

**NOTICE OF SEMI-MONTHLY COUNTY BOARD MEETING  
And AUDIT/FINANCE MEETING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners will meet on **Thursday, March 27, 2025**, in the District Courtroom of the Schoolcraft County Building, Manistique, Michigan, commencing at **5:00 P.M.**

The following is the proposed Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Minutes:                      March 13, 2025, Board and Audit-Finance Meeting

5. Approval of agenda
6. Public Hearings:
7. Brief Public Comment
8. Old and unfinished business
9. New Business:

Indian Lake/Gulliver/McDonald Lake Authority Update  
Schoolcraft County Commission on Aging Board Appointment (1) 12/31/2028 Term Expiring  
Letter of Support – Highline Expansion in Schoolcraft County  
Audit/Finance Committee Recommendations/Action Items

10. Committee and department reports
11. Announcements and notices
12. Public Comment
13. Commissioner's Comments
14. Communications
15. Audit Claims and Vouchers
16. Budget Adjustments
17. Adjournment

And, to take up and consider any other matter which may lawfully come before the Board at this time.

*Paul Walker*  
Paul Walker, Chairperson  
Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners

*Daniel Hoholik*  
Daniel Hoholik, Chairperson Audit-Finance  
Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners

**Public may view this meeting via zoom (listening purposes only) no public comment or interaction via zoom.**

**Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5117745749>

**Meeting ID: 511 774 5749**  
**Passcode: 987456**

**SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING and AUDIT/FINANCE MEETING**

The Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioner’s Board Meeting / Audit Finance Meeting met on Thursday, March 13, 2025 in the District Courtroom of the Schoolcraft County Building, City of Manistique, Michigan. Vice-Chairperson Daniel P. Hoholik called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The roll was called with the following members present and/or absent:

Present:           Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik  
                      Commissioner Troy Bassett  
                      Commissioner Craig Reiter  
                      Commissioner Bruce Birr  
                      Schoolcraft County Deputy Clerk Lori A. Wood

Absent:            Paul Walker, excused

Vice-Chairperson Daniel P. Hoholik led the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners and the members of the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Troy Bassett and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2025 Board and Audit-Finance Meeting of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present. [Copies of minutes are available at the Office of the Schoolcraft County Clerk.]

Vice-Chairperson Daniel P. Hoholik asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the printed agenda. Commissioner Troy Bassett asked to add discussion regarding the Zoning Department to the agenda.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Troy Bassett and was seconded by Commissioner Craig Reiter to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

“Public Hearings”: None

“Brief Public Comment”: None

“Unfinished Business”: None

**“New Business”:**

Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik gave an update on the Gulliver and McDonald Lake Authority. He stated the Gulliver Lake Authority had a meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> where they introduced new members of the Board. They are accepting letters of interest for the Dam Operator position. The Board agreed to work with Spicer Group as their engineer to make the necessary repairs to the dam. Their next meeting is set for April 15<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at the Schoolcraft County Courthouse.

Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik also indicated that the County would start preparing the assessment rolls for the McDonald Lake Authority.

Commissioner Troy Bassett commented that the Indian Lake Authority Board has added Robin LaCroix to their Board as a property owner.

Andy Bertapelle, CEO of Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital, appeared before the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioner to give the 2024 Annual Report. **It was moved** by Commissioner Troy Bassett and seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to accept the oral and written report of Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present [Copies on file in the Office of the Schoolcraft County Clerk].

**It was moved** by Commissioner Troy Bassett and seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to accept the reappointment of Roxanne Skaritt to the Jury Board Commission with an expiration date of April 30, 2031. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Craig Reiter and seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to approve the Project Budget Amendment for the Veteran’s CVSF Grant. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Commissioner Troy Bassett spoke regarding the zoning administrator position for the County. He stated that he believes the position should stay with the County, but the Townships should contribute to the cost of the position. He presented a formula that used the taxable values of the property within each township. An estimated \$40,000 of zoning costs for the townships was used and a percentage calculated for each Township was established. He was hoping to go to the townships and present this proposal.

Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik stated they could bring the formula to the next Audit-Finance Meeting on March 24, 2025.

Peter Hood and David Muxlow stated that they also agreed that the townships could not afford to assume the cost of zoning. They presented the negative impact this would have on the County and Townships.

Pat Carley stated that the zoning fees need to be increased to be compatible with other nearby counties.

Commissioner Troy Bassett stated that they were two members short on the Zoning Board of Appeals and suggested that they advertise in both the Pioneer Tribune and Advisor for these open positions. **It was moved** by Commissioner Craig Reiter and seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to advertise in both papers for the two vacancies on the Zoning Board of Appeals. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**Under Committee and Department Reports, the following matters were heard:**

**Commissioner Paul Walker:**

**Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik**

**Commissioner Troy Bassett** Road Commission

**Commissioner Craig Reiter** MAC Legislature, Gulliver Lake, LMAS

**Commissioner Bruce Birr:** LMAS, City Council

Sheriff, Charlie Willour, stated that they had an employee recently graduate from the Corrections Academy. They have one employee left that needs to complete the training. The jail has an inmate count of 16.

Corey Barr, City Manager, stated the water tower roof's rubber roof recently blew off. Insurance has paid for some repairs, but it needs additional repairs. Seeking a grant from the State Historical Society to help with the cost of repairs.

Steve Videtich, Building & Grounds, stated that Frenette Park is booked for the summer. The agitators have been removed from the dam. They are waiting for the courthouse generator. Discussed the Merwin Creek Campground. Was informed by LMAS that we need to provide water to the campground if more than 4 sites for camping or otherwise provide water for the campground. The pump was removed last fall because it had a crack. It has since been repaired. Steve will replace the pump this spring. He has applied for the campground and water licenses.

Pat Carley from the Planning Commission stated that their next meeting is March 25, 2025 and they just finished up the data mining and are working to finish up the resorts and campgrounds.

**Announcements and Notices:** none

**Public Comment:**

Jan Hooker requested that if the Commissioner's have any contact with Senator Jack Bergman, that she would like to have a meeting set up where he can discuss issues within the Post Office and the layoffs of Veteran Administration employees.

**Commissioner's Comment:**

Commissioner Troy Bassett stated he would like to look into the cyber security issues discussed at the last Board meeting.

Commissioner Bruce Birr asked Steve Videtich if there are any deterrents they use at the airport to keep the deer of the flight line. Steve stated that they do have a pistol to scare a large number of birds away but can't really control the deer on the flight line. Have been told that no fence is better than fencing the airport in.

**Communications:** None

At 6:07 p.m., meeting was turned over to Daniel P. Hoholik, Audit-Finance Chairperson.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Troy Bassett and was seconded by Commissioner Craig Reiter to approve the claims and vouchers numbered **1630 through 1828**, inclusive. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.


At 6:08 p.m., Vice- Chairperson Daniel P. Hoholik asked if there was any further business to come before the Board.

**It was moved** by Commissioner Troy Bassett and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to adjourn. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

**Vice-Chairperson Daniel P. Hoholik** adjourned the Board and Audit Finance Meeting at 6:08 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lori A. Wood, Deputy Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_


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From Kent LaCroix (Personal) 

To Don Erickson <don.erickson@manistiqueseniorcenter.com> 

2/20/2025, 2:02 PM

Subject **Re: Yesterday's Meeting**

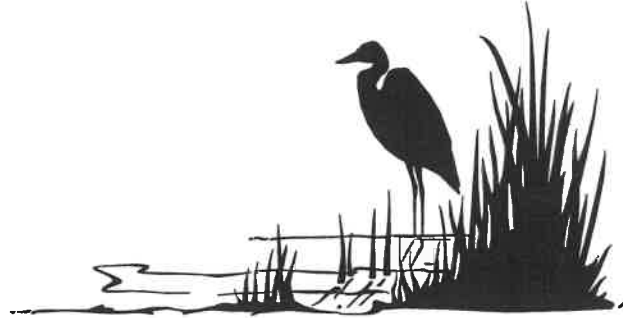
I am interested in staying on the board of the Schoolcraft County Commission on Aging for another term. I believe the work we do is invaluable to our community and am proud of our current staff for their tireless work on behalf of the seniors of Schoolcraft County. I look forward to being a part of what is in store over the next few years.

