners for the need of a tower for communication needs in Leelanau Township.

Former Leelanau Memorial Hospital Update:

Interim Administrator Lewis stated that the demolition project of the former Leelanau Memorial Hospital has gone through the bid process through Land Bank and County Treasurer John Gallagher III. The bid was awarded to Bay Area Demolition and once the project starts it will be done within 63 days. Lewis commented that at this time there is no action needed from the Board of Commissioners and the project is going to be handled through a State of Michigan grant.

Preservation Society – Poor Barn:

Leelanau County Historic Preservation Society and Joint Barn Use Committee member Stephen Stier and Charles Godbout were present. Stier and Godbout answered Commissioner questions and Board members thanked them for the update.

The Presentation can be found at the following link: (pages 2-10)

[https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/packet\\_05142024\\_executiveboard.pdf](https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/packet_05142024_executiveboard.pdf)

- Interim Administrator Lewis stated if anyone would like to apply for a Grand Traverse Band 2% Grant that the deadline is this Thursday afternoon in writing to the Administration Office.

Public Comment (agenda specific):

The following individuals spoke in person: Harry Steffens, Lois Bahle, Laurel Jeris, Margaret Klesney, Steve Mikowski, Stephen Stier, and Renee Wyler.

The written comments can be found at the following link:

<https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2731#handouts>

Chairman Wessell called for a break at 10:12 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 10:13 a.m.

Chairman Wessell stated that as Chairman of the Board he is tasked with administrating the Board rules and they must be followed. He reminded the guests in the audience that the first public comment must be agenda specific.

Commissioner Comments:

- Commissioner Ross stated the Poor Barn is on County property and she just wanted to remind everyone of that.
- Commissioner Lautner reminded the Board of how the Poor Barn came to be under the purview of the Leelanau County Historic Preservation Society.
- Chairman Wessell thanked Human Resources Heather Cade for her hard work of putting together the luncheon last week recognizing the employees during public service recognition week.

Action Items:

Sheriff's Office – Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) – Recruitment and Implementation Agreement (Discussion Only):

Interim Administrator Richard Lewis explained the process regarding the newly formed agreement and stated that when the Sheriff's Office has an opening the Sheriff will still need to come to the Board for approval to initiate the agreement and implementation.

Sheriff Mike Borkovich and Undersheriff James Kiessel were present and gave an update with a presentation.

The Presentation can be found at the following link:

[https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/mcoles\\_flowchart\\_05142024.pdf](https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/mcoles_flowchart_05142024.pdf)

Interim Administrator Lewis stated he will be reaching out to Corporate Counsel in regards to a Letter of Understanding with the Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM) Union regarding the starting wage of the candidate for recruitment.

Commissioner Lautner replied that she believes the starting wage is set by the Board of Commissioners and that there is a Corporate Counsel opinion that will confirm for Lewis that there is no need for a Letter of Understanding.

Sheriff Borkovich said he does have to work with the POAM Union on it because technically the new hire candidate per the agreement the union covers their activities. He continued that one of the dilemma's he is facing right now is that when he calls officers in other jurisdictions, who are already trained and are great Public Relations people, because we aren't all about arresting people and writing tickets will not take a pay cut from \$31.00 to the base scale of \$24.00. Borkovich stated that when calls are fielded about being able to negotiate the starting wage that he has to tell them it is not an option in Leelanau County and that his hands are tied. He said there is no agreement with the POAM Union to be able to negotiate new employees starting wage. Borkovich commented that the County's benefits are really good but that those benefits don't make the car payment or the mortgage payment.

Sheriff Borkovich informed the Board that once Grand Traverse County settles their union contract, they will be paying their deputies \$39.00 per hour. He continued that he can't compete with the wages of the National Park or State Police, who pay just under or over \$40.00 an hour. He stated he is really trying but it is hard to get high quality candidates to come to Leelanau County.

Sheriff's Office – Cherryland Humane Society Contracts:

Sheriff Mike Borkovich and Undersheriff James Kiessel were present and answered Commissioner questions.

**MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE BOTH CONTRACTS BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY, THE LEELANAU COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND THE CHERRYLAND HUMANE SOCIETY WITH THE DATES JANUARY 1, 2025 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2026, AND OCTOBER 1, 2026 – DECEMBER 31, 2026. THE BOARD ALSO AUTHORIZED THE CHAIRPERSON TO SIGN THE CONTRACTS ON THE COUNTIES BEHALF. SECONDED BY REXROAT.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Sheriff's Office – Special Event Contracts:

Sheriff Mike Borkovich and Undersheriff James Kiessel were present.

**MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE BOILER PLATE "AGREEMENT FOR SUPPLEMENTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES" CONTRACT AND FURTHER ALLOW THE SHERIFF AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE CONTRACTS ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY AS NEEDED. SECONDED BY LAUTNER**

Discussion – Undersheriff Kiessel explained the prior year's agreements and what the difference is that is presented today. Interim Administrator Lewis stated he received one of these and wanted the County Attorneys to review and propose a new agreement he would be comfortable signing.

**AYES – 7 (Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Sheriff's Office – Marine Safety Grant Acceptance:

Sheriff Mike Borkovich and Undersheriff James Kiessel were present.

**MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ACCEPT THE MARINE SAFETY PROGRAM GRANT AGREEMENT AS AWARDED FROM THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,100.00, AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT AS THE "GRANTEE" AND RETURN THE APPROVED AND SIGNED DOCUMENT TO THE UNDERSHERIFF FOR SUBMISSION INTO THE DNR PORTAL. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE/KRAMER.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Sheriff Borkovich informed the Board that the Great Lakes Boat will be shipped within the coming weeks from the State of Washington and should arrive sometime between May 23<sup>rd</sup> and May 25<sup>th</sup> to be delivered to either the Elmwood marina or the Northport marina. He said he will start the training with the staff as soon as possible.

Probate / Family Court – Secure Keyed Access for Courtrooms:

Removed from the agenda.

Commissioner Ross left the meeting at 10:37 a.m. and returned at 10:39 a.m.

Drain Commission – Leland Dam Plan:

Drain Commissioner Steve Christiansen was present for the Agenda Item. Interim Administrator Lewis explained the request to waive the bid policy is due to a timing issue.

**MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO WAIVE THE SEEKING OF A REQUEST FOR THE PROPOSAL AS IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC DUE TO KNOWLEDGE, EXPERTISE, AND**

**AVAILABILITY OF MICHIGAN FLUID POWER (MFP) TO UNDERTAKE THE LELAND DAM REPAIRS/MODIFICATIONS, AND TO DIRECT MACHIN ENGINEERING TO REQUEST A FORMAL PROPOSAL FROM MFP OF REVIEW BY MACHIN ENGINEERING AND COUNTY STAFF AND TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD CHAIR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT/ CONTRACT WITH MICHIGAN FLUID POWER (MFP), IF SAID PROPOSAL IS WITHIN THE PROBABLE CONSTRUCTION COST OUTLINED, NOT TO EXCEED \$17,000.00. (#805.000.000.970.00) SECONDED BY ROSS.**

Discussion – Commissioner Rexroat stated he would like to see a maximum amount to be stated within the motion. Interim Administrator Lewis said the total amount would be \$17,000.00. Commissioner Allgaier agreed the amount should be stated within her motion.

**AYES – 7 (Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)**

**NO – 0**

**RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Senior Services – In-Home Care Provider Recommendations:

Senior Services Director Lena Vander Meulen was present for the Agenda Item.

**MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSALS FOR IN-HOME SENIOR CARE SERVICES IN RESPONSE TO THE LCAO-RFP-2024-001 FROM COMFORT KEEPERS, LINDA LINGAUR, AND JANET FLOWERS. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat)**

**NO – 0**

**RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Planning Department– Material Management Plan/Intergovernmental Agreement:

Planning Director Gail Myer was present for the Agenda Item. Interim Administrator Lewis explained to the Board the reasoning behind the request is that it is mandated. Also present was Grand Traverse County Deputy County Administrator Chris Forsyth and Grand Traverse County Resource Recovery Manager Lydia Gulow. Forsyth and Gulow answered Commissioner questions.

**MOTION BY KRAMER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE FORWARD ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY AND BENZIE COUNTY, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING A MULTI-COUNTY MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLAN (MMP). SECONDED BY ROSS.**

Discussion – Forsyth stated that Grand Traverse County will be taking the lead in the Intergovernmental Agreement. Commissioner discussion ensued.

**AYES – 7 (Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)**

**NO – 0**

**RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Planning Department – Remonumentation Peer Group Agreement:

Planning Director Gail Myer was present for the Agenda Item.

**MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE MONUMENTATION/REMONUMENTATION PEER GROUP AGREEMENTS AS PREPARED BY CORPORATE COUNSEL, WITH: O'NON LAND SURVEYING, HOLMBERG LAND SURVEY, AND GRAND TRAVERSE SURVEYING FOR \$700.00 EACH, WITH THE COSTS TO COME FROM THE REMONUMENTATION ACCOUNT #101.475.245.801.000. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O’Rourke)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Planning Department – Remonumentation Peer Group Agreement – County Representative:  
Planning Director Gail Myer was present for the Agenda Item.

**MOTION BY KRAMER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE MONUMENTATION/REMONUMENTATION PEER GROUP AGREEMENT WITH LEELANAU LAND SURVEYING, AS PREPARED BY CORPORATE COUNSEL, WITH COSTS TO COME FROM REMONUMENTATION ACCOUNT #101.475.245.801.000. SECONDED BY O’ROURKE/REXROAT.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Kramer, Lautner, O’Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Planning Department – Remonumentation Surveyor Services Agreements:  
Planning Director Gail Myer was present for the Agenda Item.

**MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE SURVEYOR SERVICES AGREEMENTS WITH O’NON LAND SURVEYING, HOLMBERG LAND SURVEY, GRAND TRAVERSE SURVEYING, AND LEELANAU LAND SURVEYING AS PREPARED BY CORPORATE COUNSEL, WITH COSTS TO COME FROM REMONUMENTATION ACCOUNT #101.475.245.801.000. SECONDED BY KRAMER.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O’Rourke)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Planning Department – Leelanau County Land Bank Authority Appointment:  
Planning Director Gail Myer was present for the Agenda Item.

**MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPOINT MR DAVID KING TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY LAND BANK AUTHORITY TO A PARTIAL TERM EXPIRING 12/31/2026. SECONDED BY O’ROURKE/ALLGAIER.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Lautner, O’Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Chairman Wessell called for a break at 11:00 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 11:09 a.m.

Veteran’s Affairs Department – Soldiers and Sailor’s Relief:

Interim Finance Director Cathy Hartesvelt was present for the Agenda Item.

**MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO INCREASE THE 2024 SOLDIERS & SAILORS RELIEF EXPENSE #101.580.689.999.000 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00 FOR AN AMENDED BUDGET OF \$10,000.00 FOR OPERATING TRANSFER OUT TO THE SOLDIERS & SAILORS FUND #293, AS NEEDED. FUNDS TO COME FROM THE GENERAL FUND. SECONDED BY O’ROURKE/KRAMER.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Interim Finance Director Hartesvelt mentioned to the Board that FY2024 is that last year within the contract for Veteran's Affairs with Grand Traverse County, so the contract will need to be extended or negotiated and should be discussed during the budget process.

Equalization – Approval of Leelanau County L-4029 Tax Rate Request:

Interim Finance Director Cathy Hartesvelt was present for the Agenda Item and answered Commissioner questions.

**MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE A MILLAGE RATE THAT DOES NOT EXCEED THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE MILLAGE LEVY (COLUMN 9) AND PLACE THAT MILLAGE RATE IN COLUMN 10 AS THE MILLAGE RATE REQUESTED TO BE LEVIED ON JULY 1 AND RETURN THE L-4029 TO THE EQUALIZATION DIRECTOR. SECONDED BY ROSS.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Late Addition #1 – Leelanau County Energy Futures Task Force – Grant Application:

Interim Administrator Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and explained the grant application process. Commissioner Ross further explained the details of the grant being applied for.

The handout can be found at the following link:

[https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/late\\_addition\\_1\\_05142024.pdf](https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/late_addition_1_05142024.pdf)

**MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO AUTHORIZE THE LEELANAU COUNTY ENERGY FUTURES TASK FORCE TO PREPARE A GRANT APPLICATION TO EGLE COMMUNITY ENERGY MANAGEMENT GRANTS FOR THE UOFM SEAS PROJECT PROPOSAL AS OUTLINED IN THE MAY 10, 2024, COMMUNICATION FROM TASK FORCE CHAIR JOE DEFORS AND TO BE PRESENTED FOR RECOMMENDATION AT THE JUNE 11, 2024, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS EXECUTIVE SESSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL AT THE JUNE 18, 2024, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.**

Discussion – Commissioner Ross confirmed for Commissioner Rexroat that no County funds will be used for the grant application per the Board motion when the Leelanau County Energy Task Force was approved in August of 2023.

