

January 13, 2026, Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 13, 2026, 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, Patti Peretto.

Also present: Administrator Lynette Lorenz, Court Administrator Summer Olson, District Court Probation Officer Kianna Eisenrich, E911 Director Ashley Schmidt, Facilities and Parks Supervisor Robby Olsen, Friend of the Court Shawn Houle, Friend of Court Caseworker Emily Perry, Probate Registrar Ashley Holm, Prosecuting Attorney Chad DeRouin, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Tegan Troutner Breen, Sheriff Ryan Boehmke, Undersheriff Bob Reid, Jail Administrator Danielle Cunningham, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Veterans Service Office Gerald Williams, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, and Clerk/Register Amy Donati.

Approval of the Minutes: Moved by Peretto, supported by Judd, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 5, 2025 and December 22, 2025, Regular meeting minutes of December 9, 2025 and Organizational Meeting of January 2, 2026.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

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

- O. Resolution in Support of Repealing MCL 46.415(2)
- P. Employment Contract
- Q. Heart Association Proclamation/Wear Red Day
- R. Friend of Court Salary

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Maggie Sheffer read a letter submitted by Bette Premo, President, Iron County Watershed Coalition to Trevor Hahka in regard to Cooks Run property.

Monthly Financials:

Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve the monthly payables for December in the amount of \$954,407.98 and payroll for December in the amount of \$322,960.71.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve journal entries 244618 through 244781 for December in the amount of \$5,324,547.79, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 43 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$2,276,289.00.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Bruette: Commissioner Bruette reported that other County Road Commissions in the Upper Peninsula are reporting to be out of salt for the roads, but Iron County still has a supply. Commissioner Bruette also reported that the Iron County Road Commission is looking for additional funds for the Drain Commissioner position.

Conery: Commissioner Conery reported that Mansfield Township recently had a digital sign installed at the Township hall. Commissioner Conery reported that Mansfield Township was awarded a \$300,000.00 grant that will be used at Dawson Lake for park improvements.

Judd: Commissioner Judd reported that Bates Township received a Federal Grant to help with costs associated with the restoration of the Bates Township Hall. Commissioner Judd also reported that the City of Iron River will not be moving into the new City Hall, most likely not until the Fall of 2026.

Peretto: None currently.

Stauber: Commissioner Stauber reported that Materials Management has published a survey on recycling and composting. Commissioner Stauber asked that all residence please take the Material Management Survey (<https://tinyurl.com/WUP-MMP>) as it's vital that all residence take part in the efforts to make Recycling affordable.

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

Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Department Reports:

Central Dispatch: E911 Director Ashley Schmidt reported that Central Dispatch currently has 5 full-time employees, 3 part-time employees and one contract employees. Director Schmidt also wanted to thank Dispatcher Jeff Seppala for his 15 years of service and Dispatcher Cheryl Blank for her 25 years of service to Iron County Central Dispatch.

Civil Counsel: Attorney Tinti reported that an Iron County matter and an application of Writ of Certiorari was denied by the United States Supreme Court. All of the lower courts' ruling were in favor of the County of Iron.

Friend of Court: Friend of Court Shawn Houle reported that \$78,000.00 was paid in child support in the month of December, this included current support and back child support. This is an increase of \$8,000.00 from December of 2024.

Iron County Veterans Services Office: Gerald Williams reported on 2025 numbers for the Veterans Services and also reported that he is still actively seeking office space for the Veterans Services.

MSU Extension: Anne Kretschmann reported that 4H now has 38 members and that members participated in Christmas parties and assisting the community decorate for the holidays in the month of December.

Parks/Grounds: Facilities and Parks Supervisor Robby Olsen reported that the snow removal tractor is currently inoperable and will be picked up for repairs. Supervisor Olsen asked to grace with snow removal and sidewalks during this time.

Prosecuting Attorney: Prosecutor DeRouin introduced the new Assistant Prosecutor Tegan Troutner Breen. Prosecutor DeRouin reported that APA Breen has been a great addition to the office with her wealth of knowledge and that he is glad to have her.

Sheriff Office: Sheriff Boehmke reported on 2025 numbers for the Sheriff's Department that included: 2,324 calls for service, 385 bookings into the jail, 463 process papers served, 120 firearm permits, \$13,145.24 collected for Civil process papers and \$255,245.00 collected for housing out of County prisoners.

Treasurer: Treasurer Melanie Camps thanked Civil Counsel Tinti for his hard work on the Delinquent Tax Foreclosure lawsuits.

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

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Old Business:

Request for Proposal for Design and Build Storage Building: No action taken.

911 CAD Upgrade: After discussion, no action taken.

Termination of Contract between Iron County 911 and Office of the Sheriff of Dickinson County:

Moved by Peretto, supported by Bruette, to direct Administrator Lynette Lorenz to contact Dickinson County Sheriff Office to let them know that Iron County will no longer need Dispatch back up services as of the end of January 2026. Iron County wanted to thank Dickinson County for their willingness to help Iron County.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

New Business:

Northpointe Presentation Mandy Padget, CEO: CEO Padget gave the County Commissioners an update on services that were provided in Iron County in 2025. CEO Padget also wanted to thank the County Commissioners for signing the Resolution Opposing Michigan DHHS Implementation of Competitive Procurement Process for PIHP (Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans) as many other Counties also passed similar Resolutions and collectively the result was very impactful. After discussion no action was taken.

