

Leelanau County Board of Commissioners
Executive Board Session – Tuesday, May 11, 2021
Approved 6/15/2021

Proceedings of the meeting are being recorded (audio and video) 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 William J. Bunek at 9:00 a.m. Today's meeting is being held at the Government Center, 8527 Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay, Michigan.

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

Roll Call:	District #1	Rick Robbins	PRESENT
	#2	Debra L. Rushton	PRESENT
	#3	William J. Bunek	PRESENT
	#4	Ty Wessell	PRESENT
	#5	Patricia Soutas-Little	PRESENT (via Zoom Leland Twp)
	#6	Gwenne Allgaier	PRESENT
	#7	Melinda C. Lautner	PRESENT

Approval of Agenda:

Chairman Bunek stated that he has received two late addition requests. The first request is from Commissioner Rick Robbins, to add as Action Item #3c, Human Resources and Finance Departments and from Senior Services Director April Missias, to change Action Item #9, to Contribution from Anonymous Donor, which then will move the original Action Item #9 to Action Item #7c.

MOTION BY RUSHTON THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner, Robbins)
NO – 0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Public Comment:

Chairman Bunek stated the telephone number to call for any individuals wishing to make public comment. The following individuals spoke during public comment via telephone: Tom Nelson, Leelanau Conservancy and Centerville Township; Darlene Doorlag, Centerville Township; John Fletcher, Lake Leelanau; Jay Johnson, Empire Township; Dana Getsinger, Bingham Township.

The following guests spoke in person at the meeting: Bruce Price, Leland Township; Jim Kobberstad, Lake Leelanau; Gery Zematis, Leland Township; John Popa, Bingham Township; Charles Knapp, Cleveland Township; Cindi Hollenbeck, Cleveland Township; Ann Dechow, Bingham Township.

Letters were received from the following individuals: Lois Bahle, Sarah Bordeaux, Rich and Chris Bahle, Dean Manikas and the Lime Lake Board of Directors, Nancy Flanagan, Darlene Doorlag, Bob Martel, Claire M. Everwein and William. G. Vogt, Dana Getsinger, Jay Johnson, John Fletcher, James R. Deamud, Chairman of the Houghton Lake Improvement Board; Tricia

Denton, Leelanau Clean Water; Mary Sell. All public comment copies can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2139#handouts>

Communications, Proclamations, Presentations:

Administrator Update:

Administrator Janik recognized Chief Deputy Clerk Jennifer Zywicki for being accepted in the NACo leadership academy this past Spring with a total of 60 participants. Zywicki informed the Commissioners briefly on how the leadership training is going and what the program is about.

Janik informed the Commissioners that the CDBG allocation review of financials will take place at a public hearing on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., which has been advertised and is a requirement of the grant award.

IT Director Ron Plamondon was present to update Commissioners on the operational changes within the new ipads purchased. The newest change will allow Commissioners to use a cloud to access communications versus emails.

Janik recognized Chairman Bunek's birthday, presenting him with a pie.

Thirteenth Circuit Community Corrections Update:

Community Corrections Manager Sherise Shively gave an update via Zoom with a PowerPoint. Shively answered questions from Commissioners.

The PowerPoint can be viewed at the following link:

https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/presentation_pp_comm_corr_05112021.pdf

Probate/Family Court Update:

The Honorable Marian Kromkowski, Probate Register Kris Mattis, and Family Court Administrator Joe Povolo were present to update the Commissioners. Judge Kromkowski introduced Deputy Probate Register Rachael LaCross and informed them that LaCross will be taking online courses to become a court recorder.

Povolo informed the Commissioners there are changes coming soon within the Child Care Grant and how 17-year-old juveniles may be handled differently but there is nothing concrete yet. The boys club is still continuing to get together for outside activities as much as possible to keep the connection between the kids and the volunteers strong. Povolo answered questions from Commissioners.

Chairman Bunek called for a brief recess at 10:27 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 10:38 a.m.

Action Items –

Northwestern Regional Airport Commission – Proposed Assignment and Assumption Agreement:
Cherry Capital Airport Director Kevin Klein was present for Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LEELANAU AND THE NORTHWEST REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion – none.

ROLL CALL: Rushton – YES; Soutas-Little – YES; Wessell – YES; Allgaier – YES; Bunek – YES; Lautner – YES; Robbins – YES.

AYES – 7 NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Northwestern Regional Airport Commission – Proposed Property Purchase Agreement

Cherry Capital Airport Director Kevin Klein was present for Commissioners questions.

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #2021-XXX AUTHORIZING THE NORTHWESTERN REGIONAL AIRPORT COMMISSION TO ACQUIRE 723 DUELL ROAD, TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion – Klein responded to questions from Commissioner Soutas-Little and Commissioner Allgaier.

ROLL CALL: Rushton – YES; Soutas-Little – YES; Wessell – YES; Allgaier – YES; Bunek – YES; Lautner – YES; Robbins – YES.

AYES – 7 NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Thirteenth Circuit Court – Approval of Resolution #2021-XXX, FY 2022 MDOC Grant:

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #2021-XXX 13TH CIRCUIT COURT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT APPLICATION TO MDOC FOR FY 2022. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner, Robbins)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Lake Leelanau Preservation Board Request:

Lake Leelanau Lake Association President Tom Hiatt, Director Nancy Popa, Lake Biologist Brian Price, and local resident Steve Martino were present and addressed questions from Commissioners.

