

February 9, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

U-25

Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at 4:00 p.m., Chairperson Patti Peretto called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Board of Commissioner's Room and via zoom. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Chairperson Patti Peretto, Commissioners Jacob Conery (via zoom), Jeff Ofsdahl, Mike Stafford and Mark Stauber.

Also present via zoom: Sheriff Mark Valesano, Prosecutor Melissa Powell, Administrative Assistants Mary Dalpra and Lynette Lorenz, Emergency Manager/911 Director Vernon Jones, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Equalization Director Amy Marinoff, Friend of the Court Jesse Ammerman, Judge Donald Powell, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti and Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle.

Moved by Stauber, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve the January 5, 2021, Organizational Meeting Minutes and the January 12, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Stauber, to approve the agenda, with the addition under New Business, item k: Sheriff's request to fill vacancy of road deputy and employee changes. Voice vote, motion carried.

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

Moved by Stafford, supported by Stauber, to approve the monthly payables for January in the amount of \$885,533.96, and payroll for January in the amount of \$227,511.49.

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

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Stauber, to approve journal entries 15973 through 16118 for January in the amount of \$8,566,385.98, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 3 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$10,880.00.

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

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Conery: None

Ofsdahl: Met with Maureen Elson from Rise-Up Indivisible Iron County regarding the Bags to Benches Initiative. For every 500 pounds of plastic recycled Nex Trex, which makes composite decking, will build a bench for the community. The plastic bags are being collected at Angelis, Crystal Fresh Market, Forest Park School and West Iron County School. It is something for the community to look forward to and is off to a great start.

Peretto: Attended a Fair Board Meeting and there are dates set for the Fair and Rodeo and back-up plans. Also attended a Medicare meeting and the number of residents are down.

Stafford: None

Stauber: Attended an Upward Talent Council Meeting.

Department Reports:

Civil Counsel Tinti wanted to make the Board aware of the Youth Camp analysis. Brian Schulze submitted a letter recommending that Camp Batawagama wait until the summer of 2022 to open in order to be able to operate the Iron County Youth Camp safely and with all of its traditional programs in place.

Equalization Director Marinoff reported that the Iron County 2021 Equalization Tentative Ratios will be in this week's Reporter.

Friend of the Court Ammerman submitted the January figures and said things are moving in the right direction.

ICECA Director Mark Bromley gave an update on the Survival Grant Program. Notifications went out yesterday to local businesses. Hopefully money should be coming to them soon.

Prosecutor Powell wanted to again thank the Board for approval of a full-time Assistant Prosecutor. So far she has only received one applicant.

No other Department Reports were given.

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

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Moved by Stauber, supported by Stafford, to approve the budget amendment request to increase First Responder Vehicle Grant in the Sheriff's Department budget from \$22,000 to \$24,700.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Ofsdahl, to authorize release to the providers for execution the following three agreements as presented: Agreement Between Aspirus Wausau Hospital, Inc. and County of Iron for Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service; Agreement Between Dickinson-Iron Community Service Agency and County of Iron for Meals on Wheels; and, Agreement Between Medical Care Access Coalition of Dickinson/Iron County, Inc. and County of Iron for Healthcare Benefits Assistance Program.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Next item on the agenda were the appointments on the UP State Fair Board, the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Authority on Aging.

UP State Fair Board: There were no letters of interest submitted for the UP State Fair Board two year term. The Administration Office will re-run the ad.

Parks and Recreation Committee: It was moved by Stauber, supported by Stafford, to accept Dan Hinch to the Parks and Recreation Committee for a three year term (01/01/2021 to 12/31/2023). Voice vote, motion carried.

The Authority on Aging: It was moved by Stauber, supported by Stafford, to accept Beverly Wilcox to the Authority on Aging Board, for a three year term (01/01/2021 to 12/31/2023). Voice vote, motion carried.

The Proposal for EAP Program through Northstar EAP was discussed. It was then moved by Stafford, supported by Stauber, to table this until the end of the year. Voice vote, motion carried.

Commissioner Stauber discussed the Iron County Bars, Restaurants and Taverns and how they were hurt by the restraints during the pandemic. He wanted to know if there was anything they could do as a Board to show support and to help them. It was moved by Stauber, supported by Ofsdahl, to pass a resolution in support of the Iron County Bars, Restaurants and Taverns and direct Tinti to draft one.

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

Motion carried.

The appointments of at-large board members for the Iron County Central Dispatch Advisory Board were reviewed. In order to give the other municipalities more time to submit applicants for consideration to the Iron County Central Dispatch Advisory Board, it was moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to table this item. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Stauber, to approve the Central Dispatch Director Job Description. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Stauber, supported by Ofsdahl, to table the Iron County Central Dispatch Director Appointment and Compensation. Voice vote, motion carried.

Holiday pay for part-time Central Dispatch employees was discussed. It was moved by Stafford, supported by Ofsdahl, to pay part-time employees double-time pay for designated holidays worked.

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

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Iron County Prosecuting Attorney, the County of Iron and the Technical, Professional and Officeworkers Association of Michigan covering the Employees of the Iron County Courthouse Unit.

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

Motion carried.

Budget Funding for two Trial Court Positions that were recently vacated (the Chief Juvenile Officer and Juvenile Registrar/Deputy District Court) was next on the agenda. Judge Powell spoke in support/need to fill these two positions and if they don't get filled how it will be a hardship on the offices affected. Peretto said that there wasn't any documentation in the packet and that the board wants clarification to reinstate. Ofsdahl stated that three of the five board members were not involved in the budget process. It was then moved by Conery, supported by Stauber, to table this item so as to better prepare and reiterate numbers.

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

Motion carried.

Michigan Indigent Defense Contracts were discussed: 1) Indigent Defense Contract; 2) Indigent Defense Conflict Counsel Manager Contract; and 3) Indigent Defense Conflict Counsel Contract. Attorney Abbey Anderson introduced herself to the three new board members and gave a brief history of the non-profit public defender's office. Civil Counsel Tinti did review these and discussed revisions with Anderson. It was then moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to table this item and present these three contracts at next month's meeting with the minor revisions. Voice vote, motion carried.

The item that was added to the agenda was next. Sheriff Valesano said one of his road deputies is leaving to take another job closer to home. He stated that the current Jail Administrator is interested in this road deputy position, and that he has a veteran Corrections Deputy interested in the Jail Administrator position, creating the need to hire and fill the Corrections Deputy position. It was moved by Stafford, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve these changes and advertise for the Corrections Deputy position.

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

Motion carried.

February 9, 2021, Regular Meeting continued

U-28

Peretto called for public comment.

Sheriff Valesano recommended the Board Members get Tablets if these meetings are going to continue via zoom, as it is hard to hear.

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

Announcements:

The Courthouse will be closed on Monday, February 15th in observance of President's Day.

The next meeting for the Board of Commissioners is Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

Moved by Stauber, supported by Ofsdahl, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Chairperson Patti Peretto

Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle