EMMET COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
JOINT MEETING WITH BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY APRIL 30, 2019
11AM-1PM
EMMET COUNTY BUILDING
200 DIVISION ST
PETOSKEY, MI 49770

MEMBERS PRESENT:  John Eby, Toni Drier, James Scott, James Kargol, Kelly Alexander, Tom Urman, Charles MacInnis,

MEMBERS ABSENT:  David Laughbaum, (one vacant seat)

STAFF:  Tammy Doernenburg

Call to Order and Attendance
The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM. All members were present except Laughbaum. There is one open seat.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Board of Commissioners)

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Reginald Smith spoke to encourage inclusion of a parking lot for the County Building in partnership with the City of Petoskey during the master plan process. He said the County is the largest employer in the downtown area, and the Petoskey area has been underserved for parking in this location. Parking pressures go into the residential areas. He said the downtown retail district is one of the most important economic generators for the County of Emmet. He asked that this issue be made a part of its strategic plan.

Karla Buckmaster wanted to emphasize that just because something is wanted on the 5-year capital plan, does not mean it has to be done. She said she watched what happened with strategic planning in the past with transit and how it became the “buzz word”. She said the County had no funding for transit. She also mentioned that more research has to be done on how “Brownfields” are funded.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Board of Commissioners)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
Doernenburg welcomed all present and asked each person to introduce themselves. This is the first joint meeting of the Board of Commissioners and the Planning Commission in over twenty years. The purpose of the meeting is to update each body on projects past and future. Doernenburg introduced Sarah Lucas from Networks Northwest and Housing North.

NEW BUSINESS
Sarah Lucas from Networks Northwest, which is a county membership organization, led the meeting. She said these types of summits promote dialogue. Her role in this meeting was to keep things moving.

The Administrator gave an update on strategic planning and capital improvement budgets for the next five years. The first draft of the capital improvement plan will be looked at. The plans are for a few of the meetings with the department heads will be reviewed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting. Transit is in progress. There has been four months of service and up until the end of April about 2000 riders have used transit. Transit is one of the things the Board will have to make a decision on funding.
The budget for 2019 was extremely tight. Adjustments have been made as needed. All County services are fully staffed.

Doernenburg talked about the Master Plan process. (Attachment #1)

Lunch Break: 12:00 p.m.  
Return from Lunch Break: 12:15 p.m.

Sarah Lucas led a discussion regarding housing.

Master plan looks at the community as a whole with a lot of public input and, long-range broad vision. Capital Improvement plans are recommendations made and to provide information about what the county has and what it needs and then put it into a prioritized budget. Recreation plans are similar to capital improvement plans and are updated every five years. Strategic plans might be included procedurally in the master plan and is most detailed and will include specific tasks and work items.

PUBLIC COMMENT:  
Reginald Smith has dealt with challenges for having housing for employees. The message he would like to deliver is that there seems to be regulatory and unfounded regulations in dealing with housing for employees. He said regulations put in place by planning commissions need to be founded in reality. He said the process is very frustrating. He made suggestions for the transit schedule.

ADJOURNMENT:  
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

________________________________________  __________________________________
James Scott, Secretary                      Date