

MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, February 24, 2022

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, February 24, 2022 in the Circuit Courtroom, 100 S. Marley Street, St. Ignace, Michigan.

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

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

Roll Call: Jim Hill, Bucky McPhee, Mike Patrick, Paul Krause, Craig Lehrke.

Agenda Approval- amended agenda by adding discussion of VSO Assistant benefits and VSO retro pay to New Business. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick second by Commissioner McPhee to accept the agenda as amended. Roll Call: YES: Hill, McPhee, Patrick, Krause, Lehrke. NO: none. Absent: none.

Minutes Approval- It was moved by Commissioner Hill second by Commissioner Patrick to approve the minutes of 2/10/2022. VVMC

Public Comment:

none

Elected Officials/Staff Reports:

Treasurer Goudreau- requested to have extra computer expenses approved and use the WRAP Grant for these costs. Also, computers will be upgraded for Co offices. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick second by Commissioner McPhee to approve computer expenses in the amount of \$12,377.96. Roll Call: YES: Hill, Krause, McPhee, Patrick, Lehrke. NO: none. Absent: none (documents attached)

Clerk Vowell- presented the board with a retirement resolution for Judy St.Louis Scott. It was moved by Commissioner Krause second by Commissioner Patrick to approve the retirement resolution acknowledging Judy St.Louis Scott for her years of service. Roll Call: YES: Hill, Lehrke, Patrick, McPhee, Patrick. NO: none. Absent: none. (resolution attached)

Probate Judge Graham- informed the board that he received a \$3,000 grant for attorney fees. He also gave an update on juvenile ages regarding criminal charges. He said Mental Health & Meth use are an issue in the state and in our county.

Probate Judge Graham- discussed his previous request for raises for non-union employees. Also talked about the shortage of workers for open positions in the county. He asked the board if they were giving the 1% raise to non-union. Commissioner Patrick had some questions for the Judge. Treasurer Goudreau informed the board that the salary resolution for non-union employees can be amended. Commissioner Hill disagreed and said in their board rules that the salary resolutions cannot be amended.

Chris Brynes- ARPA Committee Chair informed the board that the ARPA Comm will begin to hold meetings again starting in March. He talked about readdressing the 2 ARPA requests that were previously denied. He mentioned that property development is in process for EMS site. Mark Wilk also answered questions regarding the EMS site.

Equalization Director Chipman- informed the board that Jolene Larsen is leaving Equal Dept and moving to another office internally. She praised Jolene for being an excellent employee. She would like to hire an interim person for 30-45 days to fill in as needed. She requested to transfer \$6,000 from Jolene's budget to extra clerk hire. She also requested to hire her daughter to fill in for this. She explained it's difficult to find a qualified person with the required credentials. It was moved by Commissioner McPhee second by Commissioner Krause to approve the budget transfer and the hiring of her daughter for extra clerk hire. Roll Call: YES: Hill, Lehrke, Patrick, McPhee, Krause. NO: none. Absent: none.

E911 Coordinator Tracy- informed the board that he found a vendor to upgrade the speakers and sound system in the Circuit Court room.

Sheriff Wilk- informed the board that he received Stonegarden grant money from the state. Also, he sent Deputy Joe Larson to officer drug training and that will be a nice asset to the Sheriff's Office to have a Deputy trained for this. He also said he received 4 new patrol cars so far from his order.

New Business:

Dick Pershinske-Veterans Service Board- requested the board to make VSO Mike Redmond's 5.9% pay increase retro to Jan.1, 2022. It was moved by Commissioner Krause second by Commissioner Patrick to approve VSO Mike Redmond's pay raise retro to Jan. 1, 2022. Roll Call: YES: Patrick, Krause, Hill, McPhee, Lehrke. NO: none. Absent: none.

There was further discussion regarding the VSO Assistant position and whether or not it should be a union position. The board decided to table this and make a decision at a later date. Clerk Vowell then asked the board to approve the benefit package of the VSO Assistant. Her wages were approved at the previous meeting; but the approval of her benefit package was left out by mistake. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick second by Commissioner McPhee to approve benefit package for VSO Assistant. Total cost including wages is \$60,208.04. Roll Call: YES: Lehrke, McPhee, Patrick, Krause. NO: Hill. Absent: none.

Old Business:

Dick Pershinske- spoke on behalf of the recycling initiative in Garfield Twp. The initiative is moving forward very quickly and adding members as well. The transfer station is available in Engadine for this initiative. He told the board he would like the county to get involved with this project and what a benefit it could be to the county. After some discussion the board decided to discuss this further at a later date.

Cheboygan Life Support- Mark Wilk and David Blake Thomas were present to give an update on the EMS site property. At this time design work is being done.

Additional Board Member Business:

Commissioner Patrick- informed the board that there is a time constraint on the E911 ARPA request and that it needs to be reconsidered soon.

Committee Reports:

Bryce Tracy gave an update on behalf of the Insurance Committee; he told the board they will be meeting on March 9, 2022 at 1:00pm.

Public Comment:

none

Approval of Bills/Budget Amendments: The board reviewed the regular bills for approval in the amount of \$61,361.94. Commissioner Patrick had some questions for the other members about a bill from Attorney William Nordeen. Some discussion was had. It was moved by Commissioner Hill second by Commissioner Krause to approve the bills. Roll Call: YES: Hill, McPhee, Krause, Lehrke. NO: Patrick. Absent: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed the manual bills in the amount of \$64,891.13. It was moved by Commissioner Hill second by Commissioner Patrick to approve the manual bills. Roll Call: YES: McPhee, Hill, Krause, Patrick, Lehrke NO: none. Absent: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed the additional bills in the amount of \$831.41. It was moved by Commissioner Hill second by Commissioner Patrick to approve the additional bills. Roll Call: YES: Hill, Krause, McPhee, Lehrke, Patrick. NO: none. Absent: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2022-4 for microfilming costs in the amount of \$883.18. Roll Call: YES: Hill, McPhee, Lehrke, Krause, Patrick. NO: none. Absent: none. (amendment attached)

Communications: January banking report and MSU Extension update.

Adjournment: Chair Lehrke adjourned the meeting at 6:19pm

Hillary Vowell
County Clerk