

**DICKINSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**Monday, October 28, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.**  
**Courthouse - Circuit Courtroom**

Tape 410

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 Kevin Pirlot. (5)  
Absent: None  
Also, Present: County Clerk Dolly Cook, Controller Brian Bousley, Equalization Sid Bray, Sheriff Scott Rutter, Asst Prosecutor Carl Downing
4. Accept Agenda and stipulate additions, if any.  
Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., seconded by Commissioner Pirlot to accept the agenda as written.  
All Ayes, Motion Carried.
5. Motion by Commissioner Kramer seconded by Commissioner Stevens to approve the following meeting minutes as written:  

Airport Committee – October 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Regular- October 14<sup>th</sup>                      All Ayes, Motion Carried.
6. **COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION:**  
Commissioner Kramer introduced the following students from Amy Pietrantonio's Iron Mountain Government Class: Ashlyn Doney, Aaliyah Hicks, Annika Stohl, Allie Anderson, Gabe Celello, Andrew Person, Lily Verrette, Claire Mongrain, Eli Loftholm, Hngel Vanegas, Jurgan Thinan, Luke Powell, Aiden VanPembrook, Alexis Johnson, Nasir Bellamy, Zoe Spera, Andie Ellis, Hannan Proudfit, Jayden Nowaczyk, Ellison Richmond, Richard Brown, Chloe Bianco, Jayne Flynn, Bryce Pretantonio, Joe Curron, Foster Wonders, Lucas Maxon, Myles Mundy, Caleb Evosevich, Joey Dumais, Caleb Burgland and Sarah Kulas.  
  - A. Citizens' Time: (Limited to five minutes per person)  
Chairman Wender opened the floor to Citizens' Time and there was no participation.
  - B. Margaret Minerick, DCHS Board of Trustees and Chuck Nelson, DCHS President and CEO – DCHS update.  
Minerick, Chairman of the Board of DCH, stated the USDA is still looking at the loan. She stated they are replacing old equipment for \$500,000. She stated they are changing insurance carriers. She stated they are going into hospice care in the future. She explained the search for a new CEO. Chuck Nelson, CEO of DCH, addressed the Board. He thanked the Board; He stated all the various recognitions the hospital has received. He stated there is tremendous support from the community. He stated tough decisions will be made. The Board welcomed Nelson.  
Commissioner Stevens explained the meet and greet and welcomed Nelson. He asked if there was a plan "B" if they don't get the USDA loan. Commissioner Pirlot was pleased with Home Hospice for the County. Minerick again stated this will take time to implement.  
Commissioner Kramer and Degenauer Jr., asked about the Medical Examiner. Minerick stated Marquette will do autopsies and the pathology work. She stated the hospital is not required to do autopsies. County Clerk Dolly Cook explained our Medical Examiner does all autopsies that are required by the medical examiner law, not Marquette. Commissioner Stevens stated we need a place to do autopsies until we find another.
  - C. Resolutions and Legislation – Commissioner Stevens-None
7. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**
  - A. **Finance Committee** – Finance Chairperson Kramer-None
  - B. **A-95 Review** – Commissioner Kramer-None
  - C. **Six County Employment Alliance** – Commissioner Stevens-None

- D. **Planning and Zoning Committee** – Commissioner Kramer
  - 1. Planning Commission meeting agenda of October 24<sup>th</sup>.
- E. **DHHS / DICS**A – Commissioner Kramer-None
- F. **Dickinson-Iron Health Department** – Commissioner Stevens-None
- G. **Northpointe** – Commissioner Pirlot-None  
Commissioner Pirlot explained the problems Northpointe is having with Medicare and un-insured patients.
- H. **Pinecrest** – Commissioner Degenauer-None  
Commissioner Degenauer stated the new administrator will start Friday.
- I. **Equalization Committee** – Commissioner Degenauer
  - 1. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer seconded by Commissioner Kramer to accept the 2019 Apportionment Report. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

**Equalization: 2019 Apportionment Report**

Equal. Dir. Sid Bray explained that an Apportionment Report is basically the anticipated tax levy for all taxing jurisdictions within the county whether township, city, state, school district or county levies as of the adjournment of the 2019 March board of review. Bray also explained what can cause changes in taxable value both in ways it can increase or decrease in the course of the year. This year total county taxable value increased 1.3% to \$902,691,400 or \$13.7 million more than 2018. Changes in millage were primarily in school debt which dropped in three of the four school districts most notably in Breitung Twp School system which fell 2.4 mills or about 46%. New millage for this year is in Norway & Waucedah Twp.'s along with Norway City for the .50 mill to fund the N-V Senior Citizen Center. County Library returned to .90 mills up from .85 from last year. Operating and extra voted millage went up slightly in the cities of Kingsford and Norway but overall millage remained the same in Iron Mountain and mostly unchanged in the rest of the townships. County Operations levy is anticipated to bring in \$5,512,700 or about an \$80,000 increase from the prior year. Dir. Bray also mentioned that the Menards vs City of Escanaba case was previously thought to wrap up this month but one of the Tribunal Judges was replaced which will likely delay the outcome.

