

**DICKINSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012
COURTHOUSE – CIRCUIT COURTROOM**

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wender at 6:30 P.M.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said by all.
3. Roll Call was taken by County Clerk Dolly Cook and a quorum was present.

Present: Chairman Wender, Vice Chairman Smith and Commissioners Degenauer Jr., Martin and Stevens. (5)

Absent: (0)

Also Present: County Clerk Dolly Cook, Chief Assistant Prosecutor Carl Downing, Lt. Derek Dixon, Equalization Director Larry Swartout and Controller Kay Pascoe.

4. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Stevens, to accept the agenda with the following additions:
 7. N. Airport
 1. Authorize the Airport Manager to apply for an Airport Service Program advertising grant in the amount of \$25,000 with the local share \$2,778.
 7. T. Road Commission
 1. Authorize providing a letter of support for the County Road Commission's application for a TIGER Grant to rehabilitate the Lake Antoine Road.
 9. Unfinished Business and Old Business
 1. The letter for Item #9 on the agenda is attached.All Ayes, Motion Carried.

5. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Martin to approve the following meeting minutes with two corrections: Regular Meeting Minutes – 2/27/12
The first correction: Prosecutor Stephanie Brule was not present at the meeting. The second Correction: Under Commissioners Personal Privilege: Commissioner Stevens stated the meeting of WE Energies was in Gladstone, not Manistique as reported in the minutes.
All Ayes, Motion Carried.

6. COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION:

A. Citizens' Time: (Limited to five minutes per person) -None

Commissioner Martin introduced the following students from Mr. Hogbergs' Iron Mountain Government Class: Sienna Mendina, Michelle Barglind, Allison Healy, Gianna Hill, Lance Armstrong, Chris Johnson and Crystal Jacklovitz.

Chairman Wender opened the floor to Citizens' Time and there was no participation.

B. Resolutions and Legislation – Commissioner Martin

1. Motion by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Stevens to support Dickinson County Resolution affirming the Board's support of Michigan HB4025.
Degenauer Jr., Martin, Stevens, Wender Ayes, Smith Nay. Motion Carried.
Pascoe explained this resolution was put forth from the Michigan Association of Airports to support funding. She stated 3 cents a gallon was committed to the Aeronautics fund and they want to change the method of funding. She stated there are things such as fuel that do pay 4% sales tax and this bill would commit 25% of the 4% sales tax to the State Aeronautics fund. She stated this bill has been stalled for a long time and the Michigan Transportation Committee is looking to move this bill along. She stated there is movement to reduce federal spending in aeronautics. She stated we are paying 2% now and that could go as high as 10% without federal funding as our local share. Commissioner Smith stated he did not understand why we the taxpayer would be paying for advertising for a private airline. Pascoe stated the advertising would be used by the local airport. Commissioner Smith stated nobody gives him money to advertise his business. Commissioner Wender stated Tim Howen, airport manager submitted a grant for \$25,000 for advertising, but they were only willing to give \$10,000. Commissioner Stevens stated this has more good than bad. Commissioner Wender stated this would be more important if we were to get a new carrier and we would have to get the word out.

7. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

A. Finance Committee – Finance Chairman John Degenauer, Jr

1. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Stevens to accept the Financial Reports for the period ending 2/29/12. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

2. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Smith to approve a request to send a Juvenile Officer to a mandatory training in Higgins Lake, MI from April 25-27 at an approximate cost of \$265. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Degenauer Jr	Aye	
Martin	Aye	
Smith	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	Motion Carried.

B. A-95 Review – Commissioner Joe Stevens – No Report

C. Crystal Lake Center/YMCA – Commissioner Frank Smith

1. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Stevens to authorize payment of a Richer's Refrigeration and A/C invoice for \$9,719.76 for the dehumidification project at the CLC. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Martin	Aye	
Smith	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	
Degenauer Jr.	Aye	Motion Carried.

Commissioner Smith stated the last dehumidification unit cost in excess of \$100,000 and never worked. He stated they couldn't be happier with this new unit. Pascoe stated the balance is approximately \$35,000. Commissioner Smith also stated they now have over 2500 members.

D. Six County Employment Alliance – Commissioner Frank Smith –No Report

E. Planning and Zoning Committee – Commissioner Joe Stevens

1. ANSWERS meeting minutes of 1/25/12.

Commissioner Stevens stated they discuss topics that are broad and wide and he thought we should continue to go.