The PowerPoint can be viewed at the following link:

https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/presentation_llpb_05112021.pdf

Attorney Tim Perrone of Cohl, Stoker & Toskey, P.C., was present via Zoom to answer Commissioner questions regarding the proposed Resolution to Establish a Lake Leelanau Preservation Board.

A lengthy discussion followed between Commissioners clarifying their opinions regarding possible resolution changes. Commissioner Lautner requested Perrone to draft a resolution with

changes to include the scope, the assessment district including the riparians and back lots, and a timeline of five to six years.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE FORWARD THE LAKE LEELANAU PRESERVATION BOARD REQUEST TO TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021, AND FOR ATTORNEY PERRONE TO PROVIDE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WITH A RESOLUTION INCLUDING THE PROPOSED CHANGES. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO CREATE 2 (TWO) LAKE LEELANAU PRESERVATION BOARD RESOLUTIONS WITH ONE TAXING THE COUNTY AS A WHOLE, AND ONE TAXING THE RIPARIANS. Fails for lack of a second.

Perrone answered Commissioner questions regarding County Ordinances.

Janik clarified the scope of the changes to the resolution proposed by Commissioners.

MOTION AMENDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE TO AMEND TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO HAVE THE PROPOSED CHANGED RESOLUTION COMMISSIONER LAUTNER IS REQUESTING AND THE RESOLUTION PRESENTED TODAY TO COME BACK TO THE TABLE FOR TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion – Chairman Bunek would like to see the new resolution to say invasive species.

Zywicki clarified the motion made by Commissioner Lautner to include proposed changes.

Chairman Bunek removed from the table the motion made by Soutas-Little to amend since there was a motion already on the floor and is not a motion to amend the original motion.

Commissioner Rushton stated that it appears that there is a struggle with the language for this resolution without board approval and she will vote no.

Commissioner Wessell clarified that last month there was discussion about a proposed resolution and direction to the Administrator to work with Attorney Perrone to create the proposed resolution for today, unless his memory is incorrect. He appreciates getting the resolution today and thinks now with the input looks forward to next week's meeting.

Commissioner Wessell calls the question, seconded by Soutas-Little.

Chairman Bunek calls to question to end debate:

AYES – 7 (Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little)

NO – 0

MOTION PASSES.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE FORWARD THE LAKE LEELANAU PRESERVATION BOARD REQUEST TO TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021, AND FOR ATTORNEY PERRONE TO PROVIDE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WITH A RESOLUTION WITH THE DISCUSSED PROPOSED CHANGES. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

**ROLL CALL: Lautner – YES, Robbins – YES; Rushton – YES; Soutas-Little – NO;
Wessell – YES; Allgaier – NO; Bunek – YES.**

AYES – 5 NO – 2

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Chairman Bunek called for a brief recess at 12:03 p.m. and called the meeting back to order at 12:12 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission – Myles Kimmerly Park Trail Debris Cleanup

Recommendation:

Drain Commissioner Steve Christensen and Parks and Recreation Chairman Casey Noonan were present for Commissioners questions.

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM WILDLIFE AND WETLANDS SOLUTIONS FOR THE TRAIL DEBRIS CLEAN-UP AT MYLES KIMMERLY PARK IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$46,800.00 WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM 101.850.756.801.101. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER. Discussion – Commissioner Wessell clarified that it looks like a disaster out there and it needs to be cleaned up. It is a lot of money and he is not sure how to pay for it but when there are these kinds of things that happen, they need to be taken care of.

Commissioner Rushton requested from Noonan as to where the money is to come from to cover the bid and requests that this should instead be included within the request for the 2022 budget.

Commissioner Lautner asked Zywicki about the current 2021 budget and how could the contract be covered versus waiting until the 2022 budget. Zywicki informed the Board that over the last four to five years the Parks and Recreation Commission has not been spending the capital outlay expense line, because they had proposed to spend less due to a cost share for the grant application. The grant application was denied and those funds not used rolled into the General Fund. Zywicki proposed using the revenue from the sale of the timber along with the balance from the 2020 budget to fund the project, which would be approximately \$37,000.00.

Commissioner Wessell requested that the language to add funds to come from fund balance forward to the motion with support from Commissioner Allgaier.

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM WILDLIFE AND WETLANDS SOLUTIONS FOR THE TRAIL DEBRIS CLEAN-UP AT MYLES KIMMERLY PARK IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$46,800.00 WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM 101.850.756.801.101 AND FUNDS TO COME FROM FUND BALANCE FORWARD. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion – Questions from Commissioners answered by Noonan and Christensen.

AYES – 7 (Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Commissioner Rushton stated that budget time is coming soon and that the Parks and Receptions Commission should put their thinking caps on regarding budget requests because she doesn't like these types of surprises.

Parks and Recreation Commission – Veronica Valley Park Pond Fish Stocking (Laggis Fish Farms):

Drain Commissioner Steve Christensen and Parks and Recreation Chairman Casey Noonan were present for Commissioners questions.

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WAIVE ITS POLICY ON BID REQUIREMENTS AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF FISH FOR VERONICA VALLEY POND IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,292.50 WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM 101.850.756.727.000. SECONDED BY ROBBINS/ALLGAIER.

