

MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
Thursday July 13, 2023

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday July 13, 2023 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: Corina Clark, Jodi Kaiser, Mike Patrick, Dan Litzner, Judy St.Louis-Scott.

Agenda Approval: It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Litzner 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 the regular meeting of 6/14/2023 as presented. VVMC

It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Litzner to approve the minutes of the special meeting of 6/19/2023 as presented. VVMC

Public Comment:

Dick Pershinske – would like to know what direction the county is moving towards the recycling initiative.

Don Butkovich, Garfield Twp resident – in support of holding Road Commission public hearings to address concerned citizens issues.

Ed Serwach, Brevort Twp resident – also in support of holding Road Commission public hearings.

Glenda McVay, Hendricks Twp Trustee – in support of holding Road Commission public hearings.

Julia Kronemeyer, Marquette Twp Supervisor – in support of holding Road Commission public hearings.

Lester Livermore Jr., Road Commission Chair – read a statement regarding the Road Commissions work performance. Chairman Patrick informed Lester this topic would be further discussed later in the meeting.

Elected Officials/Staff Reports:

Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau – requesting the board approve a one-time COLA payment for the Prosecutors Office Crime Victim Advocate from the State of Michigan. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser and second by Commissioner Litzner to approve a one-time COLA payment from the State of Michigan to Courtney Aldrich-Crime Victim Advocate in the amount of \$2476. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau – presented a quit claim deed for signature to the Bois Blanc Island property to John & Elizabeth Kilbourne. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Clark to authorize Chairman Patrick sign the quit claim deed for Bois Blanc Island property to John & Elizabeth Kilbourne. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (deed attached)

Animal Shelter Manager Donna DesJardins – requested authorization to move Tanner North into the full-time shelter worker and move Kendra Kacel back to the part-time shelter worker. Both employees are in agreement. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Litzner to authorize Shelter Manager DesJardins to make this change. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Clerk Hillary Vowell – informed the board of the large increase to the annual MTA dues and requested permission to continue with the County's membership. Clerk Vowell explained the valuable resources the MTA provides. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott to approve the annual MTA dues payment. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bill attached)

Sheriff Ed Wilk – the duct cleaning is complete and went well, only received one complaint from a local resident about the noise.

Mackinac Economic Development Director Chris Brynes – looking at possibly ARPA funds for fiber optic installation. He told the board he will be preparing a request for ARPA funds in September.

Equalization Director Mike Gillett – requested that new Equalization Clerk be moved to Pay grade 6 step 2. Would like this effective Monday July 17. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott to approve this step increase. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none.

New Business:

Commissioner Kaiser would like to appoint 2 Commissioners to the EUP Housing Commission. She would like herself and Commissioner St.Louis-Scott appointed. It was moved by Chairman Patrick second by Commissioner Litzner to appoint Commissioners Kaiser and St.Louis-Scott to the EUP Housing Commission. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Discussion was had on holding a public hearing with the Road Commission about adding 2 more members to make it a 5-person board. Road Commission Chair Lester Livermore asked what complaints were made and wanted to know what needed to be fixed. He said if citizens have issues, they need to come to a Road Commission meeting. He feels there is no need to have public hearings. The County can hold an election if they want to add 2 more Road Commissioners. Commissioner Clark would like to know what the issues are and she has not heard any specific complaints. Road Commissioner Tom Doty said complaints should be addressed at a Road Commission meeting. He wants to know what specific issues are being brought up and how can a 5-member board correct these issues if they don't know what the problems are.

He feels why are we trying to fix something that isn't broken. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Litzner under the authority of MCL 224.64ab to hold a public hearing to address the options of adding 2 more members to the Road Commission. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Litzner to hold joint public hearings. More discussion was had regarding how many public hearings and what location to host them. Chair Patrick feels there is not enough complaints to warrant the public hearings. Commissioner Litzner asked if it was citizen complaints or if the citizens do not feel they have enough representation. It was decided to schedule 2 joint session public hearings with the Road Commission. Previous motion rescinded. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Kaiser to contact the Road Commission to get dates for 2 joint session public hearings. One would be held in St. Ignace and other in Garfield Township. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Commissioner Kaiser is waiting on more information for the Material Management Representative. This will be visited at a later date when more information is available.

Commissioner Kaiser informed the other members that Clerks Office employee Heather Wilk has been shorted on sick time since her date of hire. This is not a board decision but rather in the AFSCME contract. She will be credited for sick time back to date of hire.

Old Business:

After some research by Commissioner Kaiser; it was determined that it is not a conflict to have an elected official appointed to the IT position. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Clark to appoint Sheriff Ed Wilk to this position. The annual pay of \$2000 to be paid quarterly of \$500. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (job description attached)

Additional Board Member Business:

Commissioner Kaiser told the board that a meeting was held with Judge Gibson, Judge Rahilly, Commissioner St.Louis-Scott and Clerk Vowell to discuss how the 90 days of the temporary assigned Circuit Court positions has been working. Everything seems to be working well with this assignment. Before this is made a permanent position by the Board; the County would like an agreement from the AFSCME Union stating that this is not creating a new job but only based on the employee that is filling the position currently. If she leaves this position, a new employee will not have to do the combined duties of this position. And the county would have to come up with a different arrangement.

Commissioner St.Louis-Scott attended the ground breaking ceremony for the Mackinac Straits Hospital addition. She also attended a fund raiser luncheon at the Grand Hotel. City of Mackinac Island was just awarded 39.7-million-dollar grant for a new sewer and water plan. Also, on the west side of the Courthouse the cement stairs need to be repaired. Winberg Masonry will be repairing this soon.

Commissioner Litzner briefly discussed Moran Township recycling. Moran Township Supervisor contacted Emmet County to see how they have their recycling set up and the costs. There are many options that are affordable.

Chair Patrick asked Emergency 911 Coordinator Bryce Tracy if the emergency evacuation exercise is still scheduled. This will simulate evacuating residents off of Mackinac Island in the event of an emergency. This will be taking place the week after Labor Day.

Committee Reports:

Commissioner Clark had a brief Dam Committee update.

Public Comment:

Dick Pershinske stated that he was disappointed that a Veteran Representative was not in attendance to discuss Veterans Office.

Approval of Bills/Budget Amendments:

The board reviewed the regular bills of July 13 for approval in the amount of \$204,444.40. It was moved by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott 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 manual bills of June 23 for approval in the amount of \$45,244.69. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner 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 the manual bills of June 30 for approval in the amount of \$15,894.87. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Kaiser to approve the manual bills. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed the manual bills of July 7 for approval in the amount of \$101,106.10. It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Litzner to approve the manual bills. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed the additional bills of July 13 for approval in the amount of \$68,083.89. It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Litzner to approve the additional bills. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2023-18. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Litzner to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2023-19. After discussion regarding this amendment; it was decided to table this until the Board can meet with the Veterans Board to discuss some issues. (amendment attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2023-20. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Litzner to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2023-21. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Clark to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2023-22. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Kaiser to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2023-23. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Clark to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

Communications:

Letter from Garfield Township regarding the Road Commission, MSU Ext newsletter, May banking report.

Adjournment: It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Kaiser to adjourn the meeting at 6:22pm. VVMC

Hillary Vowell
County Clerk