F. DHS/Community Services Agency – Commissioner Frank Smith

1. DHS Board meeting minutes of 1/23/12.

G. Dickinson-Iron Health Department – Commissioner Frank Smith –No Report

H. Northpointe – Commissioner Ann Martin

1. Northpointe Board meeting minutes of 2/23/12

I. Pinecrest – Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr

1. Pinecrest Board meeting minutes of 1/26/12.

J. Equalization Committee – Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr. – No Report

K. Building & Supply/Real Estate-Remodeling – Commissioner Frank Smith –No Report

L. Public Safety and Judiciary – Commissioner Henry Wender- No Report

M. Parks Committee – Commissioner Joe Stevens

1. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to approve the request from Bradley Farley to use sound amplifying equipment at Lake Antoine Park on 8/25/12 for a wedding reception. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

2. Fumee Lake Commission meeting minutes of 2/9/12.

3. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Smith to accept the recommendation of Forester Brock VanOss to award the bid for the Waucedah Road Timber Sale to Minerick Logging. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Stevens	Aye
Wender	Aye
Degenauer Jr.,	Aye
Martin	Aye

Smith Aye Motion Carried.

The bids were as follows:

Minerick Logging	\$18,062.22
Tom Kowalkowski & Sons Logging	15,736.80
St. John Forest Products	10,535.00

Commissioner Stevens explained the process to the students. Commissioner Wender explained how they came to the price the county will receive. The amount could change do to the amount of wood harvested.

N. Airport Committee – Commissioner Henry Wender

1. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to authorize the Airport Manager to apply for an Airport Service Program advertising grant in the amount \$25, 000 with a local share of \$2,778. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Wender Aye
Stevens Aye
Smith Aye
Martin Aye
Degenauer Jr. Aye Motion Carried.

O. Fair Board – Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr. – No Report

P. Library Board – Commissioner Ann Martin – No Report

Q. Dickinson Partnership/Economic Dev. – Commissioner Joe Stevens – No Report

R. Employee Relations Committee – Commissioner Frank Smith

1. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to stipulate that all officials elected in 2012 to take office as of 1/1/13, will abide by the 2013 salary schedule set by the Board of Commissioners for that year including the appropriate experience levels contained within the schedule. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

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

S. Dickinson County Hospital Committee – Commissioner Joe Stevens – No Report

T. Dickinson County Road Commission – Commissioner Henry Wender

1. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to authorize providing a letter of support for the County Road Commission’s application for a TIGER Grant to rehabilitate the Lake Antoine Road. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Pascoe stated TIGER means Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery.

U. Construction Code Commission – Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr. – No Report

V. Bay West Advisory Committee – Commissioner Ann Martin – No Report

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

Chairman Wender opened the floor to Citizens’ Time. Mike Erdman, MSU, addressed the Board. He stated they will be interviewing for the 4-H job next week. He stated they had 33 applicants. He stated who was on the committee. He stated the Director makes the decision. He stated they have a great selection of people. There was no other participation.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS & OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner Ann Martin

1. Motion by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Stevens to authorize sending a letter to our local congressmen concerning the closing of the Kingsford Mail Processing Facility. (The letter was attached to the ad-ons.) All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Commissioner Martin stated she agreed with what Carl Levin stated to the Post Master General. She stated she was pleased and impressed with the letter. She stated she was glad we are doing this. Chairman Wender stated he was glad Marquette County sent a letter of support.

10. PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Ann Martin

1. Motion by commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to authorize the Clerk to advertise for applicants for the following Boards and Committees:

Brownfield Authority – Three 3-year terms to expire 5/13/15

Jury Board – Two 3-year terms to expire 4/30/15

Road Commission – One 3-year term to expire 4/30/15

Northpointe – One three-year term to expire 3/31/15

Planning Commission – One 3-year term to expire 2/28/15

Western U.P. Substance Abuse was added by Commissioner Degenauer Jr.,

All Ayes, Motion Carried.

11. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Martin, to accept Committee Reports and Correspondence and Place on File. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

12. Controller's Report – None

13. Commissioners' Personal Privilege.

Commissioner Martin asked what the election turnout was. The County Clerk stated the turnout was 21%. Commissioner Martin was surprised that all proposals passed.

Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Martin for Kay to contact all counties for their support of the Kingsford Post Office Processing Center to stay open. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Stevens also asked Larry to explain how much money is at stake with the personal property tax changes coming?

Equalization Director Larry Swartout explained Dickinson County would lose about a million dollars if the personal property tax would be eliminated. He stated we are one of the highest in the State because of Verso. Commissioner Stevens stated we cannot afford to lose a million dollars.

Commissioner Smith stated personal property tax is a terrible thing. He stated this is a tax business pays for their property. He stated you don't pay a tax on a snowmobile or car. He stated if you buy a wrench you pay a tax that year and every year thereafter for about twenty years.

Commissioner Wender stated there was a lack of communication between the airport manager and the County Board and he asked Tim to come to the Finance Meeting.

14. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr. supported by Commissioner Smith to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chairman at 7:10 P.M.

Henry Wender, Chairman

Dolly L. Cook, County Clerk