Kent LaCroix

# County of Schoolcraft

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*Chairperson, Paul Walker, District No. 4*  
*Vice-Chairperson, Daniel P. Hoholik, District No. 5*  
*Commissioner Bruce Birr, District No. 2*  
*Commissioner Troy Bassett, District No. 3*  
*Commissioner Craig Reiter, District No. 1*  
*Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners*



March 27, 2025

Eric Fredrick  
Chief Connectivity Officer  
Michigan High-Speed Internet Office  
105 W. Allegan St.  
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Mr. Eric Fredrick,

Please accept the letter in support of the grant applications put forth by Highline for Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program (BEAD) funding put forth by Congress to expand broadband access. We want to ensure that the rural constituents in Schoolcraft County are not left behind. Highline's willingness to provide access to high-speed internet to rural and underserved constituents is in line with our goal to ensure all constituents have access to high-speed internet and the same digital opportunities as their urban counterparts including online educational resources, telehealth resources, or pursuing new career opportunities.

In addition to Highline's willingness to provide access to high-speed internet in the most rural, unserved, and impoverished areas in my district, Highline is also providing access to comprehensive digital literacy and workforce development opportunities free of charge to all county residents where they deploy fiber, whether they subscribe to Highline's service or not. Highline seeks to empower the individuals and communities they serve through digital literacy training and workforce development initiatives that allow them to fully participate in today's digital economy.

Access to high-speed internet is only one piece of the puzzle; individuals must also possess the skills and knowledge to fully utilize and benefit from this technology. Highline has taken the initiative to incorporate that foundational component into its grant deployment plans. Their current plan for digital equity represents the bar that subgrantees applying for public dollars should bring to ensure funds are used most efficiently and effectively. My office is available to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration of my rural constituents.

Sincerely,

Paul Walker  
Schoolcraft County Board Chairman

**From:** Paula Jordan <Paula.Jordan@highlinefast.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 19, 2025 11:57 AM  
**To:** clerk schoolcraftcounty.us  
**Subject:** BEAD Letter of Support  
**Attachments:** Michigan-HighlineLetterOfSupport.docx

Beth,  
**Thank you so much for taking the time to talk with me today!**

Highline is excited to be a key part in ending the digital divide in Michigan!

Highline is applying for BEAD funding in the Upper Peninsula which will allow us to serve more homes in our network build-out.

Highline is slated to serve more than 50,000 households in the U.P. under the current RDOF and ROBIN grants. Unfortunately, the original RDOF map left off many homes that are desperate for a reliable connection. The ROBIN grant picked up a few thousand more of those homes. With the new BEAD grant, mapping has been updated and includes many more homes that were originally left off.

Highline is in a unique position to reach those households efficiently by simply extending our current network. In many areas our main line fiber is already complete, which will allow us to serve BEAD grant homes immediately in some areas. In the areas where main line is still being placed, we will simply adjust the engineering plan to accommodate those additional homes. **We would potentially add 374 additional homes to our network in your county.**

We are asking for your help. To give even more residents access to reliable internet we are looking for letters of support from anchor institutions, township, and county governments. To have the best chance at receiving grant dollars we need the backing of our anchor institutions, township board members and/or supervisors for our grant applications.

If your institution, township, or county would like to be a part of ending the digital divide, we are asking you to review, edit, and sign the attached letter in support of Highline's grant applications.

We thank you in advance and look forward to working with you. Please email or mail your letter of support by ~~September 13~~, to: *April 7th*  
[Paula.jordan@highlinefast.com](mailto:Paula.jordan@highlinefast.com).

**The ask:** to fill out our letter of support with their information. This letter is to show support for Highline extending our network so we can provide fiber optic internet to more rural residents.

Thank you,  
Paula

**Paula Jordan**  
Community Relations Specialist, Highline



✉ [paