

**Northern Michigan Counties Association**  
**May 18, 2015**  
**Grayling Township Hall**  
**Grayling, MI**

**Call to Order-** The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. by Vice President Borton

**Roll Call-** The following 18 counties were present:

Arenac	Benzie	Charlevoix	Clare
Crawford	Emmet	Gratiot	Lake
Manistee	Midland	Missaukee	Montcalm
Ogemaw	Osceola	Oscoda	Otsego
Roscommon	Wexford		

**Previous Minutes:**

A motion was made by Gratiot to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Oscoda, all in favor. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report-**

Balance	\$1125.70
-	\$ 40.00
+	\$ .00

Ending Balance        \$1085.70

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report by Emmet and seconded by Gratiot. Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business-**

No unfinished business

**New Business-**

No new business

**Guests-**

*Representative Phil Potvin,*

Mr. Potvin stated that a 12 bill package is in the House for funding of roads only. Projections look favorable, he said.

Mr. Potvin is the Chair of the Education Committee which is currently challenged by the new testing system. There is a new Superintendent of Schools coming in June. He stated that per the First Lady, bake sales were cut as a form of fund raising for schools due to the lack of nutrition. However, they are being bought back. A lot of the cause of obesity in the US is because PE classes are less physical and recess has been cut in many areas, or is at least less active.

*Representative Bruce Rendon,*

Mr. Rendon stated that he is now the Chair of the Committee on Committees as well as on the Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee. He reported that the number one rated tourist destination in Michigan is the Henry Ford Museum. Representative Rendon reiterated Mr. Potvin by stating that the Michigan Legislature heard the voting public loud and clear and is willing to stay in session until a new resolve to the road improvement budget is complete.

### **Guest Speakers**

*Steve Currie, MAC, Deputy Director*

Steve reported on the MAC Legislative Update. He reported that we are now at full funding for County Revenue Sharing. He also said that progress is being made on the DHS/DCS merger and that there is better communication between the two. Mr. Currie said the DDA reform and TIPPA are on the front burner. He reminded the members that the MAC conference is in September.

*Bethany Prykucki, Extension Educator, MSUE*

Ms. Prykucki gave a slide presentation on structure and strategies for effective meetings. She asked the members to speak amongst themselves and discuss what the best and worst meetings members have presided over or attended were. The group then discussed the individual results finding that the best meetings were the ones where a clear goal and meeting rules were used. The worst meetings were those that had little structure. Bethany stated that Commissioner meetings often have attendees with complaints and that it is important to handle these people in an effective way while letting them be heard. She stated that a time limit rule is good in these cases, but the rule must be enforced.

Ms. Prykucki also stated that sharing the philosophy of the organization is important because it helps people accept their differences and integrate their goals. When identifying meeting goals, be sure to know what your role is in that meeting. Are you the facilitator, enforcer, presenter, educator, etc. Knowing this will help the flow of the meeting and keep each person on track for efficiency.

A short question and answer period was held.

Vice President Borton thanked the speakers.

VP Borton asked the members what topics the members were interested in discussing for future meetings. Topics suggested were Veterans Affairs, and Michigan Works.

Motion to adjourn made by Gratiot and seconded by Roscommon motion carried.

**Next meeting June 15, 2015 Tour Moran Iron Works, Onaway.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tina Palinsky  
Recording Secretary