

**MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS**  
**Thursday January 9, 2025**

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday January 9, 2025 in the Annex Boardroom, 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 St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Kimberling to approve the minutes of December 23, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (minutes attached)

It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Kling to approve the minutes of December 23, 2024 Regular meeting as presented. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (minutes attached)

It was moved by Commissioner Schroeder second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the minutes of January 2, 2025 Organizational meeting as presented. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (minutes attached)

**Public Comment:**

Dan Christensen – asked when the Road Commissioner public hearings would be scheduled to discuss adding members.

**Elected Officials/Staff Reports:**

Dick Pershinske – said the board has no discretion over the payment of Veterans Vouchers after the budget is set. Commissioner Kling said Dick Pershinske should not be speaking during Elected Official/Staff Reports but rather in Public Comment section. Chair Patrick agreed.

Marquette Twp Supervisor Matt Dost – gave a brief update on Marquette Twp.

**Commissioner John Kling** – discussed a new policy manual and has an example ready to go. All Department Heads and 2 Commissioners will meet to review it and make any necessary changes. Meeting has been scheduled to Tuesday January 21 at noon.

**New Business:**

The County's general counsel is selling their business. We need to look for new counsel. The board requested that Clerk Vowell put out an RFP. It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner Kimberling to advertise and receive at least 3 bids to bring to the board for review. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Closed Session (MCL 15.268(h) Attorney Client Privilege to discuss ongoing Veteran's lawsuit. It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to move into Closed Session at 5:01pm. Attorney Eric Conn was present on the county's behalf. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Schroeder to move out of Closed Session at 5:22pm. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

It was moved by Commissioner Schroeder second by Commissioner Kling to go back into regular session at 5:23pm. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

**Old Business:**

**Clark Contracting Craig Froggett** – gave an update on the Circuit Courtroom remodel plans. This has been ongoing for months now. The remodel sub committee has met many times. The previous board set aside funds to get the engineering and designs created. Also said the Trailer that was purchased from the Hospital will be put in place very soon. They are still waiting on Cloverland Electric to get the electric wiring in place. He also recommended the county send a thank you letter to the hospital for all the help in getting this trailer and donations of office furniture and handicap ramp.

Road Commission public hearing was discussed. The board would like to see public hearings held in the east, west and central parts of the county. These hearings would be to discuss moving the Road Commissioner to 5 members from 3. It was moved by Commissioner Kling second by Commissioner Schroeder to reach out to the Townships to come up with available dates to hold these hearings. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

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

Commissioner Kling spoke on behalf of the Planning Commission and creating a Capitol Improvement Plan. He would like to see the county work on key improvements and a way to plan ahead for repairs before they are past the point of repair. Also, we are looking for developers for the housing project.

Commissioner St. Louis-Scott would like to create an advisory committee for the animal shelter. Thinking this committee could work together to apply for grants and other additional funding for the shelter. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Schroeder to create an animal shelter advisory committee. Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

**Public Comment:**

Dan Christensen – wants to continue pushing for the Road Commission to have 5 members. He thinks it's important to have the whole county covered.

Dick Pershinske – was on Road Commission years ago and at that time he wanted county to be divided into districts.

**Bills/Budget Amendments:**

The board reviewed the regular bills of January 9 for approval in the amount of \$62,677.21. It was moved by Commissioner Kimberling second by Commissioner Kling to approve the regular 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 January 9 for approval in the amount of \$709,457.60. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Kimberling to approve the additional bills. Roll Call: Roll Call: YES: Kimberling, Kling, Patrick, Schroeder, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2025-01. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Kling to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

**Communications:**

Thank you letter from Clark Township.

**Adjournment:** It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Kimberling to adjourn the meeting at 5:33pm.

Hillary Vowell  
County Clerk