

August 13, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

U-247

Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 3:30 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 Ean Bruette, Jacob Conery, Mike Stafford, Patti Peretto.

Also present: Administrator Lynette Lorenz, Sheriff Ryan Boehmke, Undersheriff Bob Reid, Sheriff Department Administrative Assistant April Anderson, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Equalization Director Amy Bucek, Court Administrator Summer Olson, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, and Clerk/Register Amy Donati.

Approval of the Minutes: Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2024, Regular Board Meeting and July 15, 2024 Special Board Meeting.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Peretto, supported by Conery, to approve the agenda with the addition of (J): Approval to hire the positions; District Court Deputy Clerk, Juvenile Register, and Friend of the Court Paternity Specialist positions available in Trial Court. Also to move Millage Request (9) i. ii. to (7). Lastly to be added (K) Maximus – Cost Allocation Plan.

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 July in the amount of \$676,513.61, and payroll for July in the amount of \$387,339.87.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to approve journal entries 21683 through 21897 for July in the amount of \$5,206,491.96, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 8 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$62,408.00.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Bruette: None Currently

Conery: None Currently

Peretto: Reported that Iron County need to appoint a replacement member on the DICS board.

Stafford: None Currently

Stauber: Reported that the Pentoga Park grant project at the boat launch area on Chicaugon Lake was moving along smoothly and the boat launch area should be open, weather permitting, this upcoming weekend.

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

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

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Dickinson Iron Intermediate School District approval of ballot language: Moved by Peretto, supported by Conery, to approve Dickinson Iron intermediate School District ballot language for the November 5, 2024 general election.

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

Motion carried

Northwoods Animal Shelter approval of ballot language: Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to deny Northwoods Animal Shelter ballot language for the November 5, 2024 general election. Commissioner Stafford explained that the County of Iron is not able to fully fund the Northwoods Animal Shelter (NAS) operations with a millage as it is not a county owned entity. They can only use general funds or millages to pay for services contracted to the county from NAS. NAS currently is paid \$15,000 for contracted services to house and feed animals that are picked up by the county Sheriff's dept. Civil counsel Tinti explained if a millage was used to pay for those services, then those funds would be restricted for that exclusive use. Since the services are paid for from the county general funds, then NAS can use those funds for general use. It was recommended by Commissioner Stafford to meet with NAS during the county budget process to renegotiate the amount paid by the county for the services from NAS. NAS will contact the County Administrator to schedule those meetings.

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

Motion carried

Department Reports:

MSU Extension: Anne Kretschmann reported on the activities that the 4H members have been participating in. Anne also reported that 4H members at the Iron County fair had a very busy but very successful time.

Clerk/Register of Deeds: Clerk Amy Donati reported that the August 6, 2024 primary election was completed and that 154 Iron County residents participated in the nine days of early voting. Crystal Falls City early voting site had 41 registered voters cast a ballot and that included residents from Mansfield Township, Hematite Township, Crystal Falls Township, and the City of Crystal Falls. Mastodon early voting site had 27 voters cast a ballot. Bates Township early voting site had 16 voters cast a ballot. Iron River City early voting site had 70 registered voters cast a ballot and that included residents from the City of Gaastra, Stambaugh Township, Iron River Township, Iron River City and Caspian City. Clerk Donati also reported that Stephanie Nichols will be starting in the Clerk's office on Monday, September 9, 2024.

Sheriff Department: Sheriff Ryan Boehmke reported that the full body scanner that was purchased has been delivered and should be up and running by the end of the month. Sheriff Boehmke reported that Undersheriff Reid applied for a grant and the Sheriff's Department was awarded money to pay for the purchase of a new AED. Sheriff Boehmke also reported that Lieutenant Anderson has been in contact with BCBS for a medical coverage program to cover current inmates. The BCBS program will be a cost savings to the County of Iron.

Treasurer: Treasurer Melanie Camps reported that on August 7, 2024, the auction for County owned properties took place. Treasurer Camps reported that 10 properties out of the 15 properties were sold.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford, to approve the Department Reports.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

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Material management-Committee Recommendations: Discussion was had that Mark Stauber would take the open position on the Material management board and that Patti Peretto would be back up.

