

**November 9, 2021, Regular Board Meeting**

**U-74**

Tuesday, November 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. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Chairperson Patti Peretto, Commissioners Jacob Conery, Jeff Ofsdahl, Mike Stafford and Mark Stauber. Absent: None.

Also present: Sheriff Mark Valesano, Friend of the Court Jesse Ammerman, Administrative Assistants Mary Dalpra and Lynette Lorenz, Equalization Director Amy Marinoff, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Emergency Manager Vernon Jones, FOC Caseworker Stephanie Nichols, Probate Registrar Amanda Bett, Sergeant Robert Reid, Judge Donald Powell, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, Deputy Clerk Amy Donati and Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle.

Moved by Conery, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve the October 12, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes, and Special Meeting Minutes of October 5, October 12 and October 28, 2021. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Stauber, supported by Conery, to approve the agenda, with four additions: 1) under Old Business, item b, iii: Central Dispatch Desks and Carpet; 2) under Old Business, item b, iv: approval for hazard pay bonuses for employees; 3) under New Business, item e, ii: Friend of the Court budget amendment; and, 4) under New Business, item h: Cafeteria Plan and Account Plans Amendment. Voice vote, motion carried.

Peretto called for Public Comment (regarding agenda items only).

Darren Crossen, a resident of Mastodon Township, had questions and concerns regarding the Alpha Senior Center.

Vernon Jones, who is also a resident of Mastodon Township, also had questions about the Alpha Senior Center.

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

Moved by Stafford, supported by Stauber, to approve the monthly payables for October in the amount of \$740,676.56, and payroll for October in the amount of \$231,455.84.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve journal entries 16913 through 16979 for October in the amount of \$4,788,730.34, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 17 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$89,905.00.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

**Commissioner Reports:**

Conery: None.

Ofsdahl: Gave updates to the board on the recent Road Commission meeting he attended, the on-going discussion regarding the Alpha Senior Center, which will be addressed later in the meeting, announced that the Parks and Recreation Committee will be having a meeting at Cooks Run Thursday, November 11, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. and that he is continuing to work with ICECA regarding funding.

Peretto: Attended an Iron County Medical Care Facility meeting since the new Administrator has been hired and everything is going well.

Stafford: None.

Stauber: Wanted to re-iterate all of the funding available to business and the abundance of opportunities out there.

**Department Reports:**

Clerk Kezerle said the November 2, 2021 election was held last week and everything went good.

Civil Counsel Tinti re-iterated on how the Drain Commissioner position was eliminated as an elected position and came to be the responsibility of the Road Commission.

Dan Hinch from the Parks and Recreation Committee gave an update on the recreation plan.

Sheriff Valesano updated the board on the trainings his department has participated in, including taser training and active shooter training.

No other Department Reports were given.

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

**Old Business:**

Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to put the 2022 General and All Funds Budget for a 30 day Public Review.

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

Motion carried.

Moved by Stauber, supported by Stafford, to approve the four ARPA Funds Committee recommendations: 1) up to \$59,000 for the Trial Court Audio/Visual Design Upgrade & Installation; 2) up to \$20,000 for the Youth Camp Water System Upgrade; 3) up to \$60,000 for Central Dispatch Desks and Carpet; and 4) the hazard pay bonus funds (up to \$250,000 over three years).

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

Motion carried.

The Alpha Senior Center was next on the agenda. At last month's meeting, there were reports submitted by the Amasa, Iron River and Crystal Falls Senior Centers but not from the Alpha Senior Center. After Civil Counsel Tinti sent the Alpha Senior Center a letter stating they had until October 29, 2021 to submit their report, the Alpha Senior Center did send some financials but Stauber said he wasn't sure what he was looking at. Discussion on what the center offered and the various fundraisers that were held raised more questions. Ofsdahl said we will continue to withhold millage funding until questions are answered. It was then moved by Stauber, supported by Stafford, to direct Civil Counsel to send a letter asking for specific items we need from the Alpha Senior Center with a two week deadline to provide those specific items and then to have a meeting with the Alpha Senior Center and the county's working committee (Jeff Ofsdahl and Mark Stauber).

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

Motion carried.

**New Business:**

Discussion regarding the Emergency Response Plan was had. Emergency Manager Jones said that he and the Sheriff took a lot of time going over it. There will be an employee training on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Sheriff Valesano said there will be different scenarios with regard to the employee emergency response training. Ofsdahl said he likes the revised language and that the document needs to be fluid. It was then moved by Stafford, supported by Stauber, to approve the revised Emergency Response Plan. Voice vote, motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve the Coleman Engineering Contract for GIS services for up to \$20,000 pending review by civil counsel.

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

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to approve the four Letters of Agreement dated October 25, 2021, between the County of Iron and Police Officers Association of Michigan (Covering Employees of the Iron County Sheriff's Department, Iron County Central Dispatch Department) and between the County of Iron and the Technical Professional and Officeworkers Association of Michigan (Covering Employees of the Iron County Courthouse Unit and Iron County Trial Court).

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Conery, supported by Ofsdahl, to approve the FY 2020 Cost Allocation Plan, Maximus and authorize the execution of the Certificate of Cost Allocation Plan.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Two budget amendments were next on the agenda. One was for the Sheriff's Department and the other one was for the Friend of the Court's office. Friend of the Court Ammerman spoke regarding the Friend of the Court caseworker position. He recently hired someone and would like the current caseworker to be able to train the new caseworker before she leaves. Ammerman needs to transfer money to the wages line in order to cover the added expense, which the state grant will reimburse 2/3rds. It was then moved by Stafford, supported by Stauber, to approve the Sheriff's Department budget amendment (Transport wages 101-301-704-900 to Vehicle Repair 101-301-932-000 \$4720.64) and the Friend of the Court budget amendment (Travel/Training 215-141-860.000 to Wages 215-141-702.001 \$665.79).

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Revised Apportionment Report was next on the agenda. Equalization Director Marinoff stated that this was on the agenda because the voters of Bates Township approved a renewal of their 2 mill road repair and maintenance millage on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The millage takes effect in 2021 and supersedes the millage set to expire at the end of 2021 and changes the amount to be levied for roads in only Bates Township from 2.9679 to 2.9893. After further review from the State and civil counsel, it was not necessary to revise the Apportionment Report so no action was taken.

Discussion on the Iron County Airport was had. Ofsdahl said we need to determine how we want this property to be used and that we should be utilizing the airport. Ofsdahl said this will be discussed in the future and what possible improvements could be done, such as bathrooms and paving.

Moved by Stauber, supported by Stafford, to approve the Amendment to the Plan Document for the Cafeteria Plan and Account Plans and authorize the Chairperson to execute the document.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

Peretto called for public comment.

Jim Reitmeyer, owner of the Sawblade in Amasa, spoke regarding his frustration in dealing with LARA. The only way you can send anything to LARA is by facsimile. He was asking everyone to call their politicians to express the same concern.

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

**November 9, 2021, Regular Meeting continued**

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**Announcements:**

The next meeting for the Board of Commissioners is Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Thursday, December 9, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. at the Courthouse.

Holiday Closures: Veteran's Day on November 11<sup>th</sup> and Thanksgiving on November 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

The courthouse will be closed to the public on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00 p.m. for employee training.

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

Chairperson Patti Peretto

Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle