

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Study Session  
February 27, 2019

Chairman Hentschel called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. at the Governmental Center.

OPENING CEREMONIES OR EXERCISES

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

PRESENT: Gordie LaPointe, Ron Clous, Brad Jewett, Bryce Hundley, Betsy Coffia  
Addison Wheelock, Jr. (8:09 a.m.) and Rob Hentschel

PUBLIC COMMENT

**Ann Rogers** opposed to meeting start time.

**John Despelder** made comments about the Code of Ethics discussion.

**Donna Hornberger** opposed to meeting start time.

CODE OF ETHICS DISCUSSION

The agenda packet included the following information for the Commissioners' to refer to during their discussion.

- a) Code of Ethics for Grand Traverse County Employees and Officials
- b) Voting – Abstention Due to Personal Interest
- c) Antrim County Conflict of Interest Policy
- d) Code of Ethics and Conduct for Emmet County Commissioners
- e) Ethics Handbook for Michigan Municipalities
- f) Model Ethics Ordinance for Local Units of Government

PRESENTATION BY CIVIL COUNSEL

Kit Tholen, Deputy Civil Counsel gave a presentation on Code of Ethics.

Commissioners discussed the various options for commissioners, elected officials, and staff regarding having a Code of Ethics policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

**John Despelder** made comments about the Code of Ethics discussion

**Linda Pepper** requested clarification if each commissioner represents just the voters in their district or the County as a whole when making decisions.

**Dave Petrove** made comments about the Commissioners writing their own Code of Ethics policy.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

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Bonnie Scheele, County Clerk

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Rob Hentschel, Chairman

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) (Initials)