

MACKINAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
Monday November 20, 2023

The Mackinac County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Monday November 20, 2023 in the Boardroom, Courthouse Annex, 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, Dan Litzner, Mike Patrick, Judy St. Louis-Scott.

Agenda Approval: It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to approve the agenda as amended. VVMC

Minutes Approval: It was moved by Commissioner Clark second by Commissioner Kaiser to approve the minutes of November 13, 2023 as presented. VVMC

Public Comment:

VA Chair Dick Pershinske – let the board know they should have received a letter from State regarding rent payments.

Elected Officials/Staff Reports:

None

New Business:

Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau - discussed the budget being incomplete. Changes need to be made before it can be presented to the public. The budget will be presented at the December 14 meeting to approve it for public display. Commissioner Kaiser discussed the increase funding that MDHHS, EUP Regional Planning and Mackinac Island. A Committee of the Whole meeting was scheduled for Monday November 27 at 2:30pm to review the proposed budget changes and discuss the Wage Study.

Opioid Settlement Committee was discussed. The following people will be contacted to see if they are interested in sitting on the committee: Karen Cheeseman, Leuna St. Andrew, Dick Pershinske, Judy St. Louis-Scott, Judge Beth Gibson, Judge W. Clayton Graham, Sheriff Ed Wilk, Kathleen Bunker, the Hope Network, Sacred Heart and Kari Visnaw. Commissioner Stylus-Scott will contact these individuals and entities about forming this committee.

The Straits Fire Authority requested to purchase a retired Sheriffs Office vehicle. Sheriff Ed Wilk is in support of this purchase. Fire Chief Nick Montie offered the County \$4000 for the 2017 Ford Explorer. The Board agreed to this sale to the City of St. Ignace and the Fire Authority. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the sale in the amount of \$4000. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Clerk Hillary Vowell - presented a retirement resolution for Friend of the Court Bruce Cranham. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Kaiser to approve the retirement resolution. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (resolution attached)

Prosecutor Stuart Spencer – requested to have a new hire moved from Pay grade 5 step 1 to pay grade 5 step 5 at \$20.30. He offered the new hire the \$20.30 which is same pay grade the previous employee was at. The AFSCME Union contract states that the Board of Commissioners has the discretion to move an employee up to a step 3. The Board said the Union contract needs to be followed. And moving the employee to the highest step in that pay grade is not in accordance with the contract. Prosecutor Spencer thinks this person will not accept the job at a lower rate. The Board doesn't see any way around this and following the contract is a must. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to allow Prosecutor Spencer to offer the employee starting wage at pay grade 5 step 3 \$19.31 hourly. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none.

Old Business:

Equalization Director Mike Gillett – presented the amended Apportionment report for approval. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Litzner to approve the amended report. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: None. (report attached)

Deputy Chris Groty – requesting the \$4000 payment in lieu of raise that most employees received. He feels is eligible for this payment. He retired in 2019 and has been working part time for the Sheriffs Office since 2022. He is not in the union but according to the union contract part time is defined as 12-30 hours weekly. His title is considered Court Security and part time. The POLC did not negotiate for their part time employees and they were not included in the payment in lieu of raise. There was no miscommunication between the Clerks Office and the Sheriffs Office. But according to the salary resolution set forth by the Board of Commissioners part time Court Security was not included. Commissioner Kaiser asked how many employees did not receive this payment in lieu of raise. Clerk Vowell will compile a report with employees that received the payment in lieu of raise. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Kaiser to look into this further and table until the December 28 Commissioner meeting. VVMC

Selection of new County Auditors for a 3-year contract. Gabridge Co. and Rehmann were the only 2 companies that submitted bids.

Gabridge Co. – 2023-\$49,900 2024-\$51,000 2025-\$52,000.

Rehmann – 2023-\$70,000 2024-\$75,000 2025-\$80,000.

It was recommended by Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau to select the lowest bidder for Gabridge Co. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner Clark to accept the 3-year contract bid for Gabridge Co. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: None. (bid sheet attached)

Selection of Forensic Auditors for Veterans Service Office. One bid was submitted from Rehmann in the amount of \$20,000-25,000 and additional \$5,000 retainer fee. Chair Patrick is concerned for the Veterans assistance personal or confidential information. Veterans Board Chair Dick Pershinske said no names or personal data can be given out for the Veterans. He feels it is a waste of taxpayers' dollars to have an audit. Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau is concerned that the State Grant funds have been mishandled. She would like what was submitted to the State regarding the grant to match with the county's records. Commissioner Litzner would like to compile all the Boards concerns and send to our Corporate Counsel for an opinion and hold off on the audit at this time. It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott second by Commissioner Clark to table the audit until the expiration of the audit bid of 180 days. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: None.

Treasurer Jennifer Goudreau pointed out a typo on the Apportionment report. Commissioner Litzner will contact Equalization Director Mike Gillett to have this corrected.

Committee Reports:

Commissioner Litzner - the H.O.M.E Auction went very well.

Additional Board Member Business:

Commissioner Clark – touched base with LMAS about MSU Extension continuing use of their office space.

Public Comment:

Dick Pershinske asked the Board about the Veterans Service millage renewal rates. And still looking at additional office space.

Approval of Bills/Budget Amendments:

The board reviewed the regular bills of November 20 for approval in the amount of \$18,730.52. It was moved by Commissioner Litzner 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 November 10 for approval in the amount of \$21,092.96 It was moved by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott 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 November 17 for approval in the amount of \$26,889.80 It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser 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 budget amendment #2023-51. 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 #2023-52. 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 #2023-53. It was moved by Commissioner Kaiser second by Commissioner St. Louis-Scott to approve the budget amendment. Roll Call: YES: Clark, Kaiser, Litzner, Patrick, St. Louis-Scott. NO: none. (amendment attached)

Communications:

None

Adjournment: It was moved by Commissioner Litzner second by Commissioner Kaiser to adjourn the meeting at 6:23pm. VVMC

Hillary Vowell
County Clerk

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