

DICKINSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Monday, September 24, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.
Courthouse - Circuit Courtroom

1. The meeting was called to Order by Chairman Wender at 6:00 PM.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was said by all.
3. Roll Call was taken by County Clerk Dolly Cook and a quorum was present.
Present: Chairman Henry Wender, Vice Chairman Joe Stevens and Commissioners Barb Kramer, John Degenauer and Ann Martin, (5)
Absent: None
Also Present: County Clerk Dolly Cook, Sheriff Scott Rutter, Equalization Director Sid Bray and Controller Brian Bousley
4. Motion by Commissioner Kramer seconded by Commissioner Stevens to accept the agenda as written.
All Ayes, Motion Carried.
5. Motion by Commissioners Martin seconded by Commissioner Stevens to approve the following meeting minutes as written: Regular – September 10th
All Ayes, Motion Carried.
6. **COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION:**
Commissioner Martin welcomed the following students from Mr. Hogberg's Iron Mountain Government class: Seth Hansen, Alex Rankin, Emily Nelson, Tyler Gulsberg, Alex Lewis, Will Strand, Ellie Loull, Alyssa Charette, Olivia Cazzola, Marcus Johnson, Nick Opolka, Adrian Barraza, Jake Dumais, Colin Visintainer, Nick Demuerse, Emily Hart, Maddy Yake, Collin Olson and Gabe Richmond.
- K. **Public Safety and Judiciary** – Commissioner Wender (This was moved up on the agenda.)
Judge Barglind explained the changes coming to the indigent contracts. She stated we will receive 20% of the contract on October 15, 2018. (The paperwork is on file in the County Clerk's Office.) She stated it will be good for the County and good for the indigent clients.
Commissioner Stevens thanked the judges.
 1. Motion by Commissioner Stevens seconded by Commissioner Kramer to approve the grant between the State of Michigan, Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC), Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and Dickinson County.
All Ayes, Motion Carried.
- A. **Citizens' Time:** (Limited to five minutes per person)
Chairman Wender opened the floor to Citizens' Time. Pam Maule addressed the Board. She stated she is a retiree of the Hospital. She asked that the Board let everyone speak. She stated the Hospital blames the union for the financial difficulties. She stated the unions and the employees have given up a lot in the past 12 years.
Terry Testolin addressed the Board. He stated he has worked at the hospital for 30 years and he stated he doesn't know if he will get paid on Friday. He stated people are scared.
Becky Desaius, Iron Mountain, addressed the Board. She stated she has worked at the hospital for 31 years and found out this morning the Hospital is filing bankruptcy. She begged the Board to take a stand and help the employees and community out.
Dale Alessandrini, addressed the Board. He stated Joe Lupica gets \$20,000 a month and asked what does he do? He stated John Schon should have been gone a long time ago. He asked why the County Board hasn't gotten rid of the Hospital Board? His FOIA request does not match what Bill Edberg told the County Board about John Schon's retirement. He asked about the 32 properties and why some haven't been sold? He stated you must be transparent.
Judy Bjork, retiree, asked about Schon's retirement payout and why the employees couldn't get theirs, but he got his. She asked who got them and how much did they get?
Susan Khoury, retiree, addressed the Board. She stated it is ludicrous that they took their pensions because they understated their debt to Bellin and then they dropped out. She stated 70 top people took their pensions and were hired back. She stated they didn't get theirs, but he got his. She stated it is painful that we are treated like this.

Bonnie Eldlebeck stated she worked for the hospital for 14 years. She stated the average salary for a CEO of a Hospital in the U.P, is \$160,000. She stated John Schon has to be gone. Catherine Clawson, retiree, stated she is worried about the future. She stated she hopes the next Hospital Board will be vetted better.

Kevin Pirlot asked what is the County Board going to do? He stated 2 years ago he didn't want them to go to a non-profit. He stated you have to stop listening to these people. He stated get someone from outside to evaluate the money situation.

Lori Sanatori, nurse at the hospital, stated they changed her hours for fifteen minutes of overtime. She stated there are a lot of perks for the upper staff. She stated people are scared. Why would you have someone sail your ship when they are sinking it?

Mike Bronzyk addressed the Board. He thanked the nurses for their hard work. He stated this Board does not know what is going on. He stated Kramer stated there is a leaker who caused the bankruptcy and we all know that is not why they are going bankrupt. He stated the Board has to come together. He stated the Hospital Board and CEO are responsible and criminal charges should be filed if need be. We are here to keep our community strong.

B. Resolutions and Legislation – Commissioner Degenauer-None

7. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

A. **Finance Committee** – Finance Chairperson Martin

1. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to approve rescheduling the October Finance Committee Meeting to Wednesday, October 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the Dickinson County Board Room. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

2. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Kramer to approve the acceptance of a two-year agreement with Blue Cross Blue Shield for employee health care and retiree health care with a maximum cap increase of 3.85% or less for the 2020 health care renewal rates. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Degenauer Jr., Aye

Kramer Aye

Martin Aye

Stevens Aye

Wender Aye Motion Carried.

Controller Bousley stated the rates were actually reduced this year. This will help next year also.

