

DICKINSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Monday, July 24, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
Courthouse – Circuit Courtroom

1. The meeting was called to Order by Chairperson 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 Bronzyk and a quorum was present.
Present: Chairperson Henry Wender, Vice Chair Barbara Kramer, Commissioners John Degenauer, Joe Stevens and Ann Martin. (5)
Absent: None
Also, Present: Controller Brian Bousley, County Clerk Carol Bronzyk, Sheriff Scott Rutter and Prosecutor Lisa Richards.
4. Motion by Commissioner Kramer seconded by Commissioner Martin to accept the agenda as written: All Ayes, Motion Carried.
5. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer seconded by Commissioner Stevens to approve the following meeting minutes: Regular – July 10th All Ayes, Motion Carried.
6. **COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION:**
 - A. Citizens' Time: (Limited to five minutes per person)
Chairperson Wender opened the floor to Citizen's Time; Teresa Maycroft addressed the Board. She stated she wanted to clarify that she does support our local Clerk Carol Bronzyk, and she never stated she hasn't. 99.9 % of County Clerks here are very honest and truthful. Commissioner Degenauer stated she should bring evidence of election fraud, and she has invited the Board to attend several meetings with speakers on this subject. She is asking for fair and transparent elections.
 - B. Resolutions and Legislation – Commissioner Martin
 1. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Kramer to approve Resolution 2023-19 Opposition to Legislative Proposal on Establishing a Statewide Septic Code. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-19
Opposition to Legislative Proposals on Establishing a Statewide Septic Code

Whereas, Dickinson County Board of Commissioners understands the importance for clean water, which a public health matter for all the counties, but particularly for those with shoreline on the Great Lakes; and
Whereas, the local County Health Departments, follow The Upper Peninsula Environmental Health Code which is for the purpose of protecting public health and safety and the quality of the environment; adopted pursuant to the Michigan Public Health Code, and
Whereas, the local Health Departments inspect and issues permits for Type II, Type

III water wells, septic systems, along with public pools and beaches throughout the County, as well as, for both residential and commercial property systems; and Whereas, this proposed code would apply to all residential and commercial systems and the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners opposes any additional requirements for inspection of septic wastewater systems; as the proposed policy changes may be overly burdensome; for businesses and local residences alike; and Whereas, recent proposals House Bills 4479 and 4480 and Senate Bills 299 and 300, only reintroduce a failed bipartisan septic code package from 2018; without structure or an agreed upon timing for the proposed inspections; and Whereas, these changes would cause undue hardship for our citizens, as Dickinson County lacks the needed infrastructure and manpower that would be necessary to uphold the proposed Code changes, and Whereas, Dickinson County Board of Commissioners and local Health Departments have long histories of providing a healthy and safe living environment for its constituents and its visitors, through its current processes.

Whereas, the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners understands the true cost of unfunded mandates that affect the County's financial means and do not want any additional charges to be mandated on our county residents. Therefore, be it resolved that the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners opposes House Bill 4479 and 4480 and Senate Bill 299 and 300, to establish a statewide septic code.

Henry Wender – Chair

Carol Bronzyk – Clerk

Date

2. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Stevens to approve sending a letter to Governor Whitmer expressing disdain regarding no Upper Peninsula representation on the special commission on population. All Ayes, Motion Carried.
Commissioners Stevens and Martin stated how the UP needs a vote in Lansing on these committees. It is wrong for us not to be represented.

July 24, 2023
Governor Gretchen Whitmer
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Whitmer;
The Dickinson County Board of Commissioners would like to express our disdain regarding the recent appointments to the special commission on population. There is no representation from the Upper Peninsula on the commission. This is not the first time that the Upper Peninsula of Michigan has been neglected to have representation on certain commissions. The Upper Peninsula has been an afterthought in the eyes of the leadership at the state level numerous times. The Upper Peninsula has been dealing with population loss for years. To not have a seat at the table to capture the whole picture of the State of Michigan is unacceptable and disheartening.
The Upper Peninsula has always had to pull together to move forward. We have always collaborated and pooled our resources to obtain our goals out of necessity.

It does not seem the lower peninsula values our needs nor our input.

