

October 14, 2025, Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 14, 2025, 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 Ean Bruette, Jacob Conery, Pete Judd, absent Patti Peretto.

Also present: Administrator Lynette Lorenz, Court Administrator Summer Olson, Dispatch Director Ashely Schmidt, Equalization Director Amy Bucek, Friend of Court Shawn Houle, Sheriff Ryan Boehmke, Undersheriff Bob Reid, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, and Clerk/Register Amy Donati.

Approval of the Minutes: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of September 9, 2025 and Special meetings of September 4, 2025, September 10, 2025 and September 23, 2025.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to approve the agenda with additional changes:

J. Camera installation in Central Dispatch

K. Renewal of LeeinIT contract

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 Bruette, supported by Judd, to approve the monthly payables for September in the amount of \$993,641.03 and payroll for September in the amount of \$296,876.28.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Judd, Bruette, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve journal entries 24216 through 24428 for September in the amount of \$5,443,997.77, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 16 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$85,677.00.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Judd, Bruette, Conery, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Bruette: None currently

Conery: Commissioner Conery reported that he will be attending the annual Michigan Association of County Commissioners conference in Bark River.

Judd: Commissioner Judd reported that the city of Iron River has had several streets and parking lots resurfaced. Also, it was reported that the board walk on the Apple Blossom Trail has been completed and looking great. Suggested that other County Commissioners take a look. Lastly Commissioner Judd reported that the new Caspian park is looking great.

Peretto: Absent

Stauber: Commissioner Stauber reported on the WUPPDR meeting he attended. Commissioner Stauber reported that by 2030 the State of Michigan's Plan for recycling must be in effect for all Counties. Discussion with local boards are taking place to keep costs down.

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

Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Department Reports:

County Clerk: County Clerk Amy Donati reported that the Michigan State Police responded to the request of information on the Court gaining LEIN access. Clerk Donati reported that LeeinIT is now reviewing the email to offer a suggestion on the IT requirement for all options provided.

Central Dispatch: E991 Director Ashley Schmidt reported that a current part-time dispatcher will be moving to full time and that the contracted dispatchers are now on site. Director Schmidt reported that she felt the Contract with Dickinson County Dispatch to cover 6:00p.m. to 6:00a.m. is no longer needed. Through conversation with the County Commissioners, the board will be moving forward with the decision made in the October 3, 2025 Special meeting.

Civil Counsel: Civil Counsel Steve Tinti reported that an Iron County case may be heard by the Michigan Supreme Court, and he wanted the County Board to be aware of that.

Friend of Court: Friend of Court Shawn Houle reported that \$75,000.00 in child support was collected for the month of September, and that around \$5,000 in arrears were also collected.

ICECA: Zach Hautala reported that October is Business after hours in Iron County and welcomed the County Commissioners to attend.

MSU Extension: Anne Kretschmann reported that 4H members have been working on a poster contest and working on Christmas decorations.

Parks & Rec Commission: Commissioner Stauber reported that the Special meeting at Cooks Run was very informative and that Forester Brock VanOss will be bringing proposals to cut the Cooks Run property to the County Commissioners. Also, Brock VanOss will be bringing more information to the County Commissioners on training he will be conducting next fall at the Cooks Run property, which will include a temporary bridge for winter cutting to take place. Lastly, Commissioner Stauber reported that eventually he would like to see an RFP put out to see if an organization is interested in managing the Cooks Run property.

Treasurer: Treasurer Melanie Camps reported that the August 19, 2025 public auction on foreclosed properties resulted in 13 of the 15 properties that were foreclosed on by the County sold. Also, Treasurer Camps reported that the 2 remaining properties will be sold at public auction on October 31, 2025.

Veterans Service Office: Gerald Williams reported financial numbers that the Veteran's office was able to assist Iron County veterans in obtaining and that included 11 million dollars in compensation to local veterans. Mr. Williams also reported that the Veterans office is still looking for office space in Iron County and has a few leads but nothing concrete.

Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to approve Department Reports.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

Aspirus Ambulance Garage Reverter Deed: After discussion no action was taken.

2026 Budget for 30 day public review: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to distribute the 2026 County Budget for public review and to set the public hearing on budget review for November 19, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners room to coincide with the November Board of Commissioners meeting.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

2025 Apportionment Report Amy Bucek: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve the Adoption of the 2025 Apportionment Report Plan and Equalization Director Amy Bucek's report.**

Roll call vote: Ayes: Bruette, Conery, Judd, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Aspirus Hospital Update: Mr. Harkness, Mr. Dobson, Ms. Seaber and Mr. Kirkley: After discussion on the current Aspirus department closures and restructuring of staff at the Aspirus in Iron County, no action was taken.

Iron County Recreational Trail Agreement: No action was taken.

2026 Renewal Rates for Healthcare Benefits: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve the 2026 Renewal Rates for Healthcare Benefits.**

Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Judd, Bruette, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Approval to post the District Court Clerk Position: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Judd to approve the Trial Court to post the District Court Clerk position. Also to add as an agenda item, posting the Deputy Clerk/Juvenile Register position to the Special meeting on October 27, 2025.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Approval to Hire a Full time Correction Officer: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve the Iron County Sheriff's Department to post and hire a full time Corrections Officer, and authorize funds associated with this position to be allocated.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Proclamation in Support of Operation Green Light for Veterans, November 4th – 11th: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve the Proclamation Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans 2025.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Central Dispatch Budget Amendments: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Judd to approve the following budget amendments: increase Professional Fees 261-000-700.100 \$105,000.00; increase Wages-Part Time Employees 261-000-704.001 \$30,000.00; increase Overtime 261-000-705.300 \$43,000.00; increase Health Insurance Opt-Out 261-000-712.000 \$490.00; increase Digital Mapping 261-000-977.100 \$2,000.00; decrease End of year balance 261-000-997.000 \$180,490.00.**

Roll call vote: Ayes: Judd, Bruette, Conery, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Medical Examiner Department: Increase Funeral Home Expenses, \$8,000 and decrease wage contingency expense \$8,000.00: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve the following budget amendments: increase Wage/Contingency 101-101-710.100 \$8,000.00; increase Funeral Home Expenses 101-648-836.100 \$8,000.00.**

Roll call vote: Ayes: Bruette, Conery, Judd, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Iron County Medical Care Facility: Approve amendment to the Defined Contribution Agreement: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve the amendment to the Iron County Medical Care Facility Defined Contribution Agreement.**

Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Judd, Bruette, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Waste Management Transfer Station: After discussion no action was taken.

Camera Installation in the Central Dispatch offices: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve the installation of a camera in Central Dispatch.**

Roll call vote: Ayes: Judd, Bruette, Conery, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Renewal of the LeeinIT Contract: **Moved by Judd, supported by Conery to approve the renewal of the LeeinIT Contract effective November 1, 2025.**

Roll call vote: Ayes: Bruette, Conery, Judd, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Public Comment:

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

Announcements:

The Courthouse will be closed on Tuesday, November 11, 2025 in Observance of Veterans Day.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Chairperson, Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register, Amy Donati