

# **MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS**

**Thursday, January 27, 2022**

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, January 27, 2022 in the Courthouse Annex, 100 S. Marley St., St. Ignace, Michigan.

Meeting was moved to Circuit Courtroom; due to not enough space in the Board room for the public in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lehrke at 4:40 pm.

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

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

**Agenda Approval** – amended agenda by removing item #10-election of Chair and Vice Chair. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick with support by Commissioner McPhee to accept the agenda as amended. Roll Call: YES: Hill, McPhee, Lehrke, Patrick, Krause. NO: None. Absent: None.

**Minutes Approval** – It was moved by Commissioner Krause second by Commissioner Patrick to approve the minutes of 1/13/2022. Roll Call: YES: McPhee, Patrick, Lehrke, Hill, Krause. NO: None. Absent: None.

## **Public Comment:**

Steve Therrian- resident of St. Ignace; commented on how he was disappointed that the board was not supportive of the emergency services within the County.

## **Elected Officials/Staff Reports:**

Judge Graham- He informed the board that he was not going to cut his depts budget by 10% and all the funds that have been budgeted are needed and non-negotiable. He went on to discuss why the funds are a necessity to properly manage his depts. He also mentioned that by not compensating his employees; they are essentially taking a pay cut when the average inflation is at 6-7%. He asked the board to reconsider pay raises. Commissioner Hill asked the Judge who told him he needed to cut his budget. (request attached)

**Clerk Vowell**- presented the board with retirement resolutions acknowledging William Orr and Tina Schlehuder for their years of service. It was moved by Commissioner McPhee second by Commissioner Patrick to approve the retirement resolutions. Roll Call: YES: Hill, Lehrke, Patrick, McPhee, Krause. NO: None. Absent: None. (resolutions attached)

**Treasurer Goudreau**- passed out a budget chart to the board. She discussed the 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr financials. Commissioner McPhee brought up employees raises possibly after the audit is complete. Treasurer Goudreau said that the audit isn't typically complete and presented to the board before June, and that the county is sitting very well financially and the 516 fund has helped balance it.

Commissioner Krause had some questions as well. She also told the board that if they are not going to consider the ARPA Committees recommendations then the committee needs to be dismantled. (chart attached)

**Treasurer Goudreau-** asked the board to approve the resolution for the Veterans Office to finalize the purchase of the vehicle for Veterans Services outreach. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick second by Commissioner McPhee to approve the resolution. Roll Call: YES: Hill, Lehrke, Patrick, McPhee. NO: None. Absent: None. Abstain: Krause

**Sheriff Wilk-** spoke on the Empiric Contract. Treasurer Goudreau also had some info on this. The board discussed renewing the contract since the initial 6 months is complete. He also asked the Board to reconsider the employees' bonus with the ARPA funds. And reminded the board that the bonus is a qualified category with the ARPA funds.

**Sheriff Wilk-** also informed the board that the freezer in the jail is in need of repair. He is waiting on the parts for this. Also, that the Co needs to look into replacing the AC Unit and the costs of that.

**Equalization Director Chipman-** informed the board that her staff will be doing training for new State legislation.

**Chris Brynes-MEA** gave an update on Mackinac Economic Alliance activity.

**New Business:**

Request for 2% monies from the Sault Tribe for Mackinac Animal Aid Association. It was moved by Commissioner Krause second by Commissioner Hill to approve this application. Roll Call: YES: Hill, Krause, Lehrke, Patrick, McPhee. NO: None. Absent: None. (application attached)

**Additional Board member business:**

Commissioner Krause gave a brief update on the status of the Equalization Director job search.

Paul Fullerton- Airport Manager presented the approved bid for the airport project to the board. The project will begin in March and should be finished by May.

**Public Comment:**

Steve Therrian spoke again on the importance of the security at the Courthouse.

Under Sheriff Ron Umbarger- informed the board that if the employees would have been given bonuses from the ARPA funds that the money would have stayed local and supported the economy in the county. He told the board they had one job and they failed.

Sheriff Wilk spoke on the necessity of the security for the Courthouse.

Jolene Larsen- Equalization Clerk told the board that she has concerns that there isn't security in the annex bldg.

Christine Bawol-District Ct Magistrate also commented on the importance of the security in the Courthouse.

**Approval of Bills/Budget Amendments:** The board reviewed the regular bills for approval in the amount of \$24,014.68. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick second by Commissioner Hill to approve the bills. VVMC (bills attached)

The board reviewed the manual bills in the amount of \$64,432.37. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick second by Commissioner Krause to approve the manual bills. VVMC (bills attached)

The board reviewed the additional bills in the amount of \$1,742.36. It was moved by Commissioner Hill second by Commissioner Krause to approve the additional bills. VVMC (bills attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2022-2 to transfer funds into the Veterans Office budget. It was moved by Commissioner Hill second by Commissioner McPhee to approve the Veterans budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Hill, McPhee, Lehrke, Patrick. NO: None. Absent: None. Abstained: Krause

**Communications:** December banking report.

**Adjournment:** Chair Lehrke adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Hillary Vowell  
County Clerk