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Building & Grounds Committee Recommendation, Veronica Valley Park Bench Donation:

Dave Barrons was present via Zoom for Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE BENCH AND PLAQUE DONATION WITH THE SIZE OF THE BENCH, SIZE OF BRASS PLAQUE, THE FINAL WORDING OF THE PLAQUE, AND THE LOCATION OF THE BENCH THAT WAS APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE AND BE PLACE BY JUNE 2021. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – Commissioner Rushton informed Commissioners within the Board packet is the pictures and the plaque size will be 3"x5", which is the same as other plaques within County parks.

**AYES – 7 (Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek)
NO - 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Late Addition #2: Creation of (two) Departments – Human Resources and Finance:

Commissioner Robbins thanked Chairman Bunek for the opportunity to present.

MOTION BY ROBBINS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO CREATE AN INDEPENDENT HR (HUMAN RESOURCES) DEPARTMENT, ALLOWING OPERATIONS TO COMMENCE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2022, ACCOUNTABLE TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OR IT'S REPRESENTATIVE, AND TO CREATE AN INDEPENDENT FINANCE DEPARTMENT AND HIRE A DIRECTOR FOR THE POSITION, ALLOWING FOR OPERATIONS TO COMMENCE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2022, ACCOUNTABLE TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OR IT'S REPRESENTATIVE, WITH A TIMELINE TO INCLUDE:

- 1. START DATE, NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2022**
- 2. JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**
- 3. SALARY RANGE**
- 4. CANDIDATE SEARCH**
- 5. VETTING PROCESS, AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS INTERVIEWS**
- 6. HIRE AND CONTRACT LANGUAGE TO INCLUDE A PROBATION PERIOD**
- 7. TRAINING AND ACCLIMATION PERIOD**
- 8. BUILDING PLANNING AND LOGISTICS**

SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – Commissioner Robbins stated that this is nothing personal against anybody within these positions right now. He knows County Clerk Michelle L. Crocker has been doing it, and she's been doing a good job, but we have also grown as the County. He just found out a little while ago that this position was changed back in 1995 when the Board of Commissioners voted 3-2 to change it to allow this. There are a lot of things going on and you need to look at the history of the County and where we have come and we are growing. We have a new building here and we aren't in Leland anymore and we aren't "Mayberry", and no disrespect to that. We still have the Mayberry atmosphere but we can't operate like "Mayberry" anymore. Another thing that concerns him while talking with the Clerk is all the stress that she is under, health issues she has discussed with him all the time with her family, and with her personally. When you really look at this position, it's her wearing three hats and it's 2021, so how can one person wear three different hats and be productive? She's been doing it but as we progress supposedly last year, we grew 3%, and we are going to continue to grow, so it's time to make some changes here.

Commissioner Robbins continued saying that the County wouldn't be taking Crocker's job away, she would still be Clerk and everything, but we need to have independent departments here for the better of the County and for everything. The breakdown is that HR needs to be separate, and probably should be under the Administrator's Office like it is in most counties. Employees need to be able to come in and talk about their issues, whether it's retirement, health benefits or any issues regarding Human Resources. The position would work with MERS, contract negotiations and another thing too for HR is that the County is growing and it's getting more difficult for employees to live here. With the County growing and have to hire new employees, we would be hiring from downstate. The HR person would need to assist them in finding housing if want qualified employees, because all our employees won't be able to live in this County. This is a time where it is hard to find employees, so the department heads could still be doing their jobs and HR could help with recruiting, like with the Sheriff or any department. The HR department can take of policies and procedures for the County and regarding the incident in August where was the County policy on this? He said that all policies should be up to speed and would meet with Risk Management to make sure there isn't a liability.

Commissioner Robbins said as to the Finance Director position, he feels that it is not healthy to keep it under an elected Official, and the position needs to be an independent person. If another department head needs money for their department they shouldn't have to compete with another elected official, and feels that is a conflict of interest. Finance needs to be moved over and he feels that nobody will lose their job, the Clerk keeps her job, and it just means that the employees left behind would have the option to move to another department head. It's time to move forward as a County because it's 2021 and it's not 1995 anymore, and there needs to be a serious look into these two positions.

Commissioner Allgaier asked for clarification from Robbins as to who these two positions work for. Robbins apologized to Allgaier for misspeaking as to where the positions report. His experience with other counties is that they would report to the Administrator, but the choice would be up to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Allgaier agrees that it makes sense to have an HR person as a rule and it merits exploring.

Commissioner Robbins stated that the reason he brought this today is that the Board is 45 to 60 days away from starting the budget process for 2022. He realizes that this won't happen overnight and it will take a team effort from everybody to get support and then to make the transition work. The reason he presented today was because he didn't want to wait to present in June, as it would make it to close to the start of budget, and gives Commissioner's time with which direction to move to.

Commissioner Lautner asked for clarification from Robbins as to which year he was discussing and Commissioner Robbins clarified it is for 2022.

Commissioner Soutas-Little commented that this grows government quite a bit and asked Commissioner Robbins for clarification to justify why the reason to create new departments now?

