

MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
Thursday February 27, 2025

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday February 27, 2025 in the Circuit Courtroom, 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 St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Kling 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 February 13, 2025 regular meeting as presented. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (minutes attached)

It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the minutes of February 18, 2025 Road Commission Special meeting as presented. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (minutes attached)

Public Comment:

None

Elected Officials/Staff Reports:

Sheriff Ed Wilk – in process of getting new vendors for inmate video visitation. There's also been issues with the plumbing and it's backing up into some of the jail cells. Have a company coming next week to flush the pipes and it cost approximately \$7700. Also received a wrap grant from MMRMA to use towards purchase of new body cams.

District Court Administrator Christine Bawol – caseload has been similar to last years numbers. Mifile is now live and is creating more work for the office. Samantha Thompson has passed all required training and is now officially a Magistrate.

Road Commissioner Lester Livermore – the Road Commission had meetings with townships on both ends of the county. Thanked Commissioner Kling for attending one of the meetings. They just recently passed a policy for 35% road match for the townships.

Equalization Director Dulcee Ranta – was not present but did forward documents to the board regarding moving the land division applications back to the local units. The board would like to look into this further and get feedback from the local units. Register of Deeds Mary Jo Savard thinks that

this could be a bad idea and that the local units are not educated enough to correctly do the land division applications.

Old Business:

The board reviewed the letters of interest for the new Animal Advisory Committee. Commissioner St. Louis-Scott said there are many good people interested. She is thinking 7 members with a couple alternate members to fill in as needed. She is planning on having this committee do oversight of the shelter. There are grants available and one committee member has experience in grant writing. There are also some repairs that need to be done to the animal shelter building and this committee will get that scheduled and move forward with the repairs. Commissioner Kling mentioned that the terms should possibly be staggered so that not all members are expiring at the same time. Commissioner St. Louis-Scott will meet with the new committee and determine the terms. It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner Kimberling to create the Animal Advisory Committee and appoint the interested applicants to the committee. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (letters attached)

The resumes were reviewed and it was decided to table the hiring of the part time shelter worker until the Animal Advisory Committee has the chance to review the resumes and make a recommendation to the board for hiring. Shelter Manager Donna DesJardins said she thinks this part time position should be moved to full time. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Kling to table the hiring and let the committee make the recommendations. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (resumes attached)

New Business:

The board reviewed a resolution to contract with MDOT Aeronautics for runway lighting at the airport. Manager Paul Fullerton was present to answer questions. The project estimated costs are \$260,000 and this is 100% covered by grant money. There will be no cost to the county. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Kling to approve and adopt the resolution. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (resolution attached)

Closed session per MCL 15.268(c) to discuss Sheriff Contract negotiations. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Kling to move into closed session at 5:03pm. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

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

It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Schroeder to go back into regular session at 5:35pm. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to ratify the Sheriff Supervisor economic contract for 2025-2027. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Schroeder to ratify the Sheriff Non-Supervisor economic contract for 2025-2027. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Committee Reports/Additional Board Member Business:

Commissioner St. Louis-Scott attended a podcast for the Brownfield Authority.

Commissioner Kimberling asked if Commissioner Schroeder was interested in sitting on the Brownfield Authority. Chair Patrick appointed Commissioner Schroeder to the Brownfield Authority and he accepted the appointment.

Commissioner Kimberling said he contacted our legal counsel regarding the appointment of 2 additional Road Commission members. Chair Patrick said Commissioner Kimberling will now be in charge of contacting legal counsel with anything related to the Road Commission.

The board asked Clerk Vowell to come up with some available dates that the Circuit Courtroom would be available to schedule another Road Commissioner public hearing.

Commissioner Schroeder gave an update on the Manistique Lakes Dam Committee. And did a tour of the LMAS department in Luce County and was very impressed with all the services they provide to the community.

Commissioner Patrick attended MMP meeting for solid waste. The program was passed and sent to EGLE for approval. MI Works will be closing their St. Ignace Office.

Public Comment:

Sheriff Ed Wilk thanked the board for the cooperation with contract negotiations and for ratifying them.

Bills/Budget Amendments:

The board reviewed the revised regular bills of February 27 for approval in the amount of \$63,696.55. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Schroeder to approve the regular bills. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed the manual bills of February 21 for approval in the amount of \$931,043.48. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the manual bills. Roll Call: YES: Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed the additional bills of February 27 for approval in the amount of \$23,575.32. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the additional bills. Roll Call: Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

Communications:

January Banking & Animal Shelter report, progress report letter from GLBBS

Adjournment: It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner Kimberling to adjourn the meeting at 5:49pm.

Hillary Vowell
County Clerk

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