**AYES – 6 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, O'Rourke, Rexroat)**  
**NO – 1 (Lautner)** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Administration – Grand Traverse Band 2% Tribal Grant Application Submissions:

Interim Administrator Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and stated as of today there have been no requests received in the Administration Department for 2% grants. He reminded the guests and the Board that the cutoff to apply is this Thursday, May 16, 2024, for an approval at the Regular Session on Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

**MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE THE GRAND TRAVERSE BAND 2% TRIBAL GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS TO THE REGULAR SESSION ON MAY 21, 2024, TO CONSIDER ANY APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS THAT ARE RECEIVED YET THIS WEEK. SECONDED BY ROSS.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Administration – Summer Maintenance Staff:

Interim Administrator Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and explained the proposed changes of the staffing for the Parks and Recreation Department for 2024.

**MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL AS PRESENTED, INCREASING THE PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORIZED STAFFING LEVEL TO THREE POSITIONS, WHILE REMAINING WITHIN THE CURRENT BUDGETED HOURS OF SERVICE. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Administration – Myles Kimmerly – Wood Chip Labor Install:

Interim Administrator Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and explained the changes of the request that was approved at the Regular Session on April 16, 2024 and the reason the purchase and installation has changed vendors.

**MOTION BY KRAMER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD CHAIR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH TRUNORTH LANDSCAPING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$14,315.00 FOR WORK TO BE PERFORMED AT MYLES KIMMERLY PARK PER THE PROPOSAL DATED APRIL 19, 2024, AND FURTHERMORE, APPROVE A CONTINGENCY OF \$1,500.00 FOR SAID PROJECT TO BE UTILIZED BY THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, IF SO NEEDED. FUNDS TO COME FROM ACCOUNT #101.850.756.775.000. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE.**

Discussion – Commissioner Rexroat requested he would like an account number added to the motion and Commissioner Kramer agreed. Lewis stated the number within the motion should reflect the request as a repair and maintenance line item. Chairman Wessell directed the Clerk to add the account number accordingly. Commissioner discussion ensued. Wessell said he would like to request a Late Addition for the Regular Session meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, and instructed Interim Finance Director Cathy Hartesvelt to prepare a request and report to the Board the dollar amount to roll forward from the unspent FY2023 budgeted funds within the Parks and Recreation Department to the FY2024 budget.

**AYES – 7 (Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier)**  
**NO – 0** **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**



Administration – Creation of Finance Department:

Interim Administrator Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and explained to the Board the idea of creating a department because that didn't happen in 2021 with the creation of the position reporting to then the Administrator and changed to the full Board of Commissioners.

Interim Finance Director Hartesvelt was asked by Chairman Wessell to join the dialogue at the presentation table.

Commissioner Lautner stated that she appreciates the motion but likes the direct report of the Finance Director to the Board.

**MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO AUTHORIZE THE CREATION OF THE FINANCE & ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, APPROVE THE AUTHORIZING OF STAFFING LEVELS INCLUDING THE ADDITION OF ONE (1) ACCOUNT CLERK, TRANSFER OF UNSPENT FINANCE DIRECTOR WAGES/BENEFITS FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DEPARTMENT TO THE FINANCE & ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT AND RESCIND NOVEMBER 11, 2023, ACTION OF THE INTERIM FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORTING TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AS RECOMMENDED IN THE MAY 3, 2024, MEMORANDUM FROM THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE.**

Discussion – Lewis and Hartesvelt answered Commissioner questions and Commissioner discussion ensued.

**AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Kramer, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)**

**NO – 1 (Lautner)**

**RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Chairman Wessell stated since this motion has passed and will move forward for formal approval at the Regular session that he believes there will no longer be two direct reports. Once the final approval is made, then he would like added to the June agenda discussion on whether or not the Board will want to continue to maintain the Personnel Committee and the Finance Committee.

Administration – 2024 Budget Rules Amendment:

Interim Administrator Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and explained the changes he is proposing.

Commissioner Rexroat and Commissioner Lautner would like another week to review the changes.

**MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE FORWARD AGENDA ITEM ADMINISTRATION – 2024 BUDGET RULES AMENDMENT TO THE REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.**

Discussion – Commissioner Lautner said she would like to know who will be handling everything and Interim Administrator Lewis replied that he will be and it is mentioned within the job description of the County Administrator.

**AYES – 7 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke)**

**NO – 0**

**RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Administration – Point Broadband Revised Agreement:

Interim Administrator Lewis was present for the Agenda Item and explained the changes of the agreement presented for approval.

**MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO FIBER OPTIC BROADBAND NETWORK CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT. SECONDED BY ROSS/KRAMER.**

Discussion – Chairman Wessell thanked Chris Scharrer, DCS Technology CEO and consultant, for all his hard work in regards to attaining the agreement.

**AYES – 7 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke)**

**NO – 0**

**RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Commissioner Rexroat left the meeting at 12:13 p.m. and returned at 12:16 p.m.

Review Of Financials:

Interim Finance Director Hartesvelt was present and answered questions.

Special Reports by Staff, Commissioners, and Affiliated Agencies:

None.

Public Comment:

The following individuals spoke in person: Harry Steffens, Steve Mikowski, Scott Richards, Bill Wiesner, Don Spinniken, Jim Kobberstad, Renee Wyler, and John Hunter.

The written comments can be found at the following link:

<https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2731#handouts>

Commissioner Comment:

► Commissioner O'Rourke said he would like to re-enforce that his time away from this Board is his time. He doesn't want any personal attacks from somewhere he has been or meetings attended. He stated he fought for this Country and spent four years in the Marine Core and 35 years as a Law Enforcement Officer. He commented that if you have a problem with him then come see him and if he has broken the law then see the Prosecutor, but to come in here and hold a picture up of one of the Board members is wrong.

► Commissioner Kramer said she doesn't typically chime in on national news because she feels it has no relevancy here within County government; however, if one of her fellow Commissioners would like to go and speak their mind that it is very interesting if we just look at the numbers. She stated that Israel has 1,139 people killed, 8,730 injured and if you look at the Palestine Gaza strip, plus the occupied west bank, then you have nearly 36,000 people being killed and half of those are children. She continued that the injured alone is over 80,000 people and if someone is upset about the amount of people being killed across the pond from us then she thinks that they should be able to demonstrate that and not have someone come from the audience, take a picture of them, and then bring it to us like some sort of evidence for what... empathy, because that is what she sees.

► Commissioner Lautner stated that public comment is what it is and she isn't going to ask anyone to not come to speak about what they want. She said less Board censorships, the better. She commented she is very concerned because when Ms. Wyler was speaking during public comment that she could see that not everyone was paying attention to her. Lautner informed the Board that while Ms. Wyler was in the County Register of Deeds office using a computer for searching, a Pop-up came across the screen for a game called "Call of Duty" and she would like to know what is going on with the County computers. She hopes that someone will look into how this happened and there are companies popping up because this kind of stuff is going on. Lautner reminded the Board they need to legally take care of their properties and look into these types of things.

Chairman Wessell directed Interim Administrator Lewis to look into the computer issue.

► Commissioner Allgaier said she has always been a proponent of the public being able to speak. She explained that many, many, times that the Board has no control over the voting machines and etc. We do have and support the phenomenal Clerk's Office that run safe and fair elections. Our Township Clerks and our County Clerk and her staff always ensure that we have safe and fair elections here, and for that she is grateful.

Chairman Wessell stated to the audience that the speakers in use are still the older version and the new equipment has not been put in place yet.

Approval of Financials —  
Amendments & Transfers:  
None.

Miscellaneous Fund Transfers and Amendments:  
None.

Claims and Accounts:

**MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$164,804.51. SECONDED BY REXROAT.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer)**

**NO – 0**

**RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Post Audit Claims and Accounts:

**MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE POST AUDIT CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,163,130.29. SECONDED BY REXROAT.**

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer)**

**NO – 0**

**RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Adjournment:

Chairman Wessell adjourned the meeting at 12:46 p.m.

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Ty Wessell, Chairman  
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

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Jennifer L. Zywicki, Chief Deputy Clerk for  
Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk