



Administrative Staff Memorandum
BATA Board of Directors Special Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, February 27, 2024 @ 9:45am
115 Hall St Traverse City Michigan

1. Call to Order – Vice Chairperson John Sommavilla called meeting at 9:47am
2. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence
3. Roll Call

John Sommavilla	PRESENT
Wayne Schmidt	TARDY ARRIVED @ 9:47am
Jamie Kramer	PRESENT
Joe Underwood	TARDY ARRIVED @ 9:46am
Scott Sieffert	PRESENT
Brad Jewett	PRESENT
Richard Cochrun	ABSENT

4. Oath of Office

Scott Sieffert

Scott Sieffert read aloud his oath of office and signed the paperwork.

5. First Public Comment*
Rob Hentschel addressed the board regarding his concerns between the Grand Traverse Commissioners and BATA. Expressed his agreement with the appointment of a county commissioner in the role of a citizen on the BATA board. Would like to see BATA and the Commissions get back to their mission, which is the community.

6. Approval of Agenda/Declaration of Conflict of Interest
 - a. BATA Board of Directors Special Meeting Agenda

Moved by Joe Underwood and supported by Wayne Schmidt, the BATA Board of Directors approved the agenda for the February 27, 2024, Special Board Meeting.

Ayes-6

Nays-0

Motion Carried 6-0

7. New Business
 - a. Consideration of engaging Miller Johnson Attorneys to represent BATA on pending litigation and future general counsel.

Kelly shared with the Board her concerns with our current legal representation. The improper citation in our attorney's motion and the lack of responsiveness. As a public sector agency, it's important that we have legal counsel that has BATA in their best interests. The proposal for the new law firm, Miller Johnson, was recommended to BATA by The Chair of Urban Operators.

Moved by Jamie Kramer and supported by Wayne Schmidt, the BATA Board of Directors approves the engaging Miller Johnson Attorneys to represent BATA on pending litigation and future general counsel.

Roll Call – Legal Representation

John Sommavilla	YES
Wayne Schmidt	YES
Jamie Kramer	YES
Joe Underwood	NO
Scott Sieffert	YES
Brad Jewett	NO
Absent	Richard Cochrun

Motion Carried 4-2-0 on a recorded vote.

b. New motion was presented to the Board in regard to discontinuing the current lawsuit against the Grand Traverse County.

Moved by Joe Underwood and supported by Brad Jewett to discontinue the lawsuit against the Grand Traverse County.

Roll Call – Discontinue current lawsuit.

John Sommavilla	NO
Wayne Schmidt	NO
Jamie Kramer	NO
Joe Underwood	YES
Scott Sieffert	YES
Brad Jewett	YES
Richard Cochrun	ABSENT

Motion Failed 3-3-0 on a recorded vote.

- 8. Second Public Comment*
No Second Public Comment Made

- 9. Directors Comments/Open Floor
No comments were made.

- 10. Adjournment
Chairperson John Sommavilla adjourned the February 27,2024 Special Meeting of the BATA Board of Directors at 10:06am.

