

**January 11, 2022, Regular Board Meeting**

**U-87**

Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 4:00 p.m., Chairperson Mark Stauber called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Board of Commissioners Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Chairperson Mark Stauber, Commissioners Jeff Ofsdahl, Patti Peretto and Mike Stafford. Commissioner Jacob Conery came in at 4:10 p.m. Absent: None.

Also present: Sheriff Mark Valesano, Prosecutor Chad DeRouin, Administrative Assistant Mary Dalpra, Emergency Manager Vernon Jones, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Equalization Director Amy Marinoff, Deputy Clerk Amy Donati, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti and Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to approve the December 13, 2021, Regular Board Meeting Minutes and the December 30, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Conery, supported by Stafford, to approve the agenda with one addition: under Old Business, item d) Drain Commissioner Discussion. Voice vote, motion carried.

Stauber called for Public Comment (regarding agenda items only) three times, with no comments voiced.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to approve the monthly payables for December in the amount of \$1,279,003.16, and payroll for December in the amount of \$463,564.54.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Ofsdahl, Peretto, Stafford, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent for vote: Conery

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to approve journal entries 17081 through 17248 for December in the amount of \$3,612,274.04, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 46 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$1,568,412.08.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Peretto, Stafford, Ofsdahl, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent for vote: Conery

Motion carried.

**Commissioner Reports:**

Conery: None.

Ofsdahl reported that he attended a Road Commission meeting and suggested that we have a joint meeting with the Road Commission and the Iron County Board with regard to the Drain Commissioner issue.

Peretto: None.

Stafford reported that the Health Department is bidding on a building next to the hospital and will update the board when further information is available.

Stauber said that the committees he sits on were busy with year-end items.

It was moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford, to approve the Commissioner Reports. Voice vote, motion carried.

**Department Reports:**

Mark Bromley from the ICECA updated the board on businesses that have applied for the fast-track grants. He also said that six municipalities have given funding to the ICECA. He also reminded everyone of the meeting schedule for the ICECA (the second Wednesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. with the place of the meetings rotating between Crystal Falls City and Iron River City Halls).

Dan Hinch from Parks and Rec reported that they had their regular monthly meeting on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and recommended to the board that they adopt the 2022 - 2026 Recreation Plan and wanted to thank everyone who worked on the rec plan.

Treasurer Camps updated the board on the foreclosure/demolition projects her office is working on.

Emergency Manager Jones spoke with regard to the American Rescue Plan money updates.

Veterans Service Officer Gerald Williams reported on activities conducted in the Iron County Veterans Service Office.

No other Department Reports were given.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve the Department Reports. Voice vote, motion carried.

**Old Business:**

The distribution of the senior center millage was the next item on the agenda. As stated at a previous meeting, there are currently four senior centers in Iron County: Amasa, Alpha, Iron River and Crystal Falls. According to the millage language, \$10,000 shall be distributed to each Senior Center in Iron County and the balance distributed to the centers based upon the number of persons age 60 or older as determined in the last decennial census in each township, village and city within the County of Iron. The 2020 census figures have been released, but the age breakdown will be released at a later date. At previous meetings, the Alpha Senior Center has been discussed with regard to it being shut down but because the Alpha Senior Center has not dismantled yet, it will still receive the distribution.

After more discussion with regard to the senior center millage, it was moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to distribute the senior center millage as per the ballot language.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Stafford, Conery, Ofsdahl, Peretto, Stauber

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Discussion with regard to courthouse security was had. The cost of a metal detector was presented (approximately \$3,500.00). Peretto reported what Dickinson County pays per hour for retired law enforcement personnel that work at the Dickinson County Courthouse (\$16.80 per hour plus pay half of the cost of their uniform, vest and gun and after 1 year reimburse them for the remaining half). Jones said you would need two people per shift because of breaks, etc. Peretto said she would like to advertise for the position to see if there's interest. Sheriff Valesano said he would like to be involved in the hiring process as it would fall under the Sheriff's umbrella. Tinti asked what about before/after hours? Stauber said he would like to take it to the next step to see if there's any interest by any retired law enforcement to man the metal detector. A motion was made by Ofsdahl, seconded by Conery, to move forward with the Sheriff helping to develop a job description, and to see if there's any interest by individuals wishing to man the metal detector.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Ofsdahl, Peretto, Stafford, Conery, Stauber

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Iron County's website was up for discussion. Stauber said it can use some updates, especially with regard to Pentoga Park. It was moved by Conery, supported by Ofsdahl, to move forward with the process to update the website. Voice vote, motion carried.

The Drain Commissioner issue was next on the agenda. Ofsdahl said we should meet with the Road Commission sooner than later to get this sorted out. Bill Casagranda, who was the Drain Commissioner prior to the Board voting to have that position be a non-elected position and for the Road Commission to handle it, was at the meeting. Casagranda said he hasn't been involved for the past year with regard to the drain commissioner but gave the status at the time he was the drain commissioner. Tinti said there are

three lakes that the county is responsible for lake levels on: Stager, Sunset and Fortune Lakes. There was a lot of discussion on easements, court orders and who should pay for the repairs to the dams. The board decided to move forward with scheduling a meeting with the road commission at the earliest agreeable date and time.

**New Business:**

Moved by Conery, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve the Resolution Adopting the Iron County 2022 – 2026 Recreation Plan.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Peretto, Stafford, Conery, Ofsdahl, Stauber  
Nays: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to approve the Sheriff's Department budget amendment for health insurance (101-101-710.100 Wage/Contingency \$23,786; 101-301-718.00 Health Insurance \$11,893; and 101-302-718.000 Health Insurance \$11,893).

Roll call vote: Ayes: Stafford, Conery, Ofsdahl, Peretto, Stauber  
Nays: None

Motion carried.

ARPA Funds Allocation was the next item on the agenda. Two motions were made with regard to these:

1. Moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford, to approve the use of ARPA funds for the purchase of five Surface Pro X Tablets for the five Board of Commission members and new microphones for the Board of Commissioners' room, with the cost not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Peretto, Stafford, Stauber  
Nays: Ofsdahl

Motion carried.

2. Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to move forward with both of the Window Store's proposals for replacement windows in the Courthouse complex with the monies to come out of the ARPA funds.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Ofsdahl, Peretto, Stafford, Conery, Stauber  
Nays: None

Motion carried.

The RFP for Economic Development bids was discussed. Ofsdahl then made a motion, seconded by Conery, to move forward with the proposal by the Iron County Economic Chamber Alliance (ICECA) and develop a contract.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Peretto, Stafford, Conery, Ofsdahl, Stauber  
Nays: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Conery, to approve the Iron County Lakes & Streams Annual Membership. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford, to appoint Greg Hall to the Housing Commission for a five year term. Voice vote, motion carried.

No applicants were received for the two Authority on Aging terms (3 year terms). We will continue to advertise for these terms. It was moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to table this item. Voice vote, motion carried.

We had two applicants for one Iron County Airport Manager’s three year term. Krist Atanasoff (who is presently the Airport Manager) and Siegfried Berge. Ofsdahl made a motion, supported by Conery, to table this item so that the board could interview and look further into the applicants.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Ofsdahl  
Nays: Peretto, Stafford, Stauber

Motion failed.

After more discussion, it was moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford, to appoint Krist Atanasoff as Airport Manager for a three year term.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Peretto, Stafford, Conery, Stauber  
Nays: Ofsdahl

Motion carried.

Committee Assignments were discussed and the following is the list of the 2022 Committee Assignments for the Iron County Board of Commissioners:

| <b>Function:</b>                  | <b>Committee:</b>                   | <b>Members: (First listed is Chair)</b>                             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>FINANCE:</b>                   | Finance                             | Full Board : <b>Stafford</b> , Conery, Ofsdahl,<br>Stauber, Peretto |
|                                   | Audit and Budget                    | 2; Ofsdahl, Stafford  |
| <b>ADMINISTRATION:</b>            | Personnel                           | 3: <b>Conery</b> , Stauber Peretto                                  |
|                                   | Building & Capital Improvements     | 2: <b>Conery</b> , Ofsdahl  |
|                                   | Remonumentation                     | 1: Ofsdahl  |
| <b>PUBLIC SAFETY:</b>             | Law Enforcement                     | Full Board  |
|                                   | Safety                              | 1: Conery, Peretto  |
|                                   | Central Dispatch (911 Advisory)     | 2: Stauber, Stafford  |
| <b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:</b>      | Chamber of Commerce/ ICECA          | 1: Ofsdahl  |
|                                   | WUPPDR                              | 2: Peretto, Stafford  |
|                                   | Fairboard                           | 1: Peretto  |
|                                   | UPWARD Talent Council               | 1: Stauber  |
|                                   | Resource Conservation & Development | appoint 1 * (current M Golas by term)                               |
| <b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION:</b>    | Liasion for Pentoga Park            | 2: Conery, Ofsdahl  |
|                                   | Liasion for Youth Camp              | 1: Conery   |
|                                   | Liasion for Trails                  | 1: Stauber  |
| <b>SENIOR CITIZEN SERVICES:</b>   | DICSA                               | Peretto : DICSA Board Appoints                                      |
|                                   | UPCAP                               | 1: Peretto  |
|                                   | Local Authority on Aging            | 1: Stauber  |
| <b>HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES:</b> | Public Health (DIDHD)*              | 3: Stafford, Stauber, Peretto                                       |
|                                   | DHS – Medical care                  | 1: Peretto  |
|                                   | Northcare Network                   | 1: (T. Aho by term)   |
|                                   | Collaborative Board                 | 1: Peretto  |
|                                   | MCAC                                | 1: Conery   |
| <b>OTHER:</b>                     | Iron County Road Commission         | 1: Ofsdahl  |
|                                   | Veterans Service office             | 1: Stafford   |

The last item on the agenda was RFP for roof replacement at the Iron County Fairgrounds. It was then moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford, to RFP for the roof replacement at the Iron County Fairgrounds and the sealed bids to be received in the Administration Office no later than 3:00 p.m. on February 3, 2022.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Stafford, Conery, Ofsdahl, Peretto, Stauber  
Nays: None

Motion carried.

**January 11, 2022, Regular Meeting continued**

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**Public Comment:**

Stauber called for public comment.

Neil Adank wanted the Alpha Senior Center to be at the top of the list for next month's meeting. He also had questions on qualifications to be elected on a board.

Siegfried Berge spoke with regard to the Iron County Airport.

Jeremy Johnson commented on the Surface Pro X Tablets' microphone capabilities.

Conery asked about having a quarterly meeting with the Iron County Medical Care Facility. Peretto said she will ask the new Administrator to come to the next meeting. Conery also apologized to the Board for being late to the meeting.

Stauber called for public comment two more times, with no further comments voiced.

**Announcements:**

A Special Meeting of the BOC will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. with regard to Pentoga Park operations.

The next Regular Meeting of the BOC is Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.

Moved by Ofsdahl, supported by Conery, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Chairperson Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle