

MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
Thursday January 11, 2024

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday January 11, 2024 in the Circuit Court Room, 3rd Floor, 100 S. Marley Street, St. Ignace, Michigan.

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

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

Roll Call: Corina Clark, Jodi Kaiser, Dan Litzner, Mike Patrick, Judy St. Louis-Scott.

Agenda Approval: It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to approve the agenda as amended. VVMC

Minutes Approval: It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the minutes of December 4, 2023 as presented. VVMC

It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the minutes of December 28, 2023 as presented. VVMC

It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to approve the minutes of January 2, 2024 as presented. VVMC

Public Comment:

Dick Pershinske – as a taxpayer in the county would like to know what the forensic audit of the Veterans Office will solve. And who's paying for the cost of this audit.

Lester Livermore, Road Commission – Road Commission is still continuing with outreach program. And thanked the board for renewing the Road Match program for 2024.

Elected Officials/Staff Reports:

Sheriff Ed Wilk – has made some job offers and if the applicants accept the offer this will bring the jail back to full staff. Currently still short on the road deputy staff. Empiric will be coming to re-cable the courthouse in the next couple weeks. This should improve the wi-fi services.

Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau – State is increasing some local revenue sharing. And there are some new covid grants available but does not think we are eligible for them.

E911 Coordinator Bryce Tracy – the initiative of the North CAD group looking at replacing some CAD systems in the Upper Peninsula. New RFP will be going out on January 15 across the state and the U.S.

Clerk Hillary Vowell – posted part time maintenance on indeed.com and have received numerous resumes. Will be scheduling interviews soon.

Emergency Manager Mike Kasper – gave a warning on the incoming storms. Spoke briefly about the emergency exercises. Working on Northern Exposure exercise summer 2024.

Mackinac Economic Alliance Chris Brynes – so many projects in the works with significant funding available.

Judge Clayton Graham – informed the board that his Juvenile Compliance Officer position has been filled.

New Business:

Approval of the 2024 Mackinac Economic Alliance contract. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to authorize Chair Litzner to sign the 2024 contract once the insurance policy has been received by the Clerk's Office. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (contract attached)

Reclassification requests were received by the board. A meeting will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks to review these applications.

Commissioner St. Louis-Scott discussed giving funds to Community Action Agency for heating assistance for senior citizens in the past. She is in support of giving those funds again this year. These funds strictly stay in Mackinac County for heating assistance. Community Action needs to send a letter requesting this and this will be voted on after the request is received.

Old Business:

Wage Study: Discussion of how to proceed with the wage study.

Commissioner St. Louis-Scott would like to see the Commissioners go to each office and discuss the results of the wage study. Commissioner Kaiser said possibly make a schedule to meet with each office. And then come back to a Committee of the Whole and discuss what the departments had to say. Would also need to know the ramifications of making changes to the union contracts. This should be brought to the unions attention before making any changes. Commissioner Patrick thinks we need to just approve the wage study as written. He feels if this isn't acted on it could be disheartening for the employees. Implementing this would bring the employee morale up. Judge Clayton Graham encouraged the board to adopt the wage study and there is no need to go around to the offices and employees again. The unions will not say no to more pay. A letter can be written to the unions notifying them of the wage increases. Commissioner Kaiser said it might be a good idea to increase the pay tables and not implement everything in the wage study. Register of Deeds Mary Jo Savard thinks putting this off any longer will just cause poor employee morale. E911 Coordinator Bryce Tracy believes the wage study did its job. But it is merely a tool to use to move forward. There needs to be a work session scheduled to look at the pay tables and make changes. It was decided to schedule a Committee of the Whole meeting for Monday, January 29 at 4:30pm.

Approval of Salary resolutions:**Elected Salary Resolution**

\$1500 for the Clerk, Treasurer and Register of Deeds. Prosecutor remains the same as 2023 and the Sheriff will receive \$5000. Commissioner Patrick think an additional 3.5% on top of the \$5000 should be given to the Sheriff. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to approve the Elected Salary resolution as presented. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (resolution attached)

Non-Union and Non-Elected Salary Resolution

3.5% increase added to all listed except VA Officer will remain same as 2023 and Emergency Manager will be moved up to \$45,000. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to approve the Non-Union and Non-Elected Salary resolution as presented. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (resolution attached)

Closed Session: It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to move into closed session at 5:54pm to discuss purchasing of property under MCL 15.267 8(d). VVMC
It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark at 5:59pm to move out of closed session. VVMC.

It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Patrick to go back into regular session. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner Patrick second by Commissioner Clark to authorize Chair Litzner to sign the purchase agreement once the seller signs. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Additional Board Member Business:

Commissioner Clark is still waiting to hear from EGLE regarding the Dam. Schoolcraft County owns the Dam and would like Mackinac and Luce County to take over. Schoolcraft has been paying for the inspections for years now. Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau asked if this will cost Mackinac County any money.

Commissioner St. Louis-Scott sat in on Mackinac Island City Council meeting and found out Sheplers Ferry Service will start charging passengers \$4 for luggage fees. She feels this will hurt the island residents.

Committee Reports:

None.

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Bills/Budget Amendments:

The board reviewed the regular bills of January 11 for approval in the amount of \$10,435.14. It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Kaiser to approve the regular bills. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed the additional bills of January 10 for approval in the amount of \$124,197.52. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to approve the manual bills. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2024.01. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Patrick to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

Communications:

Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority

Adjournment: It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Kaiser to adjourn the meeting at 6:30pm. VVMC

Hillary Vowell
County Clerk