

July 14, 2026, Regular Board Meeting

U-389

Tuesday, July 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, Administrative Assistant Mary Dalpra, Court Administrator Summer Olson, Prosecuting Attorney Chad DeRouin, Sheriff Ryan Boehmke, Undersheriff Bob Reid, 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 of June 9, 2026 and Special Meeting minutes from June 22, 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 change:

E. Budget Amendment Sheriff Department

F. Budget Amendment Trial Court

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

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

James Pacer gave comment in support to convert the temporary full-time position in Friend of the Court to permanent full-time.

Monthly Financials:

Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve the monthly payables for June in the amount of \$2,068,292.16 and payroll for June in the amount of \$385,428.06.

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

Nays: Peretto

Motion carried.

Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve journal entries 25552 through 25714 for June in the amount of \$5,408,197.61, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 8 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$73,291.00.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Bruette: None currently

Conery: Commissioner Conery reported that Bacco Construction Company has completed paving on two spots on the Way Damn Road after a culvert project. Commissioner Conery was glad the project was completed as vehicle towing campers has greatly increased.

Judd: Commissioner Judd reported that Bates Township has the Bates Master Plan available for public review. Commissioner Judd also reported that the Bates Hall Preservation society has recently advertised for bids and that construction is tentatively planned for Spring of 2027. Commissioner Judd reported that the City of Iron River has completed a water main project and sewer project. Commissioner Judd also reported that Aspirus will be deeding less than one acre to the City of Iron River that currently encompasses the public park on Ice Lake. The City of Iron River will then be able to apply for grant funding for park improvements. Lastly Commissioner Judd reported that ICECA and the City of Iron

River will share costs associated with roof replacement on the Chamber of Commerce building, located next to the Klint Safford Memorial RV Park.

Peretto: Commissioner Peretto wanted to bring attention to the Iron County Fair that is planned for August 27, 2026 – August 30, 2026. Highlighting that the Iron County Fair Association has contracted with a different company to provide amusement rides that include not only more children rides but also adult rides. Commissioner Peretto also wanted to highlight additional events including the Mud Drag Races, Demolition Derby and all 4H exhibits and animals. Lastly, Commissioner Peretto gave comment on WUPPDR and that Feasibility Study is still being worked on and community input is imperative for this project.

Stauber: Commissioner Stauber reported that construction on the City of Caspian Public Works building has started. Commissioner Stauber also reported that at a recent Health Department meeting the Iron/District Health Department has provided information on their website about the recent bacteria outbreak that has contaminated lettuce and that individual are strongly encourage to wash all lettuce before consuming. Commissioner Stauber also reported that the National Forest Service is looking for “special use of roads”, in the Ottawa National Forest. Commissioner Stauber also reported that he attended the portrait unveiling ceremony for former Judge Joseph Schwedler and that a large number of people attended. Lastly Commissioner Stauber followed up on Commissioners Peretto’s comment on WUPPDR, emphasizing that community input is imperative to create a plan for solid waste and recycling that will work for Iron County residents.

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

Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Department Reports:

MSU Extension: Anne Kretschmann reported that 4H members attended the 4H Exploration Days on the Michigan State University campus. Where they spend the week sleeping, eating and attending classes on campus to acclimate them to college living. Ms. Kretschmann also reported two members of the sharp shooters will be attending the State Shooting tournament. Lastly, Ms. Kretschmann made comment on the late date of County Fair, and she was hoping that with the later date, 4H members now will be able have more vegetable to enter.

Sheriff Department: Sheriff Boehmke reported that the Sheriff’s Department has had a busy few weeks with the Fourth of July, Bass Fest and the U.P. Championship Rodeo. Sheriff Boehmke also reported that the Bates Township Hall Preservation Society generously donated “Bear” Beanie Babies that will be kept in patrol cars and distributed to children in times of need.

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

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Old Business:

Cooks Run Proposals: Moved by Peretto, to approve the Friends of Cooks Run proposal; no support, motion failed.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Bruette, to approve the Friends of Cooks Run proposal.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Peretto

Nays: Conery, Judd, Bruette, Stauber

Motion failed.

Discussion to suspend Rules of Order.

MERS Defined Benefit: Moved by Bruette, supported by Judd to move forward with the Certified Audit for all 5 Divisions. To be paid from general fund: Legal 101-216-807.100.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

RFP – Roy Fulfer Building: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to advertise for Requests for Proposals for another month.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

New Business:

Budget Amendment Youth Camp: **Increase 498-000-703.002, Assistant Department Head/Program Director, \$7,844.00; Decrease 490-000-707.000 Wages-Temp Employees, \$7,844.00**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Remonumentation Grant Awarded Contracts: **Moved by Peretto, supported by Bruette to approve and accept the Remonumentation Grant Awarded Contracts.**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Resolution Opposing Legislation to Dissolve the Upper Peninsula Community Mental Health System into a Single Specialized Regional Mental Health Authority: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to allow Board Chairperson, Mark Stauber to sign Resolution.**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Cooks Run Presentation – Mark Sarder: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to extend and re-advertise Cooks Run Proposals.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Budget Amendment Sheriff Department: **Moved by Judd, supported by Conery to increase 101-301-574.000, Revenue Sharing – Public Safety, \$9,103.00; Increase 101-301-745.000, Uniform and Accessories, \$9,103.00.**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Budget Amendment Trial Court: **Moved by Peretto, supported by Judd to increase 292-000-845.000, Child Care Fund, \$40,000.00.**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Public Comment:

James Pacer gave comment on WUPPDR – County Plan. Also gave comment on Cooks Run.

Lori Sarwens gave comment on Material Management.

Summer Olson gave comment on Judge Schwedler’s portrait unveiling.

Richard Sloat gave clarification about the Iron Cuntly Road Commission and the Cooks Run road.

Announcements:

The next Regular Meeting of the County Board of Commissioners is Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Personnel Committee Meeting scheduled for Monday, July 20, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.

Special Meeting of the Iron County Board will be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Courthouse for a Financial Review of the Medical Care Facility and also to hear a presentation on the FY 2025 Financial Audit of Iron County.

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting on Thursday, July 23, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

All meetings held at the Courthouse.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Chairperson, Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register, Amy Donati