

HOUSING AND PUBLIC CONSERVATOR ADHOC COMMITTEE

February 2, 2021 – 10:30 a.m.

Howard Male Conference Room

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Marty Thomson, Chair
Don Gilmet
Dave Karschnick

OTHERS PRESENT: Tammy Sumerix-Bates, Executive Manager
Nicki Janish, Public Conservator
Thea Lucas, Home Improvement Director
Kim Elkie, Administrative Assistant

INFORMATION ITEM: Nicki Janish, Public Conservator, provided a handout to the Committee, explained her job responsibilities and answered their questions. Her office currently serves 97 clients. While her office provides nonmandated services, sufficient revenue is generated to offset the associated costs.

INFORMATION ITEM: Thea Lucas, Director of Home Improvement, explained to the Committee the services provided by her office. She is working on a small binder to provide to the Committee members to outline details of her program to help them better understand the intricacies. The program handles emergency needs only, not remodeling projects.

INFORMATION ITEM: Thea Lucas submitted Check Request Voucher for approval in the amount of \$34.51 for travel expense/mileage for January 2021. Motion by Commissioner Karschnick with support by Commissioner Gilmet to approve the \$34.51 travel expense/mileage reimbursement for the Director. Motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEM: Discussion was held regarding the CPA/audit budget for the Home Improvement Office. This item was tabled.

INFORMATION ITEM: A quote of \$193.05 has been received from The Alpena News for two advertisements, for the office's services, at a non-profit rate. Commissioner Gilmet suggested talking to the new City planner and inquire about sharing the cost of an ad with them. Thea will check grant requirements regarding advertising and the possibility of running a short ad referring the reader to more detailed information on the County's website. Thea did inform the Committee that she posted information concerning the program and the need for contractors at various places in the City.

INFORMATION ITEM: Ms. Lucas informed the Committee there are currently no foreclosures pending. To those with delinquent taxes requiring an attorney letter, an attorney fee of \$150.00 has been charged to homeowner's account; the County had to pay the taxes to protect our loan and avoid a tax foreclosure. It was noted that some

taxes have since been paid in full and others are receiving payments.

INFORMATION ITEM: Thea reported the County did not receive housing grants this year from MSHDA or MEDC.

INFORMATION ITEM: The Director presented application for reapproval at 216 West Lake Street, Alpena. Motion by Commissioner Gilmet with support by Commissioner Thomson to approve the application in the amount of \$23,795.00. Motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEM: A new application was presented regarding 3443 Herron Road. Motion by Commissioner Gilmet with support by Commissioner Karschnick to approve the Application in the amount of \$3,900.00. Motion carried.

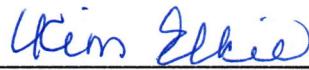
INFORMATION ITEM: Application was presented regarding 629 Ford Avenue. Motion to deny the application by Commissioner Gilmet with support by Commissioner Karschnick, as it is above the income guidelines. Motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEM: The Office is sometimes having difficulty obtaining Certificates of Insurance from the homeowners. An attorney will be consulted. Note was made that a solution needs to be found as an attorney should be a temporary fix rather than a permanent process.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Karschnick with support by Commissioner Gilmet. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m.



Marty Thomson, Chairman



Kim Elkie, Administrative Assistant