

# **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

December 21, 2015

Chairman Goff Searl called the meeting of the Chautauqua County Board of Commissioners to order on Monday, December 21, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the courthouse. Commissioner Jack Carpenter and Danny Williams were present as was County Clerk Janice A. Fine. Danny Williams opened the meeting with prayer. The new Emergency Manager, Cody Collier joined the meeting as observer.

Minute's approval: Danny Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of December 14, 2015 as presented. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Crystal Wade, HR Administrator joined the meeting to provide travel requests. Commission approved the requests.

Cathy Sanders, Road & Bridge Office Manager joined the meeting to represent the Road & Bridge Department. Commissioner Carpenter shared information regarding a piece of property that is land locked. Sanders offered information regarding the property. There was discussion regarding easements and road openings as well as the responsibility by the land owner. Inherited property versus sold property is where the legal research needs to be reviewed. Ownership must be determined before any other steps can be taken. Commissioners will ask County Counselor, Ruth Ritthaler to provide the research on this issue.

Rodger Green, Building Maintenance joined the meeting. Danny Williams made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel at 8:50 a.m. with Rodger Green present. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Searl called the regular meeting back in session at 8:55 a.m. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Danny Williams made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with Annie Blankinship, Health Department Administrator present. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Searl called the regular meeting back in session at 9:00 a.m. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Annie Blankinship, Health Department Administrator discussed the Re-Imagine Sedan Board meeting she recently attended. Blankinship is requesting permission for signage and repair to existing sidewalks and installing new sidewalks where necessary around the courthouse to be used as a walking trail. There was discussion about adding benches or picnic tables. There was discussion about adding history signs along the sidewalk etc. Blankinship will bring more information to the commissioners as the project is developed. There will not be a cost to the County.

David Deal joined the meeting to discuss fire department #2 that he represents. Deal provided a list of board members for 2016. By laws have been updated as requested by the state and he is asking the commissioners to approve them. Commissioners will review and approve the by-laws after the County Counselor reviews. There was discussion regarding volunteer fire fighters process.

Cindy Weaver, District Court Clerk joined the meeting to ask commissioners to move monies to their equipment reserve fund. Weaver is requesting \$6,000.00 be moved. Danny Williams made a motion to move unencumbered 2015 budgeted funds from District Court to their equipment reserve account. Weaver is requesting road and bridge staff to assist with furniture movement during down time. Commissioners will discuss this with Joel Haden at the next meeting. Weaver advised there are still jury room sound issues.

Commissioners discussed the trash dumpster area in Cedar Vale.

Kayla Stong, from the County Attorney's office joined the meeting to ask commissioners to move unencumbered 2015 budgeted funds to their equipment reserve fund in the amount of \$10,000.00. Danny Williams made a motion to approve moving \$10,000.00 from the County Attorney's fund to equipment reserve. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Danny Williams made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes at 9:35 a.m. with County Counselor Ruth Ritthaler via conference call for attorney/client privilege. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Searl called the regular meeting back in session at 10:00 a.m. As a result of the executive session commissioners directed County Counselor Ruth Ritthaler to proceed with the Woods Property. Danny Williams made a motion to reclaim the Woods property from the tax sale and refund the money to the individual who had purchased the property at the tax sale. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Danny Williams made a motion to go into executive session for 30 minutes for attorney/client privilege at 9:45 a.m. with Ruth Ritthaler, County Counselor, via conference call and Rodney Burns, Schlotterbeck & Burns, Auditor and Amy Goode, Treasurer present. Chairman Searl called the regular meeting back in session at 10:15 a.m. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Danny Williams made a motion to adjourn at 10:20 a.m. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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Goff Searl, Chairman, First District Commissioner

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Danny D. Williams, Second District Commissioner

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Jack Carpenter, Third District Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Janice A. Fine, County Clerk