Regards,
Dickinson County Board of Commissioners

Henry Wender – Chair Barbara J. Kramer -Vice John Degenauer Jr. - Commissioner

Joe Stevens - Commissioner Ann Martin – Commissioner

7. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

- A. **Finance Committee** – Finance Chairperson Kramer
1. Motion by Commissioner Kramer seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve the check register from July 7, 2023 to July 20, 2023 in the amount of \$1,455,380.72.
Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:
Kramer Aye
Martin Aye
Stevens Aye
Wender Aye
Degenauer Aye Motion Carried.
- B. **A-95 Review** – Commissioner Kramer-None
- C. **Six County Employment Alliance** – Commissioner Stevens-None
- D. **Planning and Zoning Committee** – Commissioner Kramer-None
- E. **DHHS / DICSA** – Commissioner Kramer
1. DICSA meeting minutes of June 8th.
- F. **Dickinson-Iron Health Department** – Commissioner Stevens
Commissioner Stevens wanted to state what a great job they are doing there. The State came in for the yearly inspection on the WIC program. \$503,268.00 was issued in 2022, this program helps so many families and is so important and needs to be recognized.
- G. **Northpointe** – Commissioner Martin
Commissioner Martin stated they are going to have a regular report on the residential home. The NAMI picnic is tomorrow, it is a wonderful time. She will also look into why we are not receiving their minutes.
- H. **Pinecrest** – Commissioner Degenauer-None
- I. **Equalization Committee** – Commissioner Degenauer-None
- J. **Building & Supply/Real Estate-Remodeling** – Commissioner Degenauer-None
- K. **Public Safety and Judiciary** – Commissioner Wender-None
- L. **Parks Committee** – Commissioner Stevens-None

- M. **Airport Committee** – Commissioner Wender-None
- N. **Fair Board** – Commissioner Degenaer
Commissioner Degenaer stated he is visiting all the fairs in the UP, and it is so interesting. He also stated they are going to have a silent time at our Fair for special needs, loud noise and bright lights are disturbing to them. This will be Thursday before the official opening.
- O. **Library Board** – Commissioner Martin
Commissioner Martin stated a citizen of the County had emailed her and sent some information in regards to how the American Library Assoc President Emily’s goals is to show Libraries how to weaponize to accept the Trans agenda. She will find out more about this at the next library meeting.
- P. **Employee Relations** - Commissioner Degenaer-None
- Q. **Dickinson County Road Commission** – Commissioner Wender
1. DCRC meeting minutes of June 13th.
- R. **Construction Code Commission** – Commissioner Degenaer
1. DCCCC meeting agenda of July 18th.
2. DCCCC meeting minutes of March 21st.
- S. **Bay West Advisory Committee** - Commissioner Degenaer-None
- T. **Veterans’ Affairs Committee** – Commissioner Stevens
Commissioner Kramer stated that this committee needs to be renamed.

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

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

- A. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Stevens to approve MCAC quarter three appropriation of \$22,500.00. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Martin	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	
Degenaer	Aye	
Kramer	Aye	Motion Carried.

- B. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Stevens to approve the City of Kingsford Rescue Fund project in the amount of \$5,232.75 for design of water and sewer pipes for a project on Carpenter Avenue. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	
Degenaer	Aye	
Kramer	Aye	
Martin	Aye	Motion Carried.

- C. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Kramer to approve the Dickinson Trail Network to build additional trails on County property located near the Pine

Mountain Ski Jump. All Ayes, Motion Carried.
Commissioner Degenauer asked about liability.
Commissioner Stevens stated he would like the DCTN to come to a meeting.

- D. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Kramer to approve Transferring funds from account number 737-000-995.998 (General OPEB Benefits Fund) to account number 245-000-498.020 (Public Improvement Fund, Airport) in the amount of \$235,000.00 to purchase the Smeester property (land) located adjacent to the Dickinson County Ford Airport. These funds will be reimbursed by the airport and returned to the General OPEB Benefit Fund. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Wender	Aye	
Degenauer	Aye	
Kramer	Aye	
Martin	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	Motion Carried.

10. Motion by Commissioner Kramer seconded by Commissioner Stevens to accept the Committee Reports and Correspondence and place on file. All Ayes, Motion Carried.
11. Controller's Report.
Controller Bousley stated we had 7904 enplanements so far this year. We also are preparing/upgrading security wise for the bigger planes to come in. The EAA funding went through for another 5 years. All the flat work is done for the new hangar. There is a CUPAD meeting Friday and we will appoint someone for that. He spoke to Dennis Larson and he will be helping him to try and get a grant for some upgrades at the Veterans Park at Pine Mountain.
12. Citizen's Time (Limited to five minutes per person)
Chairperson Wender opened the floor to Citizens Time and there was no participation.
13. Commissioners' Personal Privilege.
Commissioner Kramer stated she received an email from Elsa Pontbriand and she would like support for the Michigan Multi Media Jobs Act, it would be an economic benefit for this area. The movie Northbound is entirely filmed here in the UP and it will be shown at the Braumart. Commissioner Stevens stated the essential air service is so very important to the community. The land bank has been awarded half a million dollars for future blight projects; it will have to be applied for. The Kingsford Centennial is coming up quickly, please volunteer.
14. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer seconded by Commissioner Martin to adjourn, Subject to the Call of the Chairman at 6:33 PM.

Henry Wender, Chair

Carol Bronzyk, County Clerk