Chairman Bunek re-stated what Commissioner Soutas-Little was asking because the Zoom feed was breaking up and he believed he heard that she was looking for data to support the justification of creating two new departments. Soutas-Little continued her position by asking Commissioner Robbins if he has an objective quantifiable example of what isn't being done right now, or a lack of efficiency right now? When adding two full departments usually you do that if there is something to fix or when things are not being handled, so where is the concrete evidence of what the problem is? What warrants taking this and creating two different departments to address the problem, and again what is the problem?

Commissioner Robbins responded that the issues he sees is that the Clerk's duties list goes on and on. The Clerk's job in itself is a full-time job and then some, but what he is looking at in this stage of the growing population is how can we have someone come into the Clerk's office to talk about a marriage license, or court, and the next person is finance, or HR, and it's just too much to ask of one individual and gives too much control to one individual.

Commissioner Soutas-Little asked Commissioner Robbins if he has spoken with the Clerk and does the Clerk feel that she can't function effectively, or are there people in her office that can't? Did the Clerk tell you this personally that she wants two departments created?

Commissioner Robbins stated that he has talked with the Clerk "many times over the last six months" and the conversation always starts with how stressed out she is and overworked.

Commissioner Soutas-Little asked Commissioner Robbins once again if the Clerk specifically told him that by creating two new department this would lower her stress and he that "No, she has not told him." Soutas-Little said she doesn't see where the problem is to try and fix with a dissolution if the Clerk's Office functions are being handled and Chief Deputy Jennifer Zywicki today solved the Parks and Recreation finance situation with her Financial knowledge of the County's budget. Soutas-Little said she doesn't see the problem that is trying to be addressed, and the Clerk hasn't asked for this. This problem that doesn't exist is trying to be fixed with bigger government and isn't in the best interest of the County just because someone says the County may be old.

Commissioner Robbins stated that he doesn't want to see government grow either, but it will need to be done at some point. He doesn't want to see the next clerk, whenever Crocker steps

down, to be saddled with all these burdens, so he is trying to prevent a “trainwreck” that could happen down the road.

Commissioner Wessell thanked Robbins for all the thought that he put into this idea and obviously with the budget coming up could be brought up then. He stated that every year with the audit the firm gives the County an A+ rating, they always state that the County finances are in good shape, we don't have any grievances, and our contracts are settled quickly. If the County was going to add personnel, the housing action committee talked yesterday about what they could do with more resources to help assist with housing issues. He doesn't feel that additional staff are necessary and especially higher paid administrators, so thank you, but no.

Chairman Bunek recommended to the Board that this could be forwarded to the Budget and Finance Committee to come up with a plan and reminded Commissioners that there was a motion on the floor.

Commissioner Lautner stated that Commissioner Robbins brings up a very good point that it's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when. There is absolutely no doubt that our Clerk and her staff do a phenomenal job, and have done a phenomenal job without a doubt and she wants to be clear about that, but on the other hand, it has come at a price, which is really unfair to ask of her. The Clerk's office is down one staff member and wants to hire, and it's an inside joke that you call her on the weekend because she can get a lot of work done, along with her Chief to get all the work done. At some point there will be change-over and it would be easier to line it up now, rather than in the future because it would be unfair to burden a new Clerk. She feels the County's salaries are fair, and having all of this is a lion's share of responsibility on one department head. If you take the personalities out of it and just look at how the County can be operated, or should be operated, or in the future will be operated, that it makes sense to look at this in 2022 budget and it has its merits.

Commissioner Rushton stated that there have been multiple times that Janik has told the Board of the long hours Zywicki and County Clerk Crocker have worked. It's a question of how much overtime is the County spending on these hours is one issue. Rushton has been with the County for almost nine years and has seen a change for Crocker with higher stress levels and does believe that it is the time to start making the changes and getting the departments acclimated to a new process and she supports the motion.

Commissioner Allgaier stated that this idea needs exploration because they are important ideas and perhaps needs but we have to determine if there truly even is a need and is not a decision that can be made quickly, easily and with the voice of the Administrator. Does the County need an HR Department? Who will benefit from these new departments, and it sounds like Crocker needs additional staff than just the position that currently needs replacement? This topic should not be taken lightly and the Board needs to involve Department Heads and the Administrator.

Janik stated that maybe the best way to move forward would be to amend the motion to state “explore” the possibility of establishing instead of “to create”. Obviously, the Commissioners do not have all the facts or figures associated with the motion and this is the first time everyone is hearing about it. As Chairman Bunek stated, there is a Finance/Audit Committee that would hear this and if the motion says to explore, the Committee can meet to discuss the job descriptions, budgets, and create a structure of the new departments.

Commissioner Lautner said she is not opposed to this action item going to the Finance/Audit Committee, and looking at some of those things. The motion says to establish and that sets a path but that doesn't mean it can't be explored as we go. There are a lot of things that are going to take some time for a January 1, 2022, start date. The duty of the Board of Commissioners is to create and we do not lean on the Administrator or a Department Head for. It is up to the Board of Commissioners to cover all the bases, not forget anything, and do it the right way forward. She thinks a while ago the Board of Commissioners talked about this and she feels that Leelanau is one of the few that has finance and human resources under the Clerk. She feels that Commissioner Robbins is right and with this being 2021 looking to 2022, it has been a long time coming and while it has worked, she thinks that it is time.

