

February 4, 2022

The Roscommon County Board of Commissioner's met on Friday, February 4, 2022 for a Special Meeting. The meeting was held at the Roscommon County Municipal Building, 500 Lake Street, Roscommon, MI 48653 and was accessible online via Zoom. Chairman Robert E. Schneider called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

Present: Robert E. Schneider, Kenneth Melvin David Russo, Marc Milburn, Timothy Muckenthaler

Absent: None

Motion by Milburn, Second by Russo, to approve the Board Agenda. On Roll Call: Ayes: Russo, Schneider, Milburn, Muckenthaler, Melvin. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Public Comment: None

Unfinished Business/New Business: Houghton Lake - Resolution to Initialize Lake Level Special Assessment District: Chairman Schneider shared that Commissioner Melvin and Russo are leading the Board through this project. Valentino summarized that there is a need for creating the lake level district because the Houghton Lake Control Structure is currently in need of repair. Attorney Stacy Hissong is working with Spicer Group. For the County to move forward with the process, the Commissioners will need to pass a Resolution to create a lake level special assessment district and approve filing a petition in Circuit Court to establish the assessment district boundaries. An additional hearing would need to take place that determines the assessment amount. The appointed delegated authority would be able to stand in and make decisions for the Board. Russo stated that the Houghton Lake Control Structure is currently operating on two temporary gates instead of the normal five. Melvin asked if districts are usually created soon after lake levels are determined by court order. Hissong explained that some lake levels court determinations began in the 1920's and assessment districts didn't typically happen until the 1960's. This explains why assessment districts were created later on for some lakes and counties. Schneider mentioned the \$500,000,000 allotted from the State to help with these issues. Hissong shared that Senate Bill 565 has passed the Senate and is currently in front of the House. There are other grant funds that will be available. The rules included in SB565 are unclear at this time. Schneider said discussing with state reps would be helpful. The Board decided that the delegated authority should be Jodi Valentino and once the Houghton Lake Lake Level Special Assessment District is established and moving forward, the delegated authority should change. In many counties, the Drian Commissioner takes on this responsibility. Drain Commissioner Rex Wolfsen mentioned that Roscommon County is unique and cannot compare with most others. The most similar comparison could be Calhoun County where the Drain Commissioner is responsible for drain districts, municipality storm water and lake level control. Discussion took place regarding updating of job descriptions and salaries.

Motions/Resolutions: None

Public Comment: Norm Fullmer from the Houghton Lake Improvement Board shared that the HLIB will assist in the district creation and they have mapping available. Roscommon Township Supervisor Diane Randall wants to see more public notice and information shared with local townships. Randall feels all county lakes should be included, not just Houghton Lake. Lake Township resident Sharon Mika shared concern about the assessments. Leroy Johnston spoke regarding the assessment. Valentino stated that the County's General fund cannot cover repair costs. Schneider stated the Board is not moving forward and a decision will not be made today or next week at the regular meeting.

Motion by Milburn, Second by Russo, to adjourn meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Robert E. Schneider, Chairman

Michelle M. Stevenson, County Clerk/Reg. Of Deeds