

BARAGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2024
“UNOFFICIAL”

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice-Chairman Dakota called the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., in the Circuit Courtroom, Baraga County Courthouse, 16 N. Third Street, L’Anse, MI 49946.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

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

ROLL CALL:

Vice-Chairman Dakota instructed Clerk Goodreau to take Roll Call with the following results:
Present: Brad Dakota, District 2; Craig Kent, District 3; William Menge, District 4; Chad Cichosz, District 5.

Absent: Gale Eilola, District 1

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner Cichosz to approve the Agenda, with the following addition; e. Commissioners compensation. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Kent made a motion, supported by Commissioner Menge to approve the minutes (with the noted correction under Pledge of Allegiance-Vice, Chairman Dakota led the Pledge) for the Regular meeting held on September 9, 2024. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Cichosz made a motion, supported by Commissioner Kent to approve the minutes for the Public Hearing and Special Meeting held on September 26, 2024. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT-Agenda Items Only:

No public comment received.

TREASURERS REPORT:

As presented by Treasurer, Jill C. Tollefson.

REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:

Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner Cichosz to approve the BCMH Trustee Per Diem for September 2024 (\$860.00). On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Cichosz made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to approve the payment of the Claims and Accounts for the period of September 26, 2024 through October 9, 2024 in the amount of \$74,310.63. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Kent made a motion, supported by Commissioner Cichosz to approve the payment of the Prepaid Bills and Trust and Agency Accounts for the period of September 26, 2024 through October 9, 2024 in the amount of \$473,552.95. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner Dakota to approve the Sheriff’s Dept. Account expenditures for September 2024 in the amount of \$7,085.59. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no Unfinished Business.

ACTION ITEMS:

Commissioner Dakota made a motion, supported by Commissioner Cichosz to approve the 2024 millage rates submitted by Equalization Director Patrick Osterman with the following resolution. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County has examined the Certificates, statements, papers and records submitted to it showing the amount of monies (expressed millage rates) to be raised in the several townships of the County, School, Township and other purposes, now on file in the office of the County Clerk, and properly certified to, no objections being made to raising any such monies by any taxpayer to be affected thereby.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board directs that the several amounts be raised for County, School, Township, and other purposed and that said amount (in millage) be spread on the assessment rolls of the proper township as follows:

On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

The Board received a report from Jurmu Engineering on the structural evaluation completed this last Spring/Summer. No action was taken.

Commissioner Cichosz made a motion, supported by Commissioner Kent to appoint the following individuals to the Baraga County Veterans' Affairs Committee: David Haanpaa, L'Anse VFW Post #3897 and James P. Dougovito, Covington VFW Post #8945. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Kent made a motion, supported by Commissioner Menge to approve the appointment by Judge Nicholas Daavettila of Nicole Frisk as Magistrate and Kaytlinn Ellis as substitute Magistrate in the 97th District Court. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Cichosz made a motion, supported by Commissioner Menge to table the advertising request from the L'Anse Yearbook 2025. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner Cichosz to advertise for bids for snow removal for the FY2025 season. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Cichosz made a motion, supported by Commissioner Menge to approve the raising the starting wage for FTE hourly employees from \$18.00/hour to \$19.25/hour effective 10/8/2024. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Kent made a motion, supported by Commissioner Cichosz to approve increasing the Undersheriff and Jail Administrator's hourly wage to \$30.00/hour. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Menge would like the Board to consider raising the salary of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner Cichosz to table the Commissioner Compensation until next October. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Commissioner Menge reported that BCMH is doing very well.

Commissioner Kent reported that a meeting of the Snowbelt Transit Authority will be meeting in the near future, first part of November, possibly in Ontonagon.

Commissioner Kent reported that a meeting for the Materials Waste Management planning will meet on Monday, October 14, 2024.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

BCMH Board of Trustees, Minutes

RESOLUTIONS:

No Resolutions were presented for consideration.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

No Commissioners comments were received.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the County Board, Commissioner Menge made a motion, supported by Commissioner Cichosz to adjourn the meeting until Monday, November 4, 2024. On Voice Vote, the motion carried.

Brad Dakota, Vice-Chairman

Wendy J. Goodreau, Clerk