

MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
Thursday June 8, 2023

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, June 8, 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: Jodi Kaiser, Mike Patrick, Dan Litzner, Judy St.Louis-Scott. Absent: Corina Clark.

Agenda Approval: It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Kaiser 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 Tablet training session 5/25/2023 as presented. VVMC

It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Litzner to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of 5/25/2023 as amended. VVMC

Public Comment:

Krista Schnicke – District Court Clerk requested the board take corrective action on Clerk Vowell about an email that was sent to her superior regarding a social media post that Ms. Schnicke posted back in March. Commissioner Patrick told her the Board does not discipline elected officials.

Veterans Committee Chair Dick Pershinske – asked the Board to reassess their opinion regarding the VSO raise request. He quoted from Attorney Bonnie Toskey “As to the authority of the VA Committee to increase the salary of the VA Officer is my opinion that such decision is valid and binding so long as the increase does not exceed the board of commissioners approval of the total amount for annual salaries in the VA Dept.” He said there are 5 options the VA Board has available moving forward. He told the Board that the VA Board plans on having a representative at every meeting and will be available to discuss any issues or concerns.

Elected Officials/Staff Reports:

Sheriff Ed Wilk – had one employee graduate from the corrections academy and received 1 more applicant for corrections.

Register of Deeds Mary Jo Savard – told the Board that Deputy Mallory Johnston would be willing to be a floater and help out in Equalization Dept as needed.

Clerk Hillary Vowell – the new copy machine has been installed in the Annex building.

Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau – HVAC engineering quote was received from Byce & Associates. We were under the impression we were receiving a quote for the boiler replacement and not the engineering to say they can do the project. Craig Froggett from Clark Const said we can negotiate the price for the engineering and the replacement of the boilers. It was decided that the Board needs to have a meeting with Byce & Associates to negotiate the costs. (engineering bid attached)

Treasurer Goudreau said some of the Board members had met with a cyber security rep at the MACC conference. And thought we might need to look into this further. After some discussion the Board asked Treasurer to get more info on this for the next meeting.

The 2022 Audit is due on June 30 to the State of Michigan. The Auditors have not requested an extension; Treasurer Goudreau is expecting it to be done by then. Waiting on a call from them to put on agenda for Board review.

Treasurer Goudreau told the Board that discussion of funeral leave will be on the next agenda. Employees would like to see the economic manual match the Union contracts on funeral leave.

Treasurer Goudreau informed the Board that 4029s have not been approved. We have not heard from the Equalization Director for these. The Board needs to schedule a meeting to get these approved so taxes can be collected by July 31. The Board scheduled a meeting for Weds. June 14 at 12:30pm.

Old Business:

Treasurer Goudreau asked the Board to move Rick Litzners funds back to Dept 682, this will include FICA, wages and county burial/flags. Veteran Board Chair Dick Pershinske agreed that this should be done. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Litzner to move Rick Litzners funds back to Dept 682. Roll Call: YES: Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. Absent: Clark.

Straits Area EMS Authority Dave Blake Thomas – presented a Quit Claim Deed, Memorandum Agreement and Right of First Refusal document for the EMS site property for board approval. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Kaiser to authorize Chair Patrick to sign these documents on behalf of the county. Roll Call: YES: Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. Absent: Clark. (documents attached)

Additional Board Member Business:

Commissioner St.Louis-Scott inquired about doing an employee satisfaction survey after the wage study is done. Clerk Vowell will reach out to Municipal Consulting Representative Mark Nottley for an answer.

Commissioner Litzner requested the Board meeting on June 22 be moved to Monday June 19 at 4:30pm. The Board was in agreement to change the meeting date.

Commissioner Litzner would also like to schedule a meeting to have a Veteran Representative from the State to come and discuss the Veterans Committee.

Commissioner Kaiser noted that the amended minutes from March 23 were still not correct. When the amendment was approved, there was added language that was not in the original or the amendment. And when agendas were amended, they should be labeled as amended on the county website so the public would know it was amended.

Committee Reports:

Commissioner St.Louis-Scott attended the Community Action Agency bi-annual meeting. And would also like to create a Housing Committee with Commissioners Kaiser and St.Louis-Scott on the committee.

Commissioner Litzner – UP Fair Board bringing country music festival to Escanaba.

Public Comment:

Veterans Committee Chair Dick Pershinske – discussed the millage language for the County Veterans millage renewal. And asked the Board what their next step is moving forward with the recycling initiative.

Approval of Bills/Budget Amendments:

The board reviewed the regular bills for approval in the amount of \$78,117.12. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Kaiser to approve the regular bills. Roll Call: YES: Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. Absent: Clark (bills attached)

The board reviewed the manual bills for approval in the amount of \$73,875.85. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott to approve the manual bills. Roll Call: YES: Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. Absent: Clark (bills attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2023-15. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. Absent: Clark (amendment attached)

Communications:

None

Adjournment: It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott to adjourn the meeting at 5:54pm. VVMC

Hillary Vowell
County Clerk