Commissioner Wessell would like to see this at budget time versus this being added to an already long Executive Board Session meeting. He stated that this topic should be placed with the 2022 budget preparation, and now we are establishing two new departments with no knowledge about this until it was added to the agenda as a late addition.

Commissioner Soutas-Little concurred with Commissioner Wessell's concerns. Soutas-Little has not heard that the County Clerk Crocker is not running again, and this late addition is being discussed as though she isn't. What she has heard the Clerk say on multiple occasions is that the Clerk could use more people, and even so the office still operates very well. In knowing that the Clerk is overworked, then why isn't the Board of Commissioners looking into what the Clerk needs to relieve her weekend work versus leaving her out of this discussion? She reiterated that she does not see what the problems are and to say we are "growing" and will need this eventually does not mean that it is needed now by looking into a major overhaul. Whether the Board of Commissioners says explore or establish it comes down to the same thing. So why isn't this looked at during budget time and involve the County Clerk and Administrator in this conversation? Soutas-Little said she will not support this motion.

Commissioner Rushton stated that she sees it as a big change and believes that when you look at hiring people for certain positions who have the background and experience in specific areas. An HR person background, education, and experience in that area and believes she has heard pretty much that that it would be helpful to the County. She doesn't understand how the Board of Commissioners can't apply the same situation to somebody who might be a CPA, and may bring different things to the County because of their education, background, and work experience. "We may find that solutions might be different with issues the Board has faced in the past by expanding the scope to professionals." The other issue is that County Clerk Crocker could be gone tomorrow and with all the great work she has done, quite frankly Rushton said she doesn't know how Michelle does it. It is unfair for the Board of Commissioners to continue to demand that one person takes on all the responsibility of all the things she takes upon her shoulders. "Does she want to give it up? Probably not, she's been doing it for years. Just like Rushton's husband who doesn't want to give things up because he thinks he can still do it, and before we get to that point." Rushton feels it's prudent on the Board's behalf to look into the future, see the changes that are coming about, and be prepared for anything that comes. "Does it mean that Michelle will be eliminated from the payroll? But it means that she will work and coordinate efforts to train and acclimate a new person in a couple different positions that she currently oversees". The Board has seven months to explore this and Rushton said she will support the motion to create and believes its time. With seven months there is time to explore the process, the timelines and everything the Board will need to do to bring these departments

into play and bring them up to speed. And hopefully we will have Crocker here for a few more years where she can assist in those departments so the County doesn't have a lapse in tranquility. She feels its time and we need to stop depending on her, because we all do. (Audience member Gery Zemaitis interjected, "Good Point.")

Commissioner Allgaier stated that she can't even imagine talking about creating a couple of new departments after a 20-minute discussion without having explored more than the Board has. The ideas have absolute merit but there needs to be more facts.

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO TABLE THIS ISSUE UNTIL BUDGET DISCUSSIONS IN JULY AND AUGUST. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – Commissioner Rushton moved to amend the motion to table to the Regular session. Failed due to lack of support.

ROLL CALL: Wessell – YES; Allgaier – YES; Bunek – NO; Lautner – NO; Robbins – NO; Rushton – NO; Soutas-Little – YES.

AYES – 3 NO – 4

RECOMMENDATION FAILS.

Chairman Bunek now called for a vote on the original proposed motion:

MOTION BY ROBBINS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO CREATE AN INDEPENDENT HR (HUMAN RESOURCES) DEPARTMENT, ALLOWING OPERATIONS TO COMMENCE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2022, ACCOUNTABLE TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OR IT'S REPRESENTATIVE, AND TO CREATE AN INDEPENDENT FINANCE DEPARTMENT AND HIRE A DIRECTOR FOR THE POSITION ALLOWING FOR OPERATIONS TO COMMENCE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2022, ACCOUNTABLE TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OR IT'S REPRESENTATIVE WITH A TIMELINE TO INCLUDE:

- 9. START DATE, NO LATER THAN OF JANUARY 1, 2022**
- 10. JOB DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS**
- 11. SALARY RANGE**
- 12. CANDIDATE SEARCH**
- 13. VETTING PROCESS, AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS INTERVIEWS**
- 14. HIRE AND CONTRACT LANGUAGE TO INCLUDE A PROBATION PERIOD**
- 15. TRAINING AND ACCLIMATION PERIOD**
- 16. BUILDING PLANNING AND LOGISTICS**

SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

ROLL CALL: Robbins – YES; Rushton – YES; Soutas-Little – NO; Wessell – NO; Allgaier – NO; Bunek – YES; Lautner – YES.

AYES – 4 NO – 3

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Commissioner Soutas-Little stated that she is appalled that this Board just established a re-organization with no advanced notice and between now and next week with any details. And the motion says to create, but now there are comments that it will or could be changed to say explore on a late addition and she is appalled.

Commissioner Rushton commented "that this vote was just like the Early Childhood." Commissioner Lautner agreed with Commissioner Rushton.

Sheriff's Office – Acceptance of 2021 Marine Safety Grant:

Undersheriff James Kiessel was present for Commissioners questions.

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ACCEPT THE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE MARINE SAFETY PROGRAM AS OUTLINED IN THE 2021 MARINE SAFETY GRANT AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,100.00. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Chairman Bunek called for a lunch break at 1:19 p.m. and called the meeting back to order at 1:55 p.m.

