

October 12, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

U-69

Tuesday, October 12, 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. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Chairperson Patti Peretto, Commissioners Jacob Conery, Jeff Ofsdahl and Mark Stauber. Absent: Commissioner Mike Stafford.

Also present: Sheriff Mark Valesano, Friend of the Court Jesse Ammerman, Administrative Assistants Mary Dalpra and Lynette Lorenz, Prosecuting Attorney Chad DeRouin, Equalization Director Amy Marinoff, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Emergency Manager Vernon Jones, FOC Caseworker Stephanie Nichols, Maintenance Supervisor John Lortie, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, Deputy Clerk Amy Donati and Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle.

Moved by Conery, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve the September 14, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes, along with the Executive Session minutes, the September 13, 2021 and September 16, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Conery, supported by Stauber, to approve the agenda, with two additions: 1) under New Business, item i: Magistrate Position; and, 2) under New Business, item j: Motorola Service Agreement for Central Dispatch. Voice vote, motion carried.

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

Moved by Peretto, supported by Stauber, to approve the monthly payables for September in the amount of \$917,591.21, and payroll for September in the amount of \$245,697.59.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Stafford

Motion carried.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve journal entries 16819 through 16912 for September in the amount of \$5,743,640.32, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 9 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$39,150.00.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Stafford

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Conery: Reported that he attended the UPCAP meeting last week and there was a lot of good information learned.

Ofsdahl: Attended a Road Commission meeting with Peretto. He is continuing to work with them regarding the Drain Commissioner and commented on the recent article in the Reporter regarding such and that a lot of the information in the article was not true. He also thanked ICECA (Zach and Mark) for the great success with the recent Harvest and Haunt Fest.

Peretto: None.

Stafford: Absent.

Stauber: Attended a Health Department Meeting and said it was a very interesting meeting with everything that is going on. Also commented on Cooks Run and was quite impressed with the facility.

Department Reports:

Clerk Kezerle wanted to make everyone aware of the upcoming election on November 2, 2021, and what was on the ballot.

Civil Counsel Tinti gave a history on the Drain Commissioner position and how it was eliminated as an elected position and came to be the responsibility of the Road Commission and wanted everyone to understand how that transition occurred. Ofsdahl had several questions regarding this issue and asked Tinti if the Road Commission could have hired the person who was currently serving as the Drain Commissioner with Tinti responding yes.

Maintenance Supervisor Lortie reported that the sidewalk in front of the courthouse is done and that the new boilers are close to being done.

Airport Manager Krist Atanasoff gave an update on the airports and talked about the possibility of grants and putting restrooms in the facilities, along with the status of the repairs to the Stambaugh airport runway and that it's in good shape.

Dan Hinch from the Parks and Recreation Committee said they continue to work on the recreation plan. He also reported that they met at Cooks Run and gave some history on the caretaker's log cabin and what remarkable shape it's in and said that the committee recommends to the board that Iron County retains ownership of that property.

Prosecutor DeRouin reported that DHS gave the approval to change the paternity specialist position that was currently in the Prosecutor's Office to the Friend of the Court's office.

Sheriff Valesano reported they are continuing to work on the county's emergency plan.

Emergency Manager Jones also reported they are working on updating the emergency plan and are working through issues. He hopes to have an emergency drill in early November.

No other Department Reports were given.

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

Old Business:

Two bids were received and opened for the courthouse roof replacement. Independent Roofing and Siding from Escanaba, Michigan in the amount of \$130,800.00; and, The Markell Company in the amount of \$235,000.00-\$257,000.00. It was then moved by Stauber, seconded by Conery, to have Maintenance Supervisor Lortie take a look at the bids and report back to the board at next month's meeting. Voice Vote, motion carried.

New Business:

The Iron County Airport update was presented during the Department Head Reports.

Equalization Director Marinoff gave a report on the 2021 Apportionment. It was then moved by Stauber, supported by Conery, to adopt the 2021 Apportionment Plan and authorize the Chairperson and Clerk to execute the Resolution. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Stauber, supported by Ofsdahl, to appoint Patricia Ashcraft and Margee Brennan to the Iron County Board of Canvassers for four year terms, November 1, 2021, through October 31, 2025. Voice vote, motion carried.

Because our maintenance custodian Robert Loia will be retiring next month after working for the county for over 20 years, it was moved by Conery, supported by Stauber, to approve the advertising and replacement for the maintenance custodian position. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Stauber, supported by Conery, to approve the advertising and replacement for the Friend of the Court caseworker position. (Caseworker Stephanie Nichols is leaving to take another job). Voice vote, motion carried.

There were reports submitted from the Iron River, Amasa and the Crystal Falls Senior Center site councils. No report was submitted from the Alpha Senior Center site. It was then moved by Stauber, supported by Conery, to authorize civil counsel to send a letter to the Alpha Senior Center giving them until October 29, 2021, to submit the requested information, or the millage support for the Alpha Senior Center will cease.

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

Motion carried.

Moved by Ofsdahl, supported by Conery, to approve three budget amendments:

- 1) MI Sheriff Association Grant for Victim Advocate Volunteers (increase revenue 101-229-677.350 \$510.00 and increase expense 101-229-901-000 \$510.00).
- 2) Central Dispatch Maintenance Contract (move \$12,000.00 from end of the year balance 261-000-977.000 to maintenance contracts 261-000-934.100).
- 3) Parks Equipment Repair (increase beginning of the year balance 208-000-697.00 \$16,000.00 and increase equipment 208-751-977.00 \$16,000.00).

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

Motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was requests for proposals for fairground buildings: the rotunda; the Ruth Butler building; and, the horse barn. Maintenance Supervisor Lortie will work with Zach from the Fairgrounds and will write something up to present to the board at next month's meeting.

Judge Powell explained to the board the need for the Trial Court audio/visual design upgrade and installation. It was then moved by Ofsdahl, supported by Stauber, to approve the request for proposals with a deadline of November 1, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. Voice vote, motion carried.

Cooks Run update was next on the agenda. Stauber talked about how beautiful the facility is and doesn't want the county to lose ownership. Tinti said that the county is unable to lease to a non-public entity and that there is a reverter clause. Tinti said that there is a process to eliminate the clause with the State of Michigan. Mike Golas also spoke with regard to Cooks Run and agreed that we should have a discussion with the State of Michigan to see what our options are. After more discussion, it was moved by Stauber, supported by Conery, to have civil counsel pursue the process with the State of Michigan to get the reverter clause eliminated.

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

Motion carried.

Moved by Stauber, supported by Conery, to allow the replacement of Magistrate position and to advertise for the position. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Ofsdahl, supported by Conery, to approve the Motorola Service Agreement in the amount of \$11,625.90, for Central Dispatch.

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

Motion carried.

Public Comment

Peretto called for public comment.

Christine Perry expressed her concerns again with regard to the Iron County Medical Care Facility. She couldn't attend the recent joint meeting that was held with the Iron County Board and the Iron County Medical Care Facility Board, but voiced her concerns with regard to Dr. Han, Dr. Han's wife and Dr. Han's niece all being employees at the facility.

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

October 12, 2021, Regular Meeting continued

U-72

Announcements:

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

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Monday, October 18, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. at the Courthouse.

Moved by Conery, supported by Stauber, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Chairperson Patti Peretto

Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle