

April 14, 2026, Regular Board Meeting

U-370

Tuesday, April 14, 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, Construction Code Accounting Clerk Nick Curtis, Facilities and Parks Supervisor Robby Olsen, Friend of the Court Shawn Houle, Equalization Director Amy Bucek, Deputy Equalization Director Julie Harp, Treasurer Melanie Camps , Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, and Clerk/Register Amy Donati.

Approval of the Minutes: Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to correct the March 10, 2026 Regular meeting; Server room cooling estimates paid by the 470 fund not the 457 fund, also to approve the Special Meeting of March 25, 2026 and March 30, 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:

- K. Parks and Recreation Commission letter of interest**
- L. The Markell Company proposal to replace the upper Sheriff Department Roof**
- M. Iron River Senior Center**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Patrick Brown gave comment on the Many Waters Report and Milfoil in Chicagon Lake.

Julie Harp gave comment on the Soil & Sedimentation Erosion Inspector position and transparency.

Elizabeth Peryam gave comment on the Iron River Senior Center

Stuart Creel gave comment on the Soil & Sedimentation Erosion Inspector requirements and job description.

Dennis Tousignant gave comment on the old Health Department building and taxpayers' dollars.

Monthly Financials:

Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve the monthly payables for March in the amount of \$813,348.77 and payroll for March in the amount of \$301,747.25.

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

Motion carried.

Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve journal entries 25113 through 25308 for March in the amount of \$7,345,282.98, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 8 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$32,458.00.

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

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

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Bruette: Commissioner Bruette reported that the Iron County Veterans Services office was able to secure office space with the new owner of the Iron River City Hall. Commissioner Bruette also reported that at the County Road Commission meeting reports were made that in Menominee County an individual during the last major snowstorm had called 911 stating that he was having a heart attack and when the County plow truck and Ambulance showed up the individual was shoveling his driveway and stated that he only called because he wanted his road plowed.

Conery: None currently.

Judd: Commissioner Judd reported that Bates Township will be investing \$300,000.00 in road improvements this summer, specifically gravel roads within the township. Bates Township will also be hosting an e-waste day on May 2, 2026. Commissioner Judd also reported that the City of Iron River, Aspirus and West Iron County Volunteer Fire Department held an Ice Safety/Rescue Education at Ice Lake on March 28, 2026 with many people attending the educational session. Lastly, Commissioner Judd reported that ongoing talks are happening in relation to the Emergency Whistle on top of the old Iron River City Hall.

Peretto: Commissioner Peretto reported National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week is April 12-18. NPSTW honors the 911 community for their dedication to the critical life-saving services they provide every day. Commissioner Peretto wanted to thank Iron County's Central Dispatch employees and express her appreciation to them.

Stauber: Commissioner Stauber reported that he attended a Forest Exploration seminar presented by VanOss Forestry Services, LLC. Topics included effective communications with Landowners to Forest Management Plans, and Land Management topics. Commissioner Stauber reported that it was very informative and suggested that other community members attend. Commissioner Stauber also reported that he attended the Dickinson-Iron District Board of Health meeting and that Director Wade Dishaw is settling in nicely and doing a great job. Lastly, Commissioner Stauber reported that the City of Caspian is currently in the process of obtaining quotes for black top.

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

Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Department Reports:

Clerk/Register: Clerk Donati reported that May 12, 2026 is the deadline for ballot wording of local proposals qualified to appear on the August Primary ballot and August 11, 2026 is the deadline for ballot wording of local proposals qualified to appear on the November ballot.

Fair Board: Commissioner Peretto reported that she is unable to attend the next Fair Board meeting scheduled for the April 30, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. and asked if any other Commissioner was available to attend in her absence. Commissioner Stauber and Judd asked Commissioner Peretto to forward them the meeting information.

Friend of Court: Friend of Court Shawn Houle reported that \$107,000.00 was paid in child support in the month of March.

ICECA: Director Zach Hautala reported that ICECA has been given authorization to post current Iron County open positions on the Michigan Works website.

