

March 10, 2026, Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 10, 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, Facilities and Parks Supervisor Robby Olsen, Friend of the Court Shawn Houle, Probate Registrar/Jury Administrator Ashley Holm, Prosecuting Attorney Chad DeRouin, Sheriff Ryan Boehmke, Undersheriff Bob Reid, Jail Administrator Danielle Cunningham, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, and Clerk/Register Amy Donati.

Approval of the Minutes: Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting minutes from February 10, 2026.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

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

- O. Server room cooling quotes/estimates
- P. Administrator and Board Chair to interview for the Soil and Erosion Inspector position
- Q. Special Meeting with Civil Counsel

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Chris Willman gave comment on the construction of the potential cold storage building and RFP for the same.

Dan Litmer gave comment on Cooks Run.

Becky Jorgensen read a letter from Russell Ford regarding Cooks Run.

Dodi Felger read a letter from Kenneth F. Ford regarding Cooks Run.

Monthly Financials:

Moved by Bruette, supported by Judd, to approve the monthly payables for February in the amount of \$514,190.42 and payroll for February in the amount of \$310,402.64.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve journal entries 24976 through 25112 for February in the amount of \$8,582,376.77, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 9 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$336,645.00.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Bruette: Commissioner Bruette reported that the Iron County Veterans Services office is still searching for office space. Commissioner Bruette also reported that the Iron County Road Commission recently purchased equipment to push snowbanks back.

Conery: None currently.

Judd: Commissioner Judd reported that Bates Township is working through tightening up local ordinances.

Peretto: Commissioner Peretto reported that after the Iron County Medical Care Facility audit the Board for the County Medical Care Facility will attend an Iron County Board of Commissioners meeting to let the County board know the results of the audit. Commissioner Peretto also reported that Iron County Medical Care Facility held a CNA class and that six graduating members stayed at the Medical Care Facility. Lastly, Commissioner Peretto reported that the Fair Board approved the salt shed.

Stauber: Commissioner Stauber reported that the Health Department Meeting was canceled but Wade Dishaw was taking over and that the transition was going smoothly. Commissioner Stauber also reported that the main discussion for the Material Management meeting was used tires, old tires are now stacking up so a plan needs to be put in place to get rid of them.

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

Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Department Reports:

Friend of Court: Friend of Court Shawn Houle reported that \$70,000.00 was paid in child support in the month of February. Friend of Court Houle reported that the grant reporting system will be changing and that they are working on that. Friend of Court Houle also reported that she has been working with the County website creator to update the Friend of the Court page. Friend of the Court Houle urged Commissioners to take a look at the changes.

MSU Extension: Anne Kretschmann reported that 4H members are working on selling chocolate Easter eggs and that sales ends March 31, 2026. Anne also reported that the Sharp Shooters recently went to a competition and came back with medals. Lastly, Anne reported that 4H members are preparing for Achievement Day in which they are able to showcase all of the activities and crafts they have done.

Parks/Grounds: Facilities and Parks Supervisor Robby Olsen reported that he has held in total five interviews for the open position in his department. Supervisor Olsen also reported that the basement project is done and working perfectly. Lastly, Supervisor Olsen reported that summer equipment is now being serviced in preparation for the warmer weather.

Parks & Recreation Commission: Commissioner Stauber reported that the next meeting will be March 11, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. here at the Courthouse.

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

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Old Business:

Request for Proposal for Design and Build Storage Building: Moved by Bruette, supported by Peretto, to move forward with the Request for Proposal.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Management of Cooks Run: Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to move forward with the Request for Proposal.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

New Business:

Northpointe Annual Report: Northpointe CEO Mandy Paget gave the County Commissioners an overview on the Annual Report. After discussion, no action was taken.

Many Waters, LLC. : Barb Gajewski and Bill Artwich gave a presentation on Milfoil removal to the County Commissioners. After discussion, no action was taken.

MIDC Co-Operative Iron/Dickinson/Delta Counties – Daryl Waters: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Peretto to have Civil Counsel create a resolution and approval for Iron County to become the fiduciary with acceptance of grant approval.**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Construction Code: Increase Department Head Salary \$13,500.00 Budget Amendment: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve budget amendments as follows; 549-000-697.000 increase \$13,500.00; 549-000-703.001 decrease \$13,500.00 to allow for the previously approved salary increase for the Department Head.**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Northpointe- Kathy Thompson and Ean Bruette renew for another 3 year term: **Moved by Conery, supported by Judd to approve Kathy Thompson and Ean Bruette for another three year term.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Use of Cooks Run for Forest Resources and Environmental Science programs with Forest Park, West Iron County and Michigan Tech: Betty Premo gave comment on Cooks Run Environmental Impact Study & Temporary Harvest Moratorium Proposal. After discussion no action was taken.

Corrections officers Sign on Bonus: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve a Corrections officers sign on bonus of \$500.00 upon hire and \$500.00 after academy graduation or six months if already certified.**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Iron County Museum Star Spangled Spot-It Activity: **Moved by Judd, supported by Conery to contribute a 2026 Land Atlas & Plat Book to the Iron County Museum Star Spangled Spot-It Activity.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Commissioner Mileage: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Peretto to approve County Commissioners to follow the State of Michigan Employee Rate effective March 10, 2026.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Road Commission to cut 85-100 trees at Fairgrounds: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to give allow the Iron County Road Commission to cut 85-100 trees at the Fairgrounds.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Hire Maintenance Custodian: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to allow the hire of a maintenance custodian and release the funds for the same.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Permission to hire Crime Victims' Right position: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Judd to allow the Prosecuting Attorney to post the Crime Victims' Rights position and to hire. Also, to release the funds for the same.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Letter of Support to Iron River City for T-Mobile Grant/Nelson Field Lighting: **Moved by Judd, supported by Conery to allow Board Chair Mark Stauber to sign the letter in support to the City of Iron River for pursuing grant funding through the T-Mobile Hometown Grant Program for the Nelson Field Tennis Court Lighting Project.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

LEIN: After discussion no action was taken.

Server room cooling estimates: **Moved by Peretto, supported by Judd to choose Westphal's Inc. option #2 estimate to be paid by the 470 fund.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

County Administrator and Board Chair to interview for the Soil Erosion Inspector: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to allow Administrator Lorenz and Board Chair Stauber to interview and hire for the Soil Erosion Inspector Position.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Special meeting with Civil Counsel: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Peretto to set a Special Meeting on Monday, March 30, 2026 at 8:00.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Public Comment:

Shawn Houle gave comment on the Friend of the Court website and asked County Commissioner to take a look at it.

Chris Willman gave comment on Builder Exchange.

Richard Sloat gave comment on Cooks Run.

Announcements:

A Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

The Courthouse will be closed Friday, April 3, 2026, in Observance of Good Friday.

The next regular meeting of the County Board is Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Chairperson, Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register, Amy Donati