- J. **Building & Supply/Real Estate-Remodeling** – Commissioner Degenauer-None
- K. **Public Safety and Judiciary** – Commissioner Wender
  - 1. Motion by Commissioner Stevens seconded by Commissioner Degenauer to approve the installation of a security camera and cabling in the jail, amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.  
Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:  
 Kramer      Aye  
 Pirlot        Aye  
 Stevens     Aye  
 Wender       Aye  
 Degenauer Jr.,Aye                      Motion Carried.  
 Sheriff Rutter explained these are needed to cover the blind spots in the jail. He went on to explain how serious the Medical Examiner problem is. He asked what do I do if I get a body tonight?  
 He asked about the protocol. He asked if the hospital is going to cooperate? He stated we need an answer. He stated this is a huge problem for law enforcement. He stated this was mishandled totally. He stated they (Hospital) shouldn't have left this meeting. He stated if there is a murder we can't deal with this problem. Lt. Campbell from the Michigan State Police stated this is a burden for a police agency.  
 Commissioner Kramer stated she talked to Ed Mattson, Chief in Iron Mountain, and he is very concerned. She asked if we can do anything in the courts? Commissioner Stevens stated they (Hospital) will accept bodies in the morgue. Commissioner Stevens wants an emergency meeting on Wednesday with an 18-hour notice with the Hospital Board.  
 Motion by Commissioner Stevens seconded by Commissioner Kramer to have an emergency meeting with the Hospital Board in regards to the Medical Examiner on Wednesday as long as we meet the 18-hour notice. All Ayes, Motion Carried.
- L. **Parks Committee** – Commissioner Stevens-None  
Commissioner Stevens stated the number one issue is the electrical for next year. He

thanked LAPP for all of their work at the park. Commissioner Wender thanked Joe and Barb for all of their hard work.

M. **Airport Committee** – Commissioner Wender

1. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer seconded by Commissioner Stevens to approve the Capital Improvement of window replacement, door replacement, and keyless entry for the terminal building at the Ford Airport. Project not to exceed \$50,000.00.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Pirlot	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	
Degenauer Jr.,	Aye	
Kramer	Aye	Motion Carried.

N. **Fair Board** – Commissioner Degenauer

1. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., seconded by Commissioner Kramer, to approve the payment- not to exceed \$97,000.00- for electric upgrades completed at the County Fairgrounds. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Stevens	Aye	
Wender		Nay
Degenauer.,	Aye	
Kramer		Nay
Pirlot	Aye	Motion Carried.

Commissioner Stevens asked Commissioner Degenauer Jr., if they were going to pay back any of this \$97,000? Commissioner Degenauer Jr., stated if the Fair Board has to pay this money back then so should the Parks for any improvements. Commissioner Wender stated he thought that they were going to pay \$25,000 off the balance. Commissioner Pirlot stated we should pay the \$72,000.

Motion by Commissioner Kramer to request the Fair Board to repay the \$97,000 over 4 years until the balance is paid. Motion died for lack of support.

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

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

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

R. **Dickinson County Road Commission** – Commissioner Wender

1. DCRC meeting minutes of September 10<sup>th</sup>

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

1. Construction Code agenda of October 10<sup>th</sup>  
2. Construction Code meeting minutes of September 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

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

Bousley Stated the new VSO is Lacy Ellison.

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS & OLD BUSINESS:** Commissioner Stevens-None

9. **PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS:** - Commissioner Stevens

A. Motion by Commissioner Stevens seconded by Commissioner Pirlot to approve the fourth quarter payment request from the Breen Senior Center in the amount of \$6,041.25.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner:

Degenauer Jr.,	Aye	
Kramer	Aye	
Pirlot	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	Motion Carried.

B. Motion by Commissioner Stevens seconded by Commissioner Pirlot to approve the fourth quarter payment request from the Crystal Lake Senior Center in the amount of \$10,104.75.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Kramer	Aye
Pirlot	Aye

Stevens                   Aye  
Wender                   Aye  
Degenauer Jr.,         Aye                    Motion Carried.

C. Motion by Commissioner Stevens seconded by Commissioner Kramer to approve the appropriation of \$2,000.00 to the Dickinson County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

Roll Call Vote:   Commissioners:  
Pirlot                    Aye  
Stevens                 Aye  
Wender                 Aye  
Degenauer Jr.,         Aye  
Kramer                 Aye                    Motion Carried.

10. Motion by Commissioner Stevens seconded by Commissioner Degenauer to accept the Committee Reports and Correspondence and place on file. All Ayes, Motion Carried.
11. Controller's Report.  
Bousley stated the hangar roof is half complete. He stated there are 2 applications for consultants at the Airport. He stated at the next budget meeting we will have a draft.
12. Citizens' Time: (Limited to five minutes per person)  
Chairman Wender opened the floor to Citizens' Time Carol Bronzyk, Quinnesec, addressed the Board. She stated she can't believe the people from the hospital left. She stated there is no communication. She stated there is no pathologist to do slides when people have cancer surgery. She asked how can this happen? She stated they never communicate to anyone what they are doing. Commissioner Stevens stated he tries to communicate what goes on. Bronzyk stated the public should know about all of this.
13. Commissioners' Personal Privilege.  
Commissioner Degenauer Jr., thanked the Board for the money for the fair Board for their electrical improvements.  
Commissioner Pirlot is looking forward to the meeting with the Hospital.  
Commissioner Stevens stated Steven Smith stated there was a cave in of the Calumet Mine which was taken care of immediately. He stated he does a wonderful job for the County. He wished the Iron Mountain football team good luck. He stated we should contact our legislatures about the budget and the vetoes which could cost the County \$584,000.
14. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., seconded by Commissioner Kramer to adjourn, subject to the Call of the Chairman at 7:10 PM.

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Henry Wender Chairman

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Dolly L. Cook County Clerk