

**March 12, 2024, Regular Board Meeting**

U-226

Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 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, Commissioner Jacob Conery, Ean Bruette, Mike Stafford, and Patti Peretto

**Also present:** Administrator Lynette Lorenz, Administrative Assistant Mary Dalpra, Judge Donald Powell, Probate Registrar Summer Olson, Sheriff Ryan Boehmke, Undersheriff Bob Reid, Emergency Manager Chris Peterson, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Deputy Treasurer Jennifer Curtis, Friend of the Court Eric Wierda, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, Deputy Clerk Jordyn Grell, Clerk/Register Amy Donati.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024, Regular Board Meeting, and the Special Meeting minutes of February 22, 2024.  
Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to approve the agenda with two additional items. Review correspondence from Marquette County Board of Commissioners and a request by the County Clerk to increase the Election Budget.  
Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Dan Freed voiced comment on requesting the County Board to support a resolution banning Iron County as a sanctuary County and to make it illegal for illegal aliens to take up residence in Iron County.

Carol Callovi expressed her support for the 4H program. Explaining how it teaches the youth of Iron County invaluable lessons that they will need throughout their lives.

Lynn Aho also expressed her support for the 4H program. Listing all the activities that 4H program offers for Iron County youth and asked the County Board for their support keeping 4H available to the Youth of Iron County.

**Monthly Financials:**

Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to approve the monthly payables for February in the amount of \$493,616.97, and payroll for February in the amount of \$253,529.69.

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

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Bruette, to approve journal entries 20539 through 20806 for February in the amount of \$6,503,519.67, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 6 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$45,513.00.

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

Motion carried.

**Commissioner Reports:**

Bruette: None currently.

Conery: None currently.

Peretto: Reported on the Iron County Medical Care Facility. Reported staffing is a problem just like everywhere and stated that if individuals would apply and get hired the Medical Care Facility could fill beds. The Medical Care Facility currently has a waiting list for individuals wanting to enter long term care.

Stafford: None currently.

Stauber: None currently.

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

**Department Reports:**

Treasurer: Melaine Camps gave an update on the current Delinquent Taxes for Iron County. Also reported that the Deed for the Alpha School was recorded with the new owners. Lastly, Treasurer Camps reported that the Treasurer's office is still seeking an Accounting Clerk.

Emergency Manager: Chris Peterson reported to the County Commissioners that he is still working on securing Grant Funding to help with costs associated with flooding that occurred in Iron County in 2023.

Clerk/Register: Amy Donati reported that the County will be submitting reimbursement for the Presidential Primary Election in the amount of \$21,462.25. Early voting took place in Iron County from February 9, 2024 through February 17, 2024, in which 241 voters cast votes. Also, the August Primary and November General Election both require 9 days of early voting.

MSU Extension: Anne Kretschmann reported that the 4H program currently has 56 youth that have signed up to participate. Anne also reported that a new college scholarship from the Crystal Falls Community Foundation is now available for 4H members to apply for.

Sheriff: Ryan Boehmke reported that the Sheriff's Department has received 5 applications for one part-time position in the jail, interviews will be held in the upcoming days. Also, Sheriff Boehmke reported that the West Iron School District issued an RFP for a school resource officer. Sheriff Boehmke asked the County Commissioner for their support for the Sheriff's Department to proceed with submitting a request to secure the RFP with the West Iron County School District.

**Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to allow the Iron County Sheriff's Department to proceed with submitting a request to secure the RFP issued by West Iron County School District.**

**Roll Call vote: Ayes: Pretto, Stafford, Bruette, Conery, Stauber**

**Nays: None**

**Motion carried.**

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

**Old Business:**

**Northpointe: Resolution to reaffirm the Northpointe Behavioral Healthcare Authority. Moved by Conery, supported by Stafford, to table. No further action was taken.**

**MSU Appropriation: Moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford to approve \$25,000 appropriation to the MSU Extension and request that Paul Putnam attend the County Budget meetings in the fall of every year.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Motion carried.**

**County Commissioner Mileage Reimbursement Rate:**

**Moved by Stafford, supported by Pretto to table discussion.**

**Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.**

**New Business:**

**Appointments**

**Parks and Recreation Commission, 2 vacancies for 3 year terms. Mark Stauber appointed Brian Fabbri to the Parks and Recreation Commission.**

**Authority on Aging Boards, 2 vacancies for 3 year terms.** No applications were submitted. No action was taken.

**Personnel**

**Trial Court Administrator position. Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to allow the Trial Court to seek applicants for the Probate Registrar and Friend of the Court Case worker position per Union Contract guidelines.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery to transfer funds from the Trial Court Computer Support/Supplies line to cover wages, health insurance, MERS, and FICA for a second Trial Court Administrator upon the eventual retirement of the current Trial Court Administrator.**

**Roll Call vote: Ayes: Bruette, Conery, Pretto, Stafford, Stauber  
Nays: None**

**Motion carried.**

**Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery to approve a wage scale of \$49,000 until January 1, 2025, increasing to \$51,000 until January 1, 2026, with a final increase of \$53,000 until January 1, 2027. Increases to be subject to raises approved by the Board of Commissioners for the Elected and appointed officials thereafter.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Central Dispatch full time dispatcher.**

**Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery to table discussion.**

**Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.**

**Corrections Officers approval for credit cards during training period. Moved by Peretto, supported by Conery to approve Correction Staff to use a County Credit card to purchase items for extended training.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Salary Rate for Medical Examiner. Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto to approve the set rate of \$.50 per population at last census of 11,631. This would total \$5,815.50 annually.**

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

**Motion carried.**

Resolution Expressing Support for the Citizens for Local Choice Ballot Initiative. Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve the Resolution EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE CITIZENS FOR LOCAL CHOICE BALLOT INIATIVE WHICH SEEKS TO AMEND THE CLEAN AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY WASTE REDUCTION ACT TO REPEAL PART 8 AS ADDED BY PUBLIC ACT 233 OF 2023 IN AN EFFORT TO RESTORE LOCAL CONTROL FOR WIND AND SOLAR OPERATION.

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

Motion carried.

Amendment to the Standard Travel Regulation. Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery to approve the change in section 3.6 from typewriter to computer and to approve section 5.7-Extended Training.

Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Renewal millage request for Medical Access Coalition. Table – No action taken.

Iron County Medical Care Facility update. Table - No action taken.

Notice of Intent for Preparing a Multi-County Materials Management Plan. Moved by Conery, supported by Stafford to send out a letter with Iron County's intent to stay with WUPPDR and have the County Administrator Lynette Lorenz work with Jerry Wuorenmaa, Executive Director of the Western U.P. Planning & Development Region to craft a letter with the same.

Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Election Budget Amendment requested by Iron County Clerk. Moved by Stafford, supported by Bruette to approve a budget amendment from line 101-997-997.000 End of Yr. Balance to line 101-191-728.000 Election Printing and Binding in the amount of \$56,000 to cover the remaining balance of the February 27, 2024 Presidential primary Election, and also election costs for the August 6, 2024, Primary Election and the November 5, 2024, General Election.

**Public Comment:**

Dan Freed reiterated his concerns about illegal aliens coming to the Upper Peninsula and specifically Iron County. He asked the board to adopt a resolution banning illegal allies from entering Iron County. He also requested that the Sheriff deputize all citizens of Iron County.

Carol Callovi and Lynn Aho thanked the County Commissioners for their support of Iron County 4H program.

Kathy Thompson from Northpointe informed the County Commissioner that on April 4, 2024, Northpointe will be hosting a Lunch and Learn and that the board members are welcome to come. Kathy also informed the board that Northpointe Boad meeting will take place in Iron County four times a year. The first Northpointe Board meeting will take place on April 4, 2024.

**Announcements:** The Courthouse is closed on Friday, March 29, 2024, in observance of Good Friday. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners is Tuesday April 9, 2024.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Conery, supported by Peretto, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

Chairperson, Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register, Amy Donati