

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 14th day of July, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Scott Shackleton, Don McLean, Rudy Johnson, Jim Martin and Conor Egan

ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Egan.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-19
Supporting Safe Operation of “Line 5” and Cease and Desist Crude Oil through Line 5

WHEREAS, “Line 5” is a set of twin, 62-year-old pipelines owned by Enbridge that carry light crude oil and natural gas from Sarnia, Ontario, through the Lower Peninsula, under the Straits of Mackinac, and across the Upper Peninsula to the Wisconsin border; and

WHEREAS, Line 5 fills critical energy needs including propane for 85% of the homes in the Upper Peninsula and northern Michigan.

WHEREAS, Enbridge has stated a commitment to the safety of the pipeline and the Straits of Mackinac.

WHEREAS, the currents in the Straits of Mackinac can switch bi-directionally from east to west every few days, and, according to a 2014 University of Michigan study, are the “worst possible place” for an oil spill in the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes contain 20 percent of the world’s fresh, available, surface water and are a drinking water source for over 35 million people; and

WHEREAS, one out of every five jobs in Michigan is linked to the high quality and quantity of fresh water in the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, tourism is one of Michigan’s largest income industries bringing in billions of travelers dollars spent each year; and

WHEREAS, agriculture, fisheries, shipping and industry depend on the health of the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, as Michiganders, we have a responsibility to be wise stewards of the waters of our State for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, protection of Michigan’s water supplies and resources is better accomplished by prevention of contamination and environmental degradation, rather than attempting to clean up contamination and restore degraded environments, after the fact.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County of Michigan Board of Commissioners calls on the State of Michigan and the United States governments to be diligent in monitoring the safe operation of Line 5. And, if at any time, there is reasonable evidence that the pipeline is likely to leak into the Straits of Mackinac it should be shut down until the respective agencies are satisfied that the pipeline is safe. And, a plan be made to fill the needs of the thousands of customers who rely on the energy transported by Line 5 in the event that the Straits of Mackinac portion needs to be shut down.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Governor Rick Snyder, Attorney General Bill Schuette, our State Representatives, State Senators, and U.S. Senators, calling their attention to the need to monitor Line 5 and protect the Great Lakes.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED AND ADDED to Chippewa County Resolution 15-37; that Enbridge should immediately cease and desist all crude oil product transportation through Line 5 until it has been independently inspected by a third party and deemed safe to do so. Even then, Line 5 should only be used as an emergency based conduit of said crude oil products.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the independent study should be shared with all concerned residents and published in a variety of publications.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

AYES: Shackleton, McLean, Johnson, Martin and Egan

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



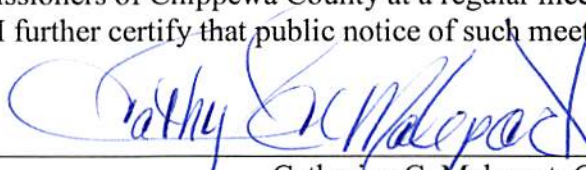
Scott Shackleton, Chairman, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners



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