

February 14, 2023, Regular Board Meeting

U-168

Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 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 Ean Bruette, Jacob Conery, Patti Peretto and Mike Stafford.

Also Present: Prosecutor Chad DeRouin, Administrative Assistants Lynette Lorenz and Mary Dalpra, Sheriff Ryan Boehmke, Jail Administrator Dale Anderson, Administrative Assistant April Anderson, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Deputy Treasurer Jenn Curtis, Emergency Manager Vernon Jones, Equalization Director Amy Bucek, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti and Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle.

Approval of the Minutes: Moved by Peretto, supported by Conery, to approve the minutes of the Organizational Meeting held on January 3, 2023, the Regular Board Meeting held on January 10, 2023 and the Special Meeting held on January 20, 2023.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Conery, supported by Stafford, to approve the agenda, with two additions: under New Business, item k: Resolution Honoring 125th Anniversary of Michigan Association of Counties; and item l: Iron County Timber Sale.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items Only (3 minutes max.)

Stauber called for Public Comment.

Dan Freed spoke in support of the Resolution Declaring Iron County a “Second Amendment Sanctuary County”.

Stauber called for Public Comment two more times with no further comments voiced.

Monthly Financials:

Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to approve the monthly payables for January in the amount of \$515,693.83, and payroll for January in the amount of \$265,736.55.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Bruette, to approve journal entries 18847 through 19023 for January in the amount of \$7,539,782.56, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 3 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$22,565.00.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Bruette: Reported on the Road Commission meeting he attended and said that the Idlewild Bridge is in the works.

Conery: None.

Peretto: Updated the board on the DICSAs, Fair Board and the Medicare meetings she recently attended.

Stafford: Reported on the camp software, the Construction Code office and the Health Department’s building.

Stauber: none.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Conery, to approve the Commissioner Reports.

Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Department Reports:

Zach Hautala from ICECA gave a housing unit update.

Dan Hinch from the Parks and Recreation Committee reported on the Heritage Trail, the SPARKS grant, UP State Fair meeting cancellation and the new campground reservation system status.

Sheriff Ryan Boehmke updated the board on the department's employee hire status.

Treasurer Camps updated the board on the foreclosed properties.

No other Department Reports were given.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to approve the Department Reports. Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

- a. Award of Bids Received on Proposals.
 - i. Pentoga Park roofs.
 - ii. Cooks Run Cabin roof.

Moved by Conery , supported by Bruette, to approve TDA Construction LLC's proposals for Pentoga Park and Cooks Run Cabin roofs (Estimate 101-2023 and 102-2023).

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

Motion carried.

- iii. Courthouse Flooring.

Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to redo the RFP for the Courthouse Flooring and put it out for bids.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

- iv. Ambulance Service.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to approve the 2023 Agreement Between Aspirus Wausau Hospital, Inc. and County of Iron for Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service and authorize the Chairperson and Clerk to sign the agreement after Aspirus signs the Agreement first.

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

Motion carried.

- b. Northpointe Board Vacancy for partial term vacancy ending 12/31/24.

Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to appoint Kathy Thompson to the Northpointe Board for partial term ending 12/31/24.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

- c. Proposal for Engineering Services for MNRTF Project No. TF22-0084 Pentoga Park Boat Launch and Iron Belle Trailhead Project.

Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to move forward with the Proposal for Professional Engineering Services for DNR Pentoga Park Boat Launch & Iron Belle Trailhead Project, MNRTF Project No. TF22-0084.

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

Motion carried.

New Business:

- a. Budget Amendment to Adjust Elected/Appointed wage/contingency \$20,884.26.
Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to approve the budget amendment to adjust elected/appointed wage/contingency \$20,884.26.
Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Peretto, Stafford, Bruette, Stauber
Nays: None

Motion carried.

- b. Close MERS Division 110337 – 911 Dispt aft 8/30/09.
Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to close MERS Division 110337 – 911 Dispt after 8/30/09.
Roll call vote: Ayes: Peretto, Stafford, Bruette, Conery, Stauber
Nays: None

Motion carried.