New Business:

Scott Sternhagen Presentation of FY 2023 Audit: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to approve the presentation and findings on the County of Iron FY 2023 Audit.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Budget Amendment:

Chicaugon Lake Milfoil increase \$12,000.00: Moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford, to approve budget amendments to increase Invasive Species Fund to funding level of \$20,000 approved at the July 9, 2024 Board of Commissioners meeting. Amendments as follows: 101-101-710.100 Wage/Contingency - \$10,00.00 (decrease); 101-806-969.402 Appr. To Invasive Species Fund - \$10,00.00 (increase); 402-000-695.100 Appr. From General Fund – \$10,00.00 (increase); 402-000-971.976 Contract Services - \$10,000.00 (increase).

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

Motion carried.

Drain Commission Professional Services increase \$10,000.00: Moved by Peretto, supported Conery, to approve budget amendment to increase Drain Commission Department by estimated \$10,000.00 for the Road Commission: 101-101-710.100 Wage/Contingency - \$10,000.00 (decrease); 101-275-801.000 Professional/Contact services - \$10,000.00 (increase).

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

Motion carried.

Fair Association Request for contractual allotment of \$4,000.00: Moved by Peretto, supported by Stafford, to approve the Iron County Fair Associations request for the agreed upon allotment of \$4,000.00 to help offset some of the costs of the improvements they have made to the Iron County Fair Grounds.

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

Motion carried.

Sheriff Department: Moved by Conery, supported by Stafford, to approve the addition of an additional Sheriff Deputy Position within the Sheriff Department and to seek applications for full-time employment.

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

Motion carried.

Sheriff Department: Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to approve \$47,000.00 for the purchase of a new patrol vehicle for the Sheriff Department.

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

Motion carried.

IT Services Contract: Leeinit, LLC: Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to approve the contract for services with Leeinit, LLC to provide Information Technology services for the County of Iron. Contract in effect 30 days from August, 14, 2024.

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

Motion carried.

Commissioner Pay Rates: Moved by Peretto, supported by Bruette, to approve pay raises for the Iron County Board of Commissioners starting January 1, 2025. This will be an overall increase of \$17,100.00 combined for all County Board Commissioners with the current pay scale adjustment: Current Rates: Monthly- Chair \$450.00, Finance Chair \$350.00, Commissioners \$350.00, In County meeting \$40.00, Out of County meeting \$60.00. Yearly cost \$22,200.00. Approved Rates-Effective January 1, 2025: Monthly – Chair \$725.00, Finance Chair \$675.00, Commissioners \$625.00, In County meeting \$40.00, Out of County meeting \$75.00. Yearly cost \$39,300.00.

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

Motion carried.

TPOAM Union Communications Agreement: Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to approve Iron County Board of Commissioners Chair Mark Stauber and Administrator Lynette Lorenz to sign a Communication Agreement.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Jail Flooring: Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto, to approve a budget amendment to increase Jail Bldg./grounds/equip R&M expense to pay for approved flooring replacement; 101-351-394.000 - \$24,590.00 (increase); 101-954-935.000 Prop & Liab. Ins. - \$24,590.00 (decrease).

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

Motion carried.

Maximus – Cost Allocation Plan Fiscal Year 2023: Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to have County Board Chair Mark Stauber sign the Certificate of Cost Allocation Plan.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment:

Michelle Clements gave comment on Northwoods Animal Shelter millage.

Serena Denson gave comment on Northwoods Animal Shelter millage.

Lisa Karwoski gave comment on Northwoods Animal Shelter millage.

Patti Cane gave comment on Northwoods Animal Shelter millage.

Stacy Donati gave comment on Northwoods Animal Shelter millage.

Announcements: The Courthouse will be Closed on Monday, September 2, 2024, in Observance of Labor Day. The next meeting of the Board of Commissioners is on Tuesday, September 10, 2024.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Bruette, supported by Peretto, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Chairperson, Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register, Amy Donati