MSU Extension: Anne Kretschmann reported that 4H members are working on gardening/planting seeds to get a head start this spring. Mrs. Kretschmann reported that the Sharpshooters Club challenged the American Legion Reino Post 21 Chancelor to a shooting competition and that the 4H Sharpshooter Club came out victorious. Lastly Mrs. Kretschmann reported that she attended the Parenting fair held at the Iron River Library at gave out information on 4H to recruit new members into 4H.

Parks/Grounds: Facilities and Parks Supervisor Robby Olsen reported that the basement project is working perfectly. Supervisor Olsen reported that summer equipment is being serviced in preparation of the warmer weather is complete. Lastly, Facilities and Parks staff have been working on Pentoga Park in preparation for opening for the summer.

Parks & Recreation Commission: Commissioner Stauber reported that a letter of interest has been submitted for the Park's and Recreation Commission. This was just added to the agenda under item K:

Treasurer: Treasurer Camps reported that on March 3, 2026, 269 properties entered forfeiture. On March 31, 2026, 13 properties were foreclosed. Lastly, Treasurer Camps reported that the public action for foreclosed properties is on August 18, 2026.

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: After discussion no action taken.

Management of Cooks Run: After discussion no action taken.

Soil and Sedimentation Erosion Inspector Description – Part-time Courthouse Union: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to update the Soil and Sedimentation job description to reflect \$28.00 an hour; change current MDEQ Storm Water Operator Certificate to MI EGLE Storm Water Operator Certificate and add SESC plan review and design. Also to post the Inspector position according to Union contract and if no Union member interest to post the position outside the Courthouse.**

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

Motion carried.

LEIN: After discussion no action taken.

New Business:

2026 Equalization Report – Amy Bucek, Equalization Director: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve the 2026 Equalization Report.**

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

Motion carried.

Many Waters, LLC. Contract for Services 2026: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve the Many Water, LLC Contract for Services 2026, not to exceed \$10,000.00.**

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

Motion carried.

Iron County Youth Camp 2026 Department and Staff Salaries: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve Counselors and Heads of Department start at \$650.00, Kitchen, Waterfront and Maintenance start at \$500.00.**

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

Motion carried.

Northland Repair Order: Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to request Civil Counsel to prepare a letter expressing Iron County's concern of John Deer's denial to cover known and ongoing mechanical issues involving certain engines.

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

Motion carried.

Iron County Lakes and Streams Partnership Annual Renewal: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve the 2026 Annual membership Form for the Iron County Lakes and Streams partnership.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Botvins Life Skills classroom incentives funding: Moved by Judd, supported by Conery to approve a \$1,000.00 increase to the Botvins Life Skills classroom program.

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

Motion carried.

Communities that Care Funding Request: Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve a \$2,000.00 additional funding to Communities that Care.

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

Motion carried.

Pitney Bowels Lease Renewal for postage meter: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve the Pitney Bowels Lease Renewal agreement subject to Civil Counsel approval.

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

Motion carried.

ATM and associate fees: Moved by Bruette, supported by Judd to approve Northern Interstate Bank to install an ATM in the Annex building of the Courthouse complex.

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

Motion carried.

Request for Proposals: Park and Recreation 5yr. Master Plan Update: Moved by Conery, supported by Judd to allow Iron County Park & Recreational Commission to advertise a Request for Proposal to assist the Commission in updating the existing Parks & Recreation Master Plan.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Parks and Recreation Commission letter of interest: Moved by Judd, supported by Conery to accept Anthony Dallavalle's letter of interest for the open seat on the Park's and Recreation Commission.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

The Markell Company proposal to replace the upper Sheriff Department Roof: Moved by Bruette, supported by Peretto to accept The Markell Company proposal of \$14,960.00 to replace the upper Sheriff Department Roof to be paid from the 470 fund.

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

Motion carried

Iron River Senior Center: After discussion, no action taken.

Public Comment:

Stuart Creel gave suggestion on the availability of new County Commissioner trainings.

Julie Harp gave comment on Union Contract concerns with the Soil & Sedimentation position and concerns with Administration job responsibilities.

Pattie Peretto gave comment on possibly having a Personnel meeting.

Announcements:

The next regular meeting of the County Board is Tuesday, May 12, 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 5:06 p.m.

Chairperson, Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register, Amy Donati