

September 12, 2023, Regular Board Meeting

U-202

Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 4:00 p.m., Chairperson Mark Stauber called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Board of Commissioner's Room at the Iron County Courthouse. 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: Administrator Lynette Lorenz, Deputy Clerk Amy Donati, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Deputy Treasurer Jenn Curtis, Sheriff Ryan Boehmke, Undersheriff Bob Reid, 911 Director Ashley Schmidt, Emergency Manager Chris Peterson, Maintenance Supervisor John Lortie, Prosecutor Chad DeRouin, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti and Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle.

Approval of the Minutes: Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 8, 2023 and the Special Meeting held on August 15, 2023.
Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Conery, supported by Peretto, to approve the agenda, with one addition: under New Business, item j, Tower.
Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Stauber called for Public Comment three times, with no comments voiced.

Monthly Financials:

Moved by Stafford, supported by Bruette, to approve the monthly payables for August in the amount of \$980,950.11, and payroll for August in the amount of \$288,391.02.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Bruette, to approve journal entries 19782 through 19928 for August in the amount of \$4,154,697.93, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 10 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$21,440.00.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Bruette: None

Conery: Attended a community picnic at Dawson Lake Park and it was a very nice event.

Peretto: None

Stafford: Reported that the Health Department is completely moved into their new building and they are working on a plan for the old building.

Stauber: None

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

Department Reports:

Robb Possansa, Administrator at the Iron County Medical Care Facility, updated the board on the employee retention grant, retention and recruitment bonuses, the 2024 budget and various positions that have been eliminated at the facility. Possansa said he cares about the future of the facility and the residents.

Administrator Lorenz reported on the new flooring that is currently being installed throughout the Courthouse.

Clerk Kezerle reported on how Iron County Clerks will implement the requirement of nine days of early in-person voting due to Proposal 2022-2 that was passed.

Treasurer Camps updated the board on the recent auction of the foreclosed properties that was held on August 16th.

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. RFP for Audit Services. Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to accept Clifton Larson Allen LLP's proposal for audit services, after Administrator Lorenz reviews the proposal.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

- b. MIDC Contract for Services. There was some discussion on the progress of this. No action was taken.

- c. Fair Association Agreement. Civil Counsel Tinti stated he submitted the agreement with the amendment(s) to the Fair Board. No action was taken.

- d. DNR Trust Fund Grant Agreement. Civil Counsel Tinti said that he reviewed the agreement and supporting documents. No action was taken.

New Business:

- a. Stambaugh Airport upgrades courtesy Krist Oil & Krist Atanasoff. Stauber said that the new bathroom facility and upgrade to LED lighting at the airport courtesy of Krist Oil & Krist Atanasoff are fantastic for the residents of Iron County. **No action needed or taken.**

- b. Board of Canvassers appointments. **Moved by Peretto, supported by Bruette, to appoint Lyman Echola, to the Board of Canvasser Republican Term 11/1/23 – 10/31/27 and Janet Wagner to the Board of Canvasser Democratic Term 11/1/23 – 10/31/27.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

- c. Michigan Townships Association Associate County Membership and Dues. **Moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford, to approve the Michigan Townships Association Associate Membership and Dues in the amount of \$505.00 (which covers a one-year period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024).**

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

Nays: Conery

Motion carried.

- d. Approve FY 2022 Cost Allocation report from Maximus.
Moved by Conery, supported by Peretto, to approve the FY 2022 Cost Allocation report from Maximus.
Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.
- e. ICMCF Defined Benefit Plan Adoption Agreement Amendment.
Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to approve the Iron County Medical Care Facility Defined Benefit Plan Adoption Agreement Amendment.
Roll call vote: Ayes: Bruette, Conery, Peretto, Stafford, Stauber
Nays: None
Motion carried.
- f. Additional Remaining Proceeds.
i) Lawsuit
ii) Funding expenses

Civil Counsel Tinti discussed the expense liability involving claims for remaining proceeds. There needs to be an allocation of expense liabilities for such lawsuits. He recommended that the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund (DTRF) would pay for certain things and the County of Iron pay for certain things and that a mutual discussion of these recommendations should occur. **No action was needed or taken.**

- g. Pentoga Park Reservation System contract with Konect. Maintenance Supervisor John Lortie was in attendance to answer any questions the board members had with regard to the contract with Konect. Lortie said Konect is a firm out of Green Bay. He said we can tell them what we want and they will build it (build as we go). There is a \$12,000 up front fee to create the reservation system and then an annual fee of \$1,900. **It was then moved by Conery, supported by Stafford, to approve this proposal upon civil counsel's review of the terms and conditions.**
Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Peretto, Stafford, Bruette, Stauber
Nays: None
Motion carried.
- h. Window Store: Aluminum Storefront for Sheriff's Dept. from 470 fund. **Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to move forward with the proposal from the Window Store in the amount of \$7,258.00 from Fund 470, for the aluminum storefront for Sheriff's Department visitor entrance.**
Roll call vote: Ayes: Peretto, Stafford, Bruette, Conery, Stauber
Nays: None
Motion carried.

- i. Resolutions:
i) State Disaster Contingency Fund
ii) Opposition to Statewide Control of Solar and Wind Providers
- Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to support State Disaster Contingency Fund Grant Relief Resolution.**
Voice vote, motion carried.
- Moved by Conery, supported by Stafford, to support Resolution Opposing any Legislation Preempting Local Control for Solar & Wind Developments.**
Voice vote, motion carried.

- j. **Tower.** Discussion on a proposed telecommunications tower to be located east of 16th Street in the City of Iron River was had. Krist Atanasoff expressed concern over the proposed tower being in the traffic pattern of Stambaugh Airport and it being a hazard to aviation. After more discussion, **it was moved by Conery, supported by Stafford, for civil counsel to draft a letter to be sent to the appropriate entity firmly opposing the tower site as it would affect the operations at the Stambaugh Airport.**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Stauber called for public comment.

Jen Stairs had questions on the new reservation system at Pentoga Park.

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

Announcements:

A Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. for the purpose of conducting a departmental budget workshop.

The Courthouse will be closed on October 9th in observance of Columbus Day.

The next regular scheduled board meeting is Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Conery, supported by Peretto, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Chairperson Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle