

DICKINSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Monday, September 25, 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.

Commissioner Wender held a moment of silence for the Marquette County Board of Commissioners Chairman Gerry Corkin who has passed away.

3. Roll Call was taken by County Clerk Bronzyk and a quorum was present.
Present: Chair Henry Wender, Vice Chair Barbara Kramer, Commissioners Joe Stevens, John Degenauer and Ann Martin. (5)
Absent: None
Also, Present: Controller Brian Bousley, County Clerk Carol Bronzyk, Sheriff Scott Rutter, Treasurer Lorna Carey and Prosecutor Lisa Richards.
4. Motion by Commissioner Kramer seconded by Commissioner Degenauer to accept the agenda as written. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

5. Motion by Commissioner Stevens seconded by Commissioner Degenauer to approve the following meeting minutes:
Regular – September 11th
Special – September 19th All Ayes, Motion Carried.
Commissioner Martin abstained from Sept 11th minutes.

Commissioner Kramer welcomed the following students from the Iron Mountain School Government class: Brayden Rodriguez, Abbe Ward, Noah Baumann, Alexis Johnson, Bella Pickett, Ian Marttila, Lilie Jokinen, Alex Jayne, Giovannie Saldann, Dylan Lindgren.

6. **COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION:**

- A. Dickinson County Republican Committee
Teresa Maycroft, Angela Hall from the DC Republican Committee and Brian Godfrey from Upper Michigan Gun Owners Assoc., all spoke in regards to the 2nd Amendment Resolution they presented to the Board for a 2nd Amendment Sanctuary County.
- B. Citizens' Time: (Limited to five minutes per person)
Chairperson Wender opened the floor to Citizens Time, Bill Cummings DC Library Board addressed the Board. He is asking the Board to approve the library millage levy request. Jeff Gurchinoff addressed the Board. He spoke on the laws to defend ourselves and why we need the 2nd amendment.
Megan Buck DC library Director addressed the Board. She handed out a brochure on all the activities/services/programs at the library and how much they are being used. She spoke on their outreach programs as well.
Diane Weber, Channing addressed the Board; she spoke on our Constitutional Rights and she comes from a very lengthy list of Veterans who fought for our rights.
Carl Weber, Channing addressed the Board. He spoke of having our firearm rights taken away, red flag laws.

Tina Pirlot, Norway addressed the Board. She spoke on the library and the individual choices we have.

Jeff Edwards, Vulcan addressed the Board. He spoke on the moral consideration for kids having access to some books in the library.

Danielle Kraimer, Iron Mtn addressed the Board. She spoke on the red flag laws/the Constitution and being a sanctuary county. However, she disagrees with defunding anyone due to partisan bias.

- C. Resolutions and Legislation – Commissioner Martin-None
Commissioner Martin stated there would not be any action on the resolution tonight. Commissioner Stevens urged everyone to stay until the end of the meeting for the Commissioners’ personal privileges.

7. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

A. **Finance Committee** – Finance Chairperson Kramer

- 1. Motion by Commissioner Kramer seconded by Commissioner Stevens to approve the check register from September 8, 2023 to September 21, 2023 in the amount of \$3,162,369.79. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Commissioner Degenauer stated that this amount is not what we spend every month.

Kramer Aye

Martin Aye

Stevens Aye

Wender Aye

Degenauer Aye

Motion Carried.

- 2. Treasurer’s report of real property foreclosure sales for 2021.

Treasurer Lorna Carey spoke on the report she handed out to the Board.

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 August 10th.

F. **Dickinson-Iron Health Department** – Commissioner Stevens-None

G. **Northpointe** – Commissioner Martin

Commissioner Martin stated they held a video training on Board roles and responsibilities. She spoke on arranging private transportation for voluntary mental health patients that need transportation to a facility that has an immediate bed available that they need to get to before the opportunity is lost. She also stated that there was a Medicaid surplus of about \$ 1.7 million that the Board voted to give to employees. Jennifer Cescolini will come to a meeting to explain this.

H. **Pinecrest** – Commissioner Degenauer

- 1. Pinecrest meeting minutes of June 22nd.

I. **Equalization Committee** – Commissioner Degenauer-None

- J. **Building & Supply/Real Estate-Remodeling** – Commissioner Degenauer-None
- K. **Public Safety and Judiciary** – Commissioner Wender
Sheriff Rutter stated that he had worked with Marquette County Commissioner Corkin for many years on the 911 committee, and he will be missed.
- L. **Parks Committee** – Commissioner Stevens-None
- M. **Airport Committee** – Commissioner Wender-None
- N. **Fair Board** – Commissioner Degenauer
Commissioner Martin stated that working with the Fair Board and their operation has been an eye-opening experience. She very much admires all they do.
Commissioner Degenauer explained about all the improvements they have completed. The Board put the new roof on the horse barn and saved them a lot of money.
- O. **Library Board** – Commissioner Martin
 - 1. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Stevens to approve the request from the Dickinson County Library Board to levy the full amount of 0.8988 mills for the fiscal year of 2024. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

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

 Commissioner Martin commented on the 2 book challenges, the committee decided the book will stay in the juvenile book section. She stated it takes a village to raise a child and we should all be involved.
- P. **Employee Relations** - Commissioner Degenauer-None
- Q. **Dickinson County Road Commission** – Commissioner Wender-None
- R. **Construction Code Commission** – Commissioner Degenauer
 - 1. Construction Code agenda of September 19th.
 - 2. Construction Code meeting minutes of July 18th.
 Commissioner Stevens wanted more information on the new truck purchase.
- S. **Bay West Advisory Committee** - Commissioner Degenauer-None
- T. **Veterans' Services Committee** – Commissioner Stevens
Commissioner Stevens invited all the Veterans to check out the services offered at the new location.
- 8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS & OLD BUSINESS:** Commissioner Martin-None
- 9. **PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS:** - Commissioner Martin
 - A. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Kramer to make the following appointments: All Ayes, Motion Carried.
 - 1. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - Applicants: Katy Driscoll

One three-year term to expire 10/31/2026
Katy Driscoll is appointed to the Department of Human Services by a unanimous vote.

2. Motion by Commissioner Martin to appoint 2 members for 4 year terms to the Board of Canvassers.

BOARD OF CANVASSERS -
Two four-year terms to expire 11/1/2027

Applicants: Marietta Negro (D)
Carlene Kavelaris (R)
Robert Simon (D)
Dan Harrington (R)

Roll Call Vote:	R	D
Stevens	Carlene Kavelaris	Marietta Negro
Wender	Dan Harrington	Robert Simon
Degenauer	Carlene Kavelaris	Marietta Negro
Kramer	Carlene Kavelaris	Marietta Negro
Martin	Carlene Kavelaris	Marietta Negro

Marietta Negro and Carlene Kavelaris are appointed to the Board of Canvassers for 4- year terms.

3. VETERAN AFFAIRS -
Two four-year terms to expire 12/31/2027

Applicants: Bridget Schoeppey
Mary Stolze
Dr. John Phillip Shealey

Motion by Commissioner Martin to appoint 2 members to 4-year terms to the Veterans Affairs.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:		
Wender	Dr. John Shealey	Mary Stolze
Degenauer	Bridget Schoeppey	Mary Stolze
Kramer	Dr John Shealey	Mary Stolze
Martin	Bridget Schoeppey	Mary Stolze
Stevens	Bridget Schoeppey	Mary Stolze

Bridget Schoeppey and Mary Stolze are appointed to the Veterans Affairs Board.

4. CUPPAD Board

Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Kramer to appoint Commissioner Stevens to the CUPPAD Board. All Ayes, Motion Carried.
Commissioner Stevens abstained.

B. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Degenauer to approve the fourth quarter payment request from Norway-Vulcan Senior Center in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Degenauer	Aye		
Kramer	Aye		
Martin	Aye		
Stevens	Aye		
Wender	Aye	All Ayes, Motion Carried.	

C. Motion by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Stevens to approve the fourth quarter payment request from DICSA in the amount of \$72,000.00.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

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

10. Motion by Commissioner Kramer seconded by Commissioner Degenauer to accept the Committee Reports and Correspondence and place on file. All Ayes, Motion Carried.
11. Controller's Report.
Brian Bousley stated the Bath House has all been approved. The new hangar is coming along nicely. The ME building, we are still waiting on 2 pieces of equipment. Working on the budget, as it is that time of year. The fuel farm will be up and running soon.
12. Citizen's Time (Limited to five minutes per person)
Chairperson Wender opened the floor to Citizens Time. Megan Buck addressed the Board. She would like to comment on Commissioners Martins statement, they moved the book to the Juvenile non fiction section. We cannot ban books from the library. We need to just agree to disagree and we cannot pick and chose which amendments we abide by.
Tina Pirlot addressed the Board; she spoke of the acceptance of people that are different. She appreciates that the Board approved the library levy.
Doug Stock Kingsford addressed the Board, he questioned the expiration date of the canvass board. He wanted to note he doesn't understand why people won't take their hats off at public meetings.
Danielle Kraimer addressed the Board. She stated this library has taught her so many amazing things. She thanked the Board for approving their full levy.
Cindy Harrington Iron Mountain addressed the Board. She didn't think anyone is trying to censor people, they are talking about taxpayers paying for something that goes against their values.
Jeff Gurchinoff addressed the Board. His conservative values don't align with all. This group has never tried to ban a book, only to put them in the appropriate section.
James Larson addressed the Board. He stated he is disappointed the Board does not have an invocation at the meetings.
Jeff Edwards addressed the Board. He stated as a parent he is responsible for his children. He does not want them to have access to any material that is not for kids.
Angela Hall addressed the Board. She stated that no book was asked to be banned only moved. A very graphic novel was housed right next to her 4th grade daughter's favorite book. Its not about a specific group, it is about keeping pornography out of our kid's hands.
Carl Weber addressed the Board. He stated in 2018 this Board was presented with a sanctuary county resolution and did nothing with it.
13. Commissioners' Personal Privilege.
Commissioner Kramer thanked everyone for coming, and reminded the students to come up and get their papers signed after the meeting.
Commissioner Stevens thanked everyone for coming, especially the students so they can see how democracy works. He stated he is a Veteran and thank you to all the Veterans for their service. As far as the sanctuary county goes, he would like to do something but it has to be done legally. Everything that was said tonight we are all concerned about. We do not make these laws; it is our Legislatures.
Commissioner Wender stated that it is nice to see so many people interested in our community, this is the largest crowd we have had for a meeting in a long time. Thank you all for coming.
14. Motion by Commissioner Kramer seconded by Commissioner Degenauer to adjourn, Subject to the Call of the Chairman at 7:30 PM.

Chair Henry Wender

County Clerk Carol Bronzyk