

**MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS**  
**Thursday May 11, 2023**

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, May 11, 2023 in the Circuit Courtroom, 100 S. Marley Street, St. Ignace, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Patrick at 4:33pm.

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 Clark second by Commissioner Litzner to approve the agenda as presented. VVMC

**Minutes Approval:** It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott to approve the minutes of the regular meeting 4/20/2023 with one spelling error correction. VVMC

It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Litzner to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of 4/11/2023 as amended. VVMC

**Public Comment:**

Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau told the board they were doing a good job to keep up the good work.

**Elected Officials/Staff Reports:**

District Court Magistrate – Christine Bawol informed the board about the new clean slate law in went into effect and many changes coming with this.

**Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau** – told the board she is still looking at sample letters on how to offer the sale of the property on Bois Blanc Island to the interested parties. Had the kick off meeting with Clark Contracting for the building expansion feasibility study. And mentioned to the board about amending the board rules regarding summer meeting time changes.

**E911 Coordinator Bryce Tracy** – scheduled a work session on May 25 at 3:30 prior to the regular board meeting to assign and go over the new tablets for the commissioners.

**Sheriff Ed Wilk** – this week is National Corrections week and next week is National Police Officers week. Jeep the Mac is this weekend and there will be more traffic in town.

**Probate Judge Graham** – presented a proposal for hiring of the new FOC Referee. The Judge would like Mackinac Co to carry the benefits for the new Referee and the other 3 counties in the circuit would reimburse for their share

of costs. Mackinac Co will also charge an admin fee to the counties for these services. Some discussion was had and the Judge answered questions. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott to approve Judge Grahams request for the FOC Referee to be a Mackinac County employee with a salary of \$80,000 for 1 year and the proposed breakdown to be reevaluated at the end of FY2024. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (proposal attached)

**Animal Shelter Manager** – Ginger Valentine was present on behalf of Donna DesJardins. Donna is requesting to hire Tanner North for the shelter part-time worker. Tanner is Donna's great nephew. He currently has been filling in at the shelter and applied for the part-time position. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to make an exception for hiring family and give Tanner North the part-time worker position. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none.

**New Business:**

**LMAS Director Nick Derusha** – presented the LMAS 2022 annual report. He reviewed the report, hi-lighted some services they are offering and answered questions. (report attached)

Resolution in support of the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment of the U.S. Constitution and Michigan Constitution was presented to the board. The board did not agree with the entire resolution and would like some changes made before they adopt it.

During the discussion on the constitutional county resolution, Commissioner Kaiser questioned how resolutions are brought to the board because of the questionable resolution from Schoolcraft County that was given to the board at the last meeting.

**Old Business:**

**Straits EMS Authority** – attended to present their financial statements. After further discussion from previous meetings; the board agreed to loan up to \$2 million to the authority for building the new ambulance hall. The loan would be given from the 516 delinquent tax funds at 3.5% interest at 15 years. Clerk Vowell will contact Attorney Bonnie Toskey to draft the loan contract. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to loan up to \$2 million to Straits EMS Authority for 15 years at 3.5% and the revenue from the interest will be split between the general and 516 funds. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none (financial report attached)

**Clerk Hillary Vowell** – informed the board that the ductwork and vents needed to be cleaned. She had an old proposal from Stanley Steemer that the previous board did not act on. The ducts have not been cleaned in over 10 years and it is a necessity. The board requested that the Clerk try to get more bids and bring to a future meeting. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott to authorize the Clerk to get additional bids. Roll

Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (old bid attached)

**Veterans Committee Chair Dick Pershinske** – presented a resolution for the VSO salary raise. Commissioner Kaiser made a motion to deny the VSO raise that was retroactive to Jan 1 that and was done without board approval and return the amount he already received. That is to be paid back in 4 equal payments over the next 4 payrolls. Motion failed for no support. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick second by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott to deny the salary raise but he can keep the amount he has already received and to wait until the wage study is done to determine a new salary amount. VSO Chair Pershinske said they were going to pursue this legally after an opinion was done by county Attorney Bonnie Toskey previously on this matter. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (resolution attached)

**Mackinac Economic Alliance Director Chris Brynes** – was present to discuss the MEA annual contract. Liability insurance was sent previous to the meeting via email to the Clerk to verify for the contract. Commissioner Kaiser questioned why the Board was not informed that the check pulled at the April 11 meeting was sent out and cashed without notification to the Board. And it wasn't brought to the board's attention at the meeting of April 20 but the board was notified on May 4 by the Treasurer. Commissioner Litzner had some questions about lowering the future amount of money given to the MEA. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Clark to approve the annual contract. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (contract attached)

**Additional Board Member Business:**

Commissioner Clark would like to schedule a Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss the Road Commission 20/20/20 match request. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 16 at 4:00pm.

**Public Comment:**

**MSU Extension Educator Tracie Abram** – gave an update on the current activity with MSU Extension.

**Approval of Bills/Budget Amendments:**

The board reviewed the regular bills for approval in the amount of \$31,385.38. It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Litzner 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 for approval in the amount of \$72,607.45. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Scott 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 for approval in the amount of \$49,665.46. It was moved by Commissioner St.Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Litzner to approve the additional bills. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St.Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

**Communications:** Clark Twp letter re: Road Comm match program, March banking report, resolutions from Houghton and Livingston Counties.

**Adjournment:** It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to adjourn the meeting at 7:17pm. VVMC

Hillary Vowell  
County Clerk