

**MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS**  
**Thursday April 24, 2025**

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday April 24, 2025 in the Boardroom Annex, 100 S. Marley Street, St. Ignace, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Patrick at 4:30pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance of the United States of America was recited.

Roll Call: Austin Kimberling, John Kling, Mike Patrick, Daryl Schroeder, Judy St. Louis-Scott.

**Agenda Approval:** It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Schroeder to approve the agenda as amended. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

**Minutes Approval:** It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Schroeder to approve the minutes of April 10, 2025 regular meeting as presented. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (minutes attached)

**Minutes Approval:** It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the minutes of April 17, 2025 public hearing as presented. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (minutes attached)

**Public Comment:**

None

**Elected Officials/Staff Reports:**

**Register of Deeds Mary Jo Savard** – home sales are picking up.

**E911 Coordinator Bryce Tracy** – gave a brief update on remaining storm clean up efforts. He met with FEMA to do an assessment of some of the damage. Thanked board and local entities for their hard work.

**Sheriff Ed Wilk** – auditors have been requesting info for the County Audit. And still working on narrowing down where the problem issue is.

**Treasurer Tina Massey** – presented the 1<sup>st</sup> qtr financial reports. March revenues can be a little concerning. Tax income coming in July. Have 9 foreclosures this year.

**Old Business:**

Clark Contracting briefly updated the board on the Vet Trailer Office space and when it should be completed. The electrical permit was approved and they are trying to keep the costs down. They are hoping for June 15 for completion. County will need to strip parking lot and handicap parking.

Clark Contracting also presented the final amount for the courtroom remodel costs. The remaining amount is \$889,718, this does not include the \$200,000 that was previously allocated. This project will start this fall and should take approximately 3 months. Judges will need to clear their dockets and move hearings around. There are 3 options to fund this project such as pull CDs out of bank, apply for a loan or possibly having the delinquent tax funds. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Kling to approve the remodel project in the amount of \$889,718. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

The Veterans Committee presented their By-laws, job descriptions and Policy Manual for board approval. It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner Kimberling to approve the Veterans documents as presented. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

The final Animal Shelter Policy Manual was presented for approval. The Animal Advisory Committee has worked very hard getting this completed. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Schroeder to approve the Animal Shelter Policies. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

After interviewing 2 legal firms Fahey, Schultz, Burzych & Rhodes and Cohl, Stoker & Toskey at the previous Committee of the Whole meeting it was decided to hire Fahey, Schultz, Burzych & Rhodes. They have been working as the interim county legal counsel as of 2024. It was Moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the proposal for legal counsel from Fahey, Schultz, Burzych & Rhodes. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

**New Business:**

Commissioner St. Louis-Scott discussed the GFL rates increasing for city residents. City Manager Scott Marshall is requesting the County contribute \$10,000 so the city residents aren't stuck with the entire increased costs. The board did not take any action on this.

Chair Patrick told the board he would like to be reappointed to the Hiawatha Behavioral Health Board. It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner Kimberling to reappoint Commissioner Mike Patrick to the HBH Board. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Sheriff Ed Wilk presented the Empiric renewal contract at a monthly increase of \$200. They have not increased their costs since we initially agreed upon a contract with Empiric Solutions 2 years ago. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Schroeder to approve the renewal contract with Empiric Solutions at a \$200 monthly increase. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Schroeder at 5:20pm to move into Closed Session per (MCL 15.268) to discuss a confidential legal opinion regarding the Road Commission. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Kling to move out of Closed Session at 5:33pm. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Kling to move back into regular session at 5:34pm. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner Schroeder at 5:35pm to go into a second Closed Session per (MCL 15.268) to discuss a confidential legal opinion regarding the Veterans Audit.

It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to move out of Closed Session at 6:09pm. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Schroeder to move back into regular session at 6:10pm. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner Kimberling to take legal counsels advice based on the report from Rehman group regarding the Veterans audit. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

**Committee Reports/Additional Board Member Business:**

Commissioner St. Louis-Scott had some questions about the SSM Tribes 2% money and how the application process works.

Commissioner Kling thinks now that we have the legal opinion regarding the Road Commissioner that we need to schedule a Committee of the Whole meeting with the Road Commission.

**Public Comment:**

Lester Livermore asked about the hiring process at the Animal Shelter that they will be conducting interviews soon.

**Bills/Budget Amendments:**

The Board reviewed the regular bills of April 24 for approval in the amount of \$2,970,131.45. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Kimberling to approve the regular bills. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Schroeder, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The Board reviewed the additional bills of April 24 for approval in the amount of \$42,677.25. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the additional bills. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The Board reviewed budget amendment #2025-09. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Kimberling to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

The Board reviewed budget amendment #2025-10. It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner Kimberling to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

The Board reviewed budget amendment #2025-11. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Kimberling to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

The Board reviewed budget amendment #2025-12. It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner Schroeder to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

The Board reviewed budget amendment #2025-13. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

**Communications:**

Cash summary investment accounts report

**Adjournment:** It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Schroeder to adjourn the meeting at 6:22pm.

Hillary Vowell  
County Clerk