

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners, held at the Chippewa County Courthouse, 319 Court St., Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on the 8th day of May 13, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Bob Savoie, Scott Shackleton, Erik Baron, Ted Postula and Jim Martin

ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Commissioner Shackleton and seconded by Commissioner Baron.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-07
OPPOSING MICHIGAN SECRETARY OF STATE
“BY APPOINTMENT ONLY”

WHEREAS, Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, recently stated Michigan residents will always need an appointment to conduct business at a Secretary of State branch office and suggested making this permanent change, is an improvement in service; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of State called walk in service at the branches an “antiquated, inefficient, take-a-number system that nobody liked”; the reality is that most people do want the option to walk in to a branch office for service at *their* convenience; and

WHEREAS, not only Chippewa County residents but all residents of the State of Michigan should have the ability to renew and make changes to all necessary documentation timely and locally through services provided by the Michigan Secretary of State; that these changes defy common sense in serving the public and is a significant reduction in convenient service; and

WHEREAS, some industry changes were positive during the coronavirus and made sense; this change does not as constituents need to be able to transfer vehicles, renew and update driver’s licenses expediently, so that they can prove and provide legal ownership and residency; and

WHEREAS, these changes have been established without input from constituents, who are directly affected by this sweeping change and web-based services do not completely replace the need for walk in service at the branch offices. Many older residents and those without computers or internet will simply be turned away at the Secretary of State door; and

WHEREAS, these changes will only continue to frustrate citizens who just would like their license renewed or to be able to sell a vehicle, without having to wait weeks or even months or drive to a different service area to accomplish these simple tasks;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners hereby **STRONGLY** opposes 'By Appointment Only' services for the residents not only in Chippewa County but for the entire State of Michigan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, Senate and House leaders, and Michigan Association of Counties.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

AYES: Bob Savoie, Scott Shackleton, Erik Baron, Ted Postula and Jim Martin

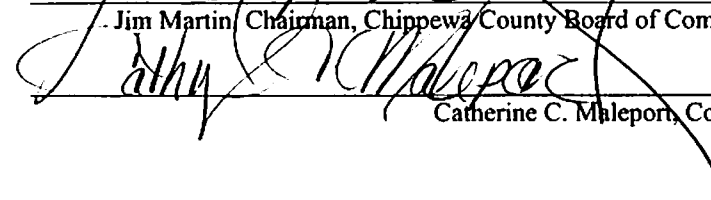
NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



Jim Martin, Chairman, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners



Catherine C. Maleport, County Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF CHIPPEWA)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the County Board of Commissioners of Chippewa County at a regular meeting held on the date first stated above, and I further certify that public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.



Catherine C. Maleport, County Clerk