Federal Funding Update – Potential Special Meeting:

Janik updated the Commissioners that there will need to be a special meeting and he would like this action item moved forward to the regular session on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE THE FEDERAL FUNDING UPDATE TO THE REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Planning/Community Development, ERG Scrap Tire Recycling – Recycling Agreement:

Planning Director Trudy Galla was present for Commissioners questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY AND ERG ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FOR A SCRAP TIRE RECYCLING PROGRAM IN 2021, NOT TO EXCEED \$10,200.00; WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM FUND #230, AND TIRE RECYCLING FEES. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Planning/Community Development, ERG Scrap Tire Recycling – Community Collection Day:

Planning Director Trudy Galla was present for Commissioners questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH ERG ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FOR A ONE (1) DAY COMMUNITY SCRAP TIRE COLLECTION EVENT IN 2021 WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM FUND #230 AND TIRE FEES, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$12,800.00. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% Allocation Applications, First Cycle – Emergency Management, School Reunification Unit Supplies and Equipment \$5,062.64:

Emergency Manager/911 Director Matt Ansorge was present for Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE LEELANAU COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO PURSUE A GRAND TRAVERSE BAND TRIBAL 2% ALLOCATION IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A SCHOOL REUNIFICATION KIT THAT WILL ASSIST OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS IN REUNITING STUDENTS WITH THEIR FAMILIES FOLLOWING AN EVACUATION. SECONDED BY RUSHTON/WESSELL.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% Allocation Applications, First Cycle – Family Court, Leelanau Christian Neighbors, Blessings in a Backpack, \$8,200.00:

Family Court Administrator Joe Povolo was present for Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE FAMILY COURT TO PURSUE GRAND TRAVERSE BAND TRIBAL 2% ALLOCATION TO ADMINISTER THE FUNDS LEELANAU CHRISTIAN NEIGHBORS, BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,200.00. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – Povolo answered questions as to who receives them and how many backpacks go to Juveniles.

ROLL CALL: Allgaier – YES; Bunek – NO; Lautner – YES; Robbins – YES; Rushton – NO; Soutas-Little – YES; Wessell – YES.

AYES – 5 NO – 2

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% Allocation Applications, First Cycle – Family Court, LIFT (Leelanau Investing In Teens), Building Renovation, \$22,039.00:

Family Court Administrator Joe Povolo was present for Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE FAMILY COURT TO PURSUE GRAND TRAVERSE BAND TRIBAL 2% ALLOCATION TO ADMINISTER THE FUNDS FOR LIFT'S RENOVATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,039.00. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – Commissioner Lautner questioned how many kids come into this building and she needs a reason to support a renovation to a building that the County staff uses as a resource to reach teens. Commissioner Bunek said he feels that this is not a service, but just another way for a Non-profit to get a “donation” and by voting make the donation legal. Commissioner Wessell confirmed that the objective is to divert from the use of Family Court and to keep the kids there for lunch and after school programs. The Family Court Diversion Staff is there on site for programs. Commissioner Rushton said she sees LIFT is very helpful with keeping kids off the streets and from getting into trouble. Commissioners requested more information from Povolo before voting next Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

Commissioner Wessell withdrew his motion with support from Commissioner Soutas-Little.

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE FORWARD THE GRAND TRAVERSE BAND OF OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA INDIANS 2% ALLOCATION APPLICATION FROM FAMILY COURT FOR LIFT'S RENOVATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,039.00 TO THE REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% Allocation Applications, First Cycle – Parks and Recreation, Invasive Species Eradication, \$22,000.00:

Dave Barrons, Vice Chairman Parks and Recreation Commission was present for Commissioner question.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE GRAND TRAVERSE BAND 2% ALLOCATION APPLICATION FROM THE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR INVASIVE SPECIES ERADICATION AT VERONICA VALLEY COUNTY PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000.00. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Late Addition #1 – Senior Serviced, Acceptance of Anonymous Donation:

Senior Services Director April Missias was present for Commissioner questions.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ACCEPT A CONTRIBUTION FORM AN ANONYMOUS DONOR TOTALING \$2,000.00 AND PLACED INTO LEELANAU SENIOR SERVICIES' PANDEMIC DONATIONS ACCOUNT #281.000.000.675.019. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Opening Prayer Guidelines:

MOTION BY CHAIRMAN BUNEK TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ACCEPT THE PRAYER POLICY GUIDELINES FROM PAGES 159 TO 161. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – Commissioner Wessell said he disagrees with this policy and feels that this is not within the scope of mandated responsibilities of County government.

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO TABLE THIS ISSUE UNTIL THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 2023. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER/SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – none.

ROLL CALL: Wessell – YES; Allgaier – YES; Bunek – NO; Lautner – NO; Robbins – NO; Rushton – NO; Soutas-Little – YES

AYES – 3 NO – 4

RECOMMENDATION FAILS.

Commissioner Allgaier stated that she is disappointed that there was no discussion regarding both proposed Prayer Policy Guidelines and that Chairman Bunek made a motion without discussing both proposed guidelines.

Chairman Bunek commented that if the first motion fails then the Board can move onto the second proposed Prayer Policy Guidelines, but only if it fails.

