

MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
Thursday May 23, 2024

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday May 23, 2024 in the Circuit Courtroom, 100 S. Marley Street, St. Ignace, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Litzner at 4:30pm.

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

Roll Call: Corina Clark, Jodi Kaiser, Dan Litzner, Mike Patrick, Judy St. Louis-Scott.

Agenda Approval: It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Patrick to approve the agenda as amended. VVMC

Minutes Approval: It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to approve the minutes of May 9 as presented. VVMC.

Public Comment:

Bob Lohff, Les Cheneaux Schools Superintendent – looking for school resource officer. He thinks this would benefit the school. Sheriff Wilk spoke on this as well. Les Cheneaux School Board Member Scout Hester was also present in support of a school resource officer.

Elected Officials/Staff Reports:

Sheriff Ed Wilk – just received the secondary road patrol grant. Mentioned that the parking lot may need to be seal coated soon and parking lines need to be redone. Sheriff also discussed cyber security; he feels Empiric is doing its job regarding cyber security.

Register of Deeds Mary Jo Savard – real estate fraud is increasing. Fake sellers are using fake IDs. We have to get this secured before it gets worse.

Veterans Committee Chair Dick Pershinske – started outreach program at the 2nd Coffee with Veterans. Will be starting surface work to the EMS building like paint and cleaning carpets to get ready for the Veterans Office to move into. Sheriff said EMS building will also work for MSU Extension office space. Using Equalizations extra office was also discussed. Jolene Larsen, Equalization Senior Appraiser said that the office space can not be used by MSU. Equalization needs this space and the offices should not be combined.

Equalization Director Mike Gillett – 2nd meeting in October the Apportionment session needs to be approved by the board. The office is making progress with the appraisal studies. They are requesting temporary clerk hire at pay grade 5 with no benefits Monday – Friday 10:30 am – 3:30pm. Commissioners asked if there would be anyone interested in this position with limited hours and no benefits. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick second by Commissioner Kaiser to hire temporary clerk position with an end date of 6 months. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO:

none. Further discussion was had about moving Equalization Director to hourly from salary. And will this affect other salaried employees. Clerk Vowell said it would not affect other salaried employees due to the Equalization Director having his own separate contract with the County. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to have Chair Litzner draft a letter to the County Attorney regarding moving from salary to hourly. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Commissioner Kaiser said she has received some negative feedback from the local units regarding moving the land divisions and splits. She said we need to keep the centralized authority for the splits and divisions so they will be the most accurate. Discussed raising the application fees to increase county revenue. Equalization Senior Appraiser Jolene Larsen also had some input regarding this. She requested to move to 8 hours a day to keep up with the workload in the Equalization Office.

New Business:

It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Patrick to move into close session (MCL 15.268d) at 5:26pm to discuss a purchase agreement. VVMC. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to exit closed session at 5:45pm. VVMC. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Kaiser to move back into regular session at 5:47pm. VVMC.

Old Business:

Discussion of zoom equipment was had. This was tabled until the board has courtroom remodel plans to act on.

Wage study for the elected & non-union employees was discussed. This will be brought to the next meeting with the salary resolutions updated to reflect any increases.

Commissioner Litzner mentioned using left over ARPA funds towards the EMS building renovations and Circuit court room remodel.

It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Patrick to authorize Chair Litzner to sign the Re-assignment of Purchase Agreement with Brownfield Authority for the housing project. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (purchase agreement attached)

Additional Board Member Business:

The board requested Clerk Vowell to get bids for sidewalk repair and putting in a new sidewalk to the public entrance.

Committee Reports:

Commissioner Kaiser attended Veterans Committee meeting and discussed VSO Mike Redmond attending the additional training that is needed for VSO. She also said that the Veterans Committee is in violation of the Open Meetings Act by not properly posting meeting notices.

Commissioner Litzner requested the next meeting be moved to June 12 instead of the 13th due to schedule conflicts. The board agreed to this change.

Public Comment:

Veterans Committee Chair Dick Pershinske asked what was going on with the Veterans Audit. Commissioner Litzner said that it is incomplete at this time and still waiting on cooperation from the Veterans Committee.

Approval of Bills/Budget Amendments:

The board reviewed the regular revised bills of May 23 for approval in the amount of \$22,748.01. Bill #92736 was held for further review. It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the regular bills. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, St. Louis-Scott. NO: Litzner, Patrick. (bills attached)

The board reviewed the manual bills of May 16 for approval in the amount of \$17,332.51. It was moved by Commissioner Patrick 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 additional bills of May 23 for approval in the amount of \$61,395.84. It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Patrick to approve the additional bills. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (bills attached)

The board reviewed budget amendment #2024.18. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Patrick to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none (amendment attached)

Communications:

MSU Extension Newsletter.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned to the call of the Chair at 6:20pm.

Hillary Vowell
County Clerk