

BARAGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Dakota called the Regular Meeting to order on Monday, June 9, 2025 at 5:00 p.m., Baraga County Courthouse, 16 N. Third Street, L'Anse, MI 49946.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Chairman Dakota led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL:

Clerk Goodreau took roll call with the following results:

Present: James Niemela, District 1, Brad Dakota, District 2, Craig Kent, District 3, William Menge, District 4 and Lee DeLeon, District 5.

Absent: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner DeLeon to approve the Agenda, removing the approval of the Closed Session Minutes from April 8, 2025 and May 12, 2025. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Kent made a motion, supported by Commissioner Niemela to approve the minutes for the Regular meeting held on May 12, 2025. On Voice Vote, the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items Only:

Fran Whitman asked questions about the Sheriff Department vehicles and asked about the expense for Pepsi. Clerk Goodreau clarified that it was for water.

A member of the public asked about the Flock Safety License Plate Recognition camera system.

TREASURERS REPORT:

As presented by Treasurer, Jill C Tollefson.

REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:

Commissioner DeLeon made a motion, supported by Commissioner Kent to approve the BCMH Trustee Per Diem for May 2025 (\$1,150.00). On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner Niemela to approve the payment of the Claims and Accounts for the period of May 13, 2025 through June 9, 2025 in the amount of \$32,656.55. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Kent made a motion, supported by Commissioner Menge to approve the payment of the Prepaid Bills and Trust and Agency Accounts for the period of May 13, 2025 through June 9, 2025 in the amount of \$564,208.73. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Niemela made a motion, supported by Commissioner Kent to approve the Sheriff's Dept. Checking Account expenditures for May 2025 in the amount of \$9,518.05. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

ACTION ITEMS:

Commissioner Kent made a motion, supported by Commissioner DeLeon to approve and sign the 2025 L-4029 (Tax Rate Request) for Baraga County. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner Niemela to approve the purchase of a computer and dual monitors for the Prosecuting Attorney Legal Secretary from Baraga Telephone Co. in the amount of \$2,530.00 to be taken from the General Government Technology line item. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Sheriff Brogan provided an update on the FLOCK Safety's License Plate Recognition camera system. The Board reported concerns they had on the violation of citizen's privacy, potential litigation and other concerns of that manner. The subject of funding was also discussed and it will require a partnership with other agencies to fund the recurring charges. Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner Kent to table the project until further information could be gathered. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Sheriff Brogan reported on the status of the fleet of the Sheriff Department patrol vehicles. He provided the Board with six quotes for a new vehicle. Chairman Dakota will schedule a meeting with the Finance Committee to discuss funding. No action was taken.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

No reports were presented.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- BCMH Board of Trustees, Minutes
- Copper Shores Community Health Foundation, thank you letter (UPSET West)
- Ottawa National Forest, Proposed Project

RESOLUTIONS:

No Resolutions were presented.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Nancy Herck, Catherine Andrews and several other members of the public voiced concerns about the License Plate Recognition camera system.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the County Board, Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner Kent to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:52 p.m. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Brad Dakota, Chairman

Wendy J. Goodreau, Clerk