- c. Prosecuting Attorney Request for contractual Employee. Prosecutor DeRouin is looking for approval for Attorney Jeff Paupore to do part-time APA work on an “as needed” basis at a rate of \$100/hour. The BOC approved the \$60,000 for a full-time APA previously and no one has shown an interest in the full-time position; however, Attorney Paupore has expressed interest in doing “as needed” contractual APA work. Prosecutor DeRouin said he still intends to look for new advertising options to fill the full-time position, but could use Attorney Paupore when needed in the meantime. It was then **moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to authorize the money to use for the contractual APA at the rate of \$100 per hour, with no benefits, on an “as needed” basis, with Prosecutor DeRouin preparing a Memorandum of Understanding to that effect.**
Roll call vote: Ayes: Stafford, Bruette, Conery, Peretto, Stauber
Nays: None

Motion carried.

- d. Iron County Road Commission Request to Increase Monthly Salary and Meeting Fee for Road Commissioners.
Moved by Stafford, supported by Bruette, to increase the monthly salary and meeting fee for Road Commissioners as follows:
Chairman: \$450/monthly fee
Board Members: \$350 monthly fee
Special meeting outside the regular monthly meetings are paid at an in-County rate of \$40 and out-of- County rate of \$60/day.
Mileage is paid for all meetings, if requested, with no other benefits of any other kind, with all funds to come solely from the County Road Fund.
Roll call vote: Ayes: Bruette, Conery, Peretto, Stafford, Stauber
Nays: None

Motion carried.

- e. Request to Support Name Change of Marsh Bay Lake to Makwagamma.
The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians is requesting the board’s support to proposing that Marsh Bay Lake, which is located in Stambaugh Township, name be changed to Makwagamaa. **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to support the name change of Marsh Bay Lake to Makwagamma.**
Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Peretto, Stafford, Bruette, Stauber
Nays: None

Motion carried.

- f. Finance Chair Monthly Stipend. The Board is proposing an increase in the monthly salary for the Finance Chair to be the same as the Chairperson. Currently the monthly salary for the Chairperson is \$450 per month and all other commissioners are \$350.00. Tinti said you cannot change the amount at this time and that the wage needs to be set before the term of office starts. **It was then moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, that starting with term 2025, the Finance Chair and Chairperson’s monthly salary shall be the same.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

- g. Central Dispatch Director contractual increase.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to approve the Central Dispatch contractual increase, effective March 4, 2023.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

- h. County Administrator Position.

Stauber said he would like to contract with Administrative Assistant Lynette Lorenz to be the County Administrator. **It was then moved by Stafford, supported by Bruette, to move forward with the County Administrator position, with a starting yearly salary of \$63,500.00, with an increase after one year of \$2,000 and then an additional \$2,000 increase after two years, with a contract to cover salary, term and job description for Lorenz as the County Administrator to be drafted for approval.**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

- i. MOU Supporting Iron Baraga Conservation District and WEPIC grant.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford, to support the Memorandum of Understanding Iron Baraga Conservation District and WEPIC grant.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

- j. Resolution Declaring Iron County a “Second Amendment Sanctuary County”.

After some discussion regarding the language of the Resolution, **it was moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to table this Resolution.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

- k. Resolution Honoring 125th Anniversary of Michigan Association of Counties.

Moved by Conery, supported by Stafford, to support the Resolution Honoring the 125th Anniversary of Michigan Association of Counties.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

- l. Iron County Timber Sale.

Forester Brock VanOss gave an update on the timber sale. He also discussed the harvesting of trees along the Iron County Rec Trail. **It was then moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to approve the harvesting of the trees along the Iron County Rec Trail.**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Stauber called for Public Comment.

Steve Haag spoke in support of declaring Iron County a “Second Amendment Sanctuary County”.

Dan Freed encouraged the board to revise the language to pass the Resolution Declaring Iron County a “Second Amendment Sanctuary County”.

Commissioner Stafford stated they would look at the language other counties that passed the same Resolution used.

Conery also stated that they will look at the language other counties used.

Stauber called for Public Comment two more times, with no further comments voiced.

Announcements:

The courthouse will be closed on Monday, February 20th in observance of President’s Day.

The next regular scheduled board meeting is Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

The next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is Tuesday, February 21st at 5:30 p.m. at the courthouse.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Conery, supported by Peretto, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Chairperson Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle