

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 30, 2013

Chairman Jack Carpenter called the meeting of the Chautauqua County Board of Commissioners to order on Friday, August 30, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the courthouse. Commissioners Goff Searl and Danny Williams were present as was County Counselor Larry King and County Clerk Janice A. Fine. Danny Williams gave prayer. Lisa Hudson, County Treasurer, Amy Goode, Deputy Treasurer, Louise Goode and Heath Joslin joined the meeting as observers.

Danny Williams made a motion to go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for 10 minutes at 8:30 a.m. Goff Searl seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Jack Carpenter resumed the regular commission meeting at 8:40 a.m. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

The employee health benefits discussion continues. Louise Goode wanted to discuss health benefits for all employees. Goode talked through the budget process and asked why funding has always been too little. Crystal Wade, HR Manager, offered that that employee benefit fund has never been budgeted properly in her opinion. Wade voiced her opinion as a fulltime employee. Wade stated this isn't personal and the attack is on dollars and cents and keeping the county out of the red. Part time employees, at last week's meeting, requested the 70/30 split to remain in effect. Wade reminded commissioners that fulltime single employees have been paying 100% of the employee share per the state plan. Several scenarios were discussed. Goode emphasized the look for savings has to be the bottom line. Wade offered that KCAMP Liability Insurance is a large amount that comes from benefits and KCAMP will be making suggestions to the commissioners to reduce those costs in the near future. There was some discussion on county fire fighters having the ability to file for injuries under worker's comp or through our liability policy. However, the Fire Districts employees are not a drain on the system nearly like the lack of policies in place to safeguard the county. Commissioner responsibilities were discussed. The commissioners requested Wade to bring additional documentation to the next meeting for discussion.

Jack Zimmerman joined the meeting to discuss taxes. He received a newspaper showing delinquent taxes in his parents name and they passed many years ago. The land (401 Cedar) was sold many years ago to Judy Looney. Since Looney never registered the property in her name nor paid taxes in 11 years Zimmerman can claim the land. He's requesting that penalties etc. be removed and he will bring the taxes up to date. The state made it clear to Zimmerman that since he did not create the issue the commissioners can waive the penalty. Larry King, County Counselor, made it clear that the commissioners can only waive a penalty. Interest cannot be waived. Amy Goode, Deputy Treasurer, provided information to the commission regarding all fees associated with the property at 401 Cedar in Cedar Vale. The research must identify what we can and cannot waive. Per Larry King, the only authority to abate taxes on this property is Court of Tax Appeals (COTA). Zimmerman must file a petition with COTA to see if they will abate the fees, penalties etc. Zimmerman asked what he needs to do to get the property in his name. King responded he must file a petition to reopen the probate case and add the legal description to the estate. The court would then provide documentation that he files, and then pays the taxes.

Larry King, County Counselor, offered that the next tax sale could occur either the first or second Saturday in November.

Commissioners ask how they would go about selling real estate that's currently owned by the county. Larry King, County Counselor, will review the process the commissioners need to complete to offer for bid any real estate that is owned by the county.

Goff Searl made a motion to approve the minutes for August 20, 2013. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Goff Searl made a motion to approve the minutes of the Public Budget Hearing on August 20, 2013. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners reviewed and approved the Warrants Payable and Payroll expenses for end of month expenditures as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Totals</u>
General Fund	\$87,633.12
Appraiser	\$7,614.25
Ambulance Dist. #1	\$3,492.50
Ambulance Dist. #2	\$11,295.83
Election	\$31.24
Employee Benefit	\$84,750.01
Health	\$29,061.88
Juvenile Detention	\$1,050.00
Noxious Weed	\$4,196.98
Road and Bridge	\$82,474.43
Solid Waste	\$13,713.44
Treasurer Auto	\$1,438.20
R of D Tech Fund	\$325.00
Total All Funds	\$327,076.88

Goff Searl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:16 a.m. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Goff Searl, First District Commissioner

Danny D. Williams, Second District Commissioner

Jack Carpenter, Chairman, Third District Commissioner

ATTEST:

Janice A. Fine, County Clerk