Board of Commissioners 2026 Committee Assignments: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve the following list of 2026 Committee Assignments for the Iron County Board of Commissioners:**

Function:	Committee:	Members: (First name listed is Chair)
FINANCE:	Finance Audit & Budget	Bruette and the Full Board 2 – Bruette, Judd
ADMINISTRATION:	Personnel Building & Capital Improvements Remonumentation	3 – Conery, Judd, Stauber 2 – Conery, Stauber 1 – Judd
PUBLIC SAFETY:	Law Enforcement Safety Central Dispatch (911 Advisory)	Full Board 1 – Conery 2 – Judd, Peretto
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Liaison for Pentoga Park Liaison for Youth Camp Liaison for Trails	2 – Bruette, Conery 1 – Conery 1 – Stauber
SENIOR CITIZEN SERVICES	DICSA UPCAP Local Authority on Aging	1 – Peretto 1 – Peretto 1 – Stauber
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	Public Health DHS-Medical Care Northcare Network Collaborative Board Medical Care Access Coalition Northpointe Board	2 – Bruette, Judd, Stauber 1 – Peretto, Judd – alt Peretto (by term appointment) 1 – Peretto 1 – Conery 1- Bruette
OTHER	Iron County Road Commissioner Veterans Service Board Building Codes	1 – Bruette 1 – Bruette 3 – Bruette, Conery, Judd

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Iron County Youth Camp/Band Camp 2026 Budget: Moved by Conery, supported by Judd to approve the following Youth Camp/Band Camp 2026 Budget amendments: 498-000-653.300 increase \$57,500.00; 498-000-700.000 increase \$250.00; 498-000-700.200 increase \$650.00; 498-000-700.500 increase \$1,000.00; 498-000-700.700 increase \$11,000.00; 498-000-707.000 increase \$30,350.00; 498-000-709.000 increase \$2,322.00; 498-000-860.000 increase \$4,428.00; 498-000-932.100 increase \$7,500.00.

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

Motion carried.

Drug Court Amendment: Moved by Judd, supported by Conery to table.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Iron County Website ADA Compliance: Moved by Peretto, supported by Bruette to move forward with getting the Iron County website ADA compliant.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Iron County Department of Health and Human Services Board Members Request to Increase Meeting Stipend: Moved by Peretto, supported by Judd to approve Iron County Department of Health & Human Services Board meeting reimbursement as follows: Board Chair \$725.00 per regular meeting; Vice Chair \$625.00 per regular meeting; Trustee \$ 625.00 per regular meeting.

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

Motion carried.

Central Dispatch authorization to hire 3 fulltime Dispatchers: Moved by Peretto, supported by Bruette to approve Central Dispatch to hire 3 fulltime Dispatcher.

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

Motion carried.

County Contract with Iron Baraga Conservation District to April 1, 2026: Moved by Judd, supported by Bruette to allow Board Chair to sign the Interlocal Agreement for Part 91 Soil and Sedimentation Services Between Iron Baraga Conservation District and Iron County

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Job Description and Advertise for Position: Moved by Peretto, supported by Conery to approve the job description and advertise for the Soil Erosion Inspector.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Set Special Meeting Date for Meeting and Discussion with Johnson Controls: After discussion the Special Meeting date of Thursday, January 29, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. was set.

Dickinson-Iron District Health Department Year End Bonuses: After discussion, no action was taken.

RFP for Management of Cooks Run: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to allow Civil Counsel Steve Tinti to create an RFP for an organization to manage the Cooks Run Property.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Sheriff Department Work Van: Moved by Bruette, supported by Peretto to table.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Letter of Support to Iron County Housing Commission for Section 18 Disposition: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve the Letter of Support in regard to Section 18 Disposition Application for ICHC's Remaining Public Housing Properties.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

LeeinIT Quote for Cisco Licenses for 3 year term, \$1,045.84: Moved by Conery, supported by Peretto to approve payment to LeeinIT for \$1045.84 for Cisco threat defense threat protection license 3 years.

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

Motion carried.

Multi County Materials Management Plan Interlocal Agreement amended: After discussion, no action taken.

Mileage Resolution: Moved by Bruette, supported by Judd to approve Resolution in Support of Repealing MCL 46.415(2) and to have board chair sign.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Employment Contract: After discussion, no action taken.

Heart Association Proclamation/Wear Red Day: Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve the Wear Red Day 2026 Proclamation to proclaim Friday, February 6, 2026 as National Wear Red Day.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Friend of the Court Salary: After discussion, no action taken.

Public Comment:

Richard Sloat gave comment on Cooks Run property.

Aaron Rhiley gave comment on Cooks Run property.

ReAnna Rhiley gave comment on Cooks Run property.

Announcements:

The next Regular Meeting of the County Commissioners is Tuesday, February 10, 2026.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Chairperson, Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register, Amy Donati