B. **A-95 Review** – Commissioner Kramer-None

C. **Upward Talent Council** – Commissioner Stevens-None

D. **Planning and Zoning Committee** – Commissioner Kramer

1. Planning Commission meeting minutes of July 26th.

E. **DHHS / DICSA** – Commissioner Kramer

1. DICSA meeting minutes of August 20th.

F. **Dickinson-Iron Health Department** – Commissioner Stevens-None

G. **Northpointe** – Commissioner Martin

1. Northpointe meeting minutes of September 13th.

Commissioner Martin stated they are moving forward with hiring a CEO.

H. **Pinecrest** – Commissioner Degenauer

1. Pinecrest meeting minutes of August 23rd.

I. **Equalization Committee** – Commissioner Degenauer-None

J. **Building & Supply/Real Estate-Remodeling** – Commissioner Degenauer-None

L. **Parks Committee** – Commissioner Stevens-None

M. **Airport Committee** – Commissioner Wender-None

Airport Days were a smashing success. He thanked all those involved.

N. **Fair Board** – Commissioner Degenauer-None

Commissioner Degenauer Jr., stated they had a great fair and made \$155,189.

O. **Library Board** – Commissioner Martin-None

P. **Employee Relations** - Commissioner Degenauer-None

Q. **Dickinson County Hospital Committee** – Commissioner Stevens-None

Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Kramer to approve the ability to obtain bankruptcy Council for the County. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners;

Kramer Aye

Martin Aye

Stevens Aye

Wender Aye

Degenauer Jr., Aye Motion Carried.

Controller Bousley stated this is council for the County and has nothing to do with the hospital. He stated there are a lot of questions to be answered.

Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Kramer for the Hospital Board to remove the CEO because of the financial condition and the Board to resign immediately. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Martin Nay

Stevens Nay

Wender Nay

Degenauer Jr., Aye

Kramer Aye Motion Failed.

Commissioner Stevens stated you have to remove for cause. He stated if we do, we have to have a hearing and go to court. He stated we need legal counsel.

Commissioner Degenauer Jr., stated the financial condition is a real cause for removal.

Commissioner Martin stated if the motion passed, and they are removed, who would run the hospital? She stated this motion is not realistic.

Commissioner Degenauer Jr. stated there is someone who could help with this.

R. **Dickinson County Road Commission** – Commissioner Wender-None

S. **Construction Code Commission** – Commissioner Degenauer

1. Construction Code meeting minutes of July 17th.

T. **Bay West Advisory Committee** - Commissioner Degenauer-None

U. **Veterans' Affairs Committee** – Commissioner Stevens-None

8. Citizens' Time: (Limited to five minutes per person)

Chairman Wender opened the floor to Citizens' Time. Lori Sanatori, hospital employee addressed the Board. She stated Celello was wrong about the unions losing everything if they file bankruptcy. She stated she heard that Bellin did not want Schon as CEO.

Dale Alessandrini addressed the Board. He asked the County Board for their resignations. He stated we lost our parks, 4-h and the Board wants to sell Pinecrest, it's time to go! He stated Commissioner Degenauer Jr. is the only one who wants to do anything. He stated now is not the time to go Bankrupt!

Pam Maule, retiree, addressed the Board. She stated why would the County Board listen to the Hospital Council who know nothing about bankruptcy. She asked why upper management got their pay outs? She stated it was unfair.

Kevin Pirlot stated what bills has the hospital not paid? Schon said they paid pensions and mortgages. He stated filing for bankruptcy tomorrow doesn't change payroll. He stated you need more information.

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS & OLD BUSINESS:** Commissioner Degenauer-None

10. **PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS:** - Commissioner Degenauer-None

11. Motion by Commissioner Kramer seconded by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to accept the Committee Reports and Correspondence and place on file. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

1. Conservation District meeting minutes of August 21st.

2. Conservation District meeting minutes of September 7th.

12. Controller's Report.

Controller Bousley stated the airport has had 12,648 enplanements so far this year. He stated there

were approximately 1,000 people who attended Airport Days. He stated the new hangars will be discussed next week. He stated the \$2400.00 grant from Workmen's Comp will help pay for the metal detector. He stated the Veteran's Grant has been applied for. He stated RFP have gone out for auditing services.

13. Commissioners' Personal Privilege.

Commissioner Degenauer Jr., stated all municipalities have unfunded pensions. He stated the hospital will be debt free the next day after the filing of the bankruptcy. He stated you will get a percentage of your pensions and some may not get any.

Commissioner Kramer read a statement that is on file in the County Clerk's Office.

Commissioner Stevens stated Joe Lupica has been an advisor for the hospital for years. He stated the County Board was against him doing the negotiations. He stated the County Board should pick the trustees, not the hospital, but that was the law. He stated he has been really frustrated, He stated if they do not file bankruptcy, your paychecks may not come in the future.

Commissioner Martin stated this Board has been active through 2 buyers and has asked questions. She stated there are deep deficiencies in their (Hospital Board and CEO) performances.

Commissioner Wender stated bankruptcy is the only way to save the hospital.

Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., seconded by Commissioner Kramer to set the meeting with the Hospital Board of Trustees on Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 6:00 P.M., pending bankruptcy. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

14. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., seconded by Commissioner Kramer to adjourn, Subject to Call of Chairman at 7:32 PM.

Henry Wender, Chairman

Dolly L. Cook, County Clerk