

**PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE
ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 27, 2021 1:00 p.m.**

A Public Hearing was held in the Merchants Building at the Alpena County Fairgrounds on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

The purpose of the public hearing was to formally close out the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Alpena County received through CARES Act Funding. The public hearing is the final required component of the grant process. The time for comment was opened at 1:03 p.m.

Commissioner Marty Thomson outlined for those in attendance the projects and organizations for which support was provided using of the grant funds, totaling \$405,702.00. These funds were allocated to Alpena County, not applied for or requested. The County has received notes of appreciation from the organizations and he hopes the funds contribute to a lot of good throughout the county.

Cathy McClure, Food Pantry Coordinator for St. Vincent de Paul, expressed deepest gratitude on behalf of the pantry. She stated they distributed a tremendous amount of food due to COVID. The grant money provided traffic safety cones to make a driving lane for food pickup, replenishing food stock as well as purchasing additional food to give away.

Major Prezza Morrison, Pastor and Administrator of Salvation Army, thanked the commissioners for providing these funds to Salvation Army. She said it was a huge surprise to them at Christmas to experience a surge of requests for food and Christmas toys. Their records indicate that 50% of the requests came from first-time applicants, due to the effects of COVID.

Barb Mathern, Director of Sunrise Mission, told the board the substantial assistance had a great impact and is appreciated more than can be described.

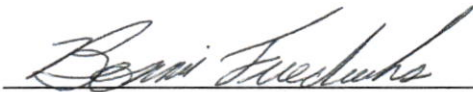
Randy MacCauley, Director of The Friendship Room at St. Bernard's Church, voiced gratitude on behalf of the board of directors, staff and volunteers at The Friendship Room for the very generous funding they received. Because of COVID, they had to alter the way they present and package their meals. The funding helped because they have never had to pay for those expenses with all meals now prepared to-go. They previously had no take-out expense. Pre-COVID they served approximately 90 meals per night in the dining room, six nights a week. They are now averaging 110 meals per night for take-out, 6 nights each week.

Commissioner Adrian spoke on behalf of District Health Department #4. The buildings that were purchased will be used again now that the weather is improving and the vaccination clinics will be serving more manageable numbers. He stated the ability to do drive-thru vaccination clinics is greatly appreciated.

Motion to close the public hearing was made by Commissioner Gilmet with support by Commissioner Peterson. Motion carried. The Public Hearing closed at 1:10 p.m.



Robert Adrian, Chairman of the Board



Bonnie Friedrichs, County Clerk

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