MOTION TO AMEND BY SOUTAS-LITTLE TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO CHANGE THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE WITHIN THE PRAYER POLICY GUIDELINES TO INCLUDE WITH CONGREGATES IN LEELANAU COUNTY. SECONDED BY ALLAGIER.

Discussion – Commissioner Wessell said he likes the modification but still feels that the Board should not be spending any more time on this. Commissioner Lautner said she does not support the amended motion. Chairman Bunek said he hopes the prayer policy guidelines will bring solemnity and seriousness to the meetings. Bunek is hopeful that this will bring the Commissioners together and bring make it much better at working together.

Commissioner Wessell clarified that from the previous meeting Chairman Bunek and Commissioner Allgaier were to come back to the full Board with one proposed resolution.

Commissioner Allgaier stated that she appreciated the effort of Chairman Bunek but believes that today there should have been discussion on both since there was no compromise.

Commissioner Lautner calls the question, seconded by Rushton.

Chairman Bunek calls the question to end debate:

Roll Call: Lautner – YES; Robbins – YES; Rushton – YES; Soutas-Little – NO; Wessell – NO; Allgaier – NO; Bunek – YES

AYES – 4 NO – 3

MOTION PASSES.

MOTION TO AMEND BY SOUTAS-LITTLE TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO CHANGE THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE WITHIN THE PRAYER POLICY GUIDELINES TO INCLUDE WITH CONGREGATES IN LEELANAU COUNTY. SECONDED BY ALLAGIER.

ROLL CALL: Soutas-Little – YES; Wessell – NO; Allgaier – YES; Bunek – NO; Lautner – NO; Robbins – NO; Rushton – NO

AYES – 2 NO – 6

RECOMMENDATION FAILS.

MOTION BY CHAIRMAN BUNEK TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ACCEPT THE PRAYER POLICY GUIDELINES FROM PAGES 159 TO 161. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

ROLL CALL: Bunek – YES; Lautner – YES; Robbins – YES; Rushton – YES; Soutas-Little – NO; Wessell – NO; Allgaier – NO

AYES – 4 NO – 3

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Commissioner Wessell stated that he will be respectful of this but it should be implemented in a way that 100% of the residents feel a part of this County government and not just the 42% that might applaud the act that the Board did today.

Commissioner Lautner commented that the prayer could be placed after the Call to Order.

Commissioner Rushton said she agrees with Commissioner Lautner and also feels that everyone can remain seated. Rushton stated that those that don't care to listen in will not be part of the meeting, and that they don't have to listen if they don't want to.

Chairman Bunek stated that there is consensus to place prayer after call to order.

"Invisible Leelanau":

Commissioner Wessell updated Commissioners on households within Leelanau County called "Alice Households", and encouraged Commissioners to read the information in the packet, along with the survey results regarding Poverty in Paradise.

Commissioners thanked Commissioner Wessell for the information presented.

Administration – Vehicle/Boat Auctions Update:

Executive Assistant Laurel Evans was present to inform the Commissioners on where the auction site is located on the County's web page. There are five (5) vehicles and one (1) boat for sale. The auction site will be available until 3:00 p.m. Monday, May 17, 2021.

Commissioners thanked Evans for her work with the Auctions.

Administration – Leelanau Clean Water Group Agreement:

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE FORWARD THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LEELANAU AND LEELANAU CLEAN WATER TO TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner, Robbins)

NO - 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Administration – Hiring Policy Moratorium (Co. Res. 2020-0210) Expiration Recommendation:

Janik explained to Commissioners that this Policy will expire on June 30, 2021, so if the Board wishes to move the item forward to the Regular Session on May 19, 2021, a final vote can be made to either discontinue the policy or continue it with a late addition from the Clerk's Office to replace the current vacancy.

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE FORWARD THE HIRING POLICY MORATORIUM (CO. RE. 2020-0210) TO THE REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

AYES – 7 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek, Lautner, Robbins)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Review of Financials:

Commissioner Lautner questioned the purchase of gravel from the Road Commission for the Building and Grounds Department and Janik will get clarification from Maintenance Director Jerry Culman and report back.

Special Reports by Staff, Commissioners, and Affiliated Agencies:

None.

Public Comment:

Chairman Bunek stated the telephone number to call for any individuals wishing to make public comment. The following individuals spoke during public comment via telephone: Linda Mikowski, Bingham and Suttons Bay Townships.

The following spoke in person at the meeting: April Missias, Senior Services Director.

Commissioner Comment:

●Commissioner Wessell stated that he wasn't going to comment about the prayer guidelines but does want to speak to the Finance/Human Resources decision that was made to move forward with. He said that he knows that it can be reversed, and that the word appalled has been used already today so he is going to use the word embarrassed on how quickly we were able to decide to do a total reorganization of county government and create two new departments and all the associated costs. And making it even worse is that we didn't know it was going to be on the agenda, so we couldn't give it some thought or do any homework on it. He said that he suspects that four people knew it was going to be agenda, but that is only a suspicion – Commissioner Lautner interjected "suspicion" – Wessell continued that we don't deal with major, major, major, major decisions and spring them on this Board in a surprising way and say "Gotcha", you don't have time to think about this because we are going to put it forward and we are going to cut off conversation and we are just going to do it. We spent less time talking about creating whether we create two new department heads and two new departments, than we have done on some \$100.00 purchases that have been questioned in accounts payable. To top this all off, we did it without Commissioners not knowing it, if we really didn't know it – but the Clerk not knowing it. How disrespectful is that, that we are talking about revamping one of our faithful employees and elected official's jobs and we don't even let her know it is on the table? Wessell said he cannot believe that we do business that way. He cannot believe we do business that way and he would like to be proud of being a County Commissioner and proud of his colleagues, but he has to tell them the way we make decisions whether it be about prayer, finances, or other things – if we are playing gotcha all the time and saying if four people want it to happen, it is going to happen period and don't wait until we work to see if we can be at a consensus on anything and only want to get it through quick and surprise – how irresponsible were we today; how disrespectful we were today with the process of making decisions, how

disrespectful we were to residents, and how embarrassed we should be by our performance today.

- Commissioner Allgaier stated that she would like to add that with her experience in the business world that when a structural change is made in an organization that it was proceeded by a lot of in-depth exploration. There would be talks that involve employees and department heads, you see what is really needed, you see if it is needed, you talk as a group, and you plan as a group. You do not just come up with an idea in 15 minutes, coming from the top-down to think that works and it is disrespectful of the employees in this building. Allgaier continued that there was a decision at the end of the internal meeting last Thursday with Chairman Bunek that since we couldn't arrive at a resolution together that we would discuss it at the Executive Board session. And instead, Chairman Bunek presented a motion that was voted on with no discussion at all regarding any comprised ideas and stated that she wonders why there was a meeting at all. She said she thinks that it could have been handled in a more inclusive way, which would have included more ideas, and in a less divisive way.

- Commissioner Rushton said that "You are making all these accusations; how do you know the employees haven't been talked to? How do you know that department heads weren't talked to? You don't know any of that and neither do I, but how do you know?"

- Commissioner Allgaier asked if she could respond to Commissioner Rushton - - and stated that we would see the result of a study.

- Commissioner Lautner said she is quite concerned about the anger she is feeling coming from the rest of the Board. In the first place she stated that she would be very careful because there are some accusations that are totally off base, and that person should be very careful throwing them out there, and she is sure they were thrown out there for a reason. She doesn't feel that anyone was cut off and that there was quite a bit of discussion. She feels that anyone could have asked Commissioner Robbins who placed this on the agenda why it wasn't on the agenda ahead of time. She knows it is very difficult being a new commissioner and not understanding the full process, or maybe they didn't think of it. She like to think that she can give someone the benefit of the doubt and in her opinion, there was a lot of discussion. "All of the discussion was things that made a lot of sense to me, so it was discussion that brought together my vote. This has been talked about in the past a number of times, and to say that we are disrespectful to a faithful employee, I thought we could not have been clearer today how we appreciate what our employees have done here. More than super human work, super hero type work, but we don't deal with personalities. We have got to look at positions, I thought that we made it very clear. So, this is a decision for the future, that is why we asked about the start date, which is January 1, 2022. So, this is about serving the Community and I remember not such a long time ago that there was the idea thrown on us of merging the Clerk and Register of Deeds Office with absolutely no warning. But that was ok because it was coming from somewhere else, so before anybody gets upset about anything we have to look at the entire whole picture. I think that there is going to be a lot to learn and we will find that out through budget. I think it will be an interesting process but I have some phone calls to make this week. As I said earlier, I think that we are, last I knew, the last county at least of our size to have everything under one umbrella. So, I will be making some calls to back that up, but I thought we were very clear and to just pick and choose comments is very unfair."

●Chairman Bunek stated that it was his time to talk when referring to Commissioner Allgaier. He stated that she had a resolution on her own, so why was it wrong for him to have his own?

●Commissioner Allgaier answered Commissioner Rushton’s questions about how did she know that the Finance/Human Resources departments were talked with people. She stated that generally if that happens then you share the results and make decisions as a whole based on knowledge that we all have been able to access. You don’t just talk individually, because you would share that and make an informed decision. So, if that did happen, I don’t know, and that is usually the way management decisions are made.

●Commissioner Soutas-Little thanked Senior Services Director April Missias for expressing her views because it is something positive, and she made some good points that we can help through Senior Services. She is wondering if there is a possibility that with meetings being so long, donations and the review of financials could be posted online instead. She is disappointed with the prayer guideline and that the amendment failed. She hoped that the language she recommended could have added to be more inclusive. She stated to Commissioner Lautner that the vote today regarding the Finance/Human Resources late addition is nothing like the Early Childhood Vote, since there was five months of meetings with no surprises at the end. She was surprised to see the late addition coming from Commissioner Robbins, since he is so new, and he must have a real grasp on it. She agrees with Commissioner Allgaier that along with a study, interviews with the Clerk’s Office, Administrator’s Office, and this should have come from a policy board by recommendation. She hopes that the recommendation to create two new departments can be rectified next week.

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 APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$91,798.87. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek)
NO – 0 **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Post Audit Claims and Accounts:

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL OF POST AUDIT CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT \$1,730,304.52. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Lautner, Robbins, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Allgaier, Bunek)
NO – 0 **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Adjournment:

Chairman Bunek adjourned the meeting at 4:04 p.m.

William J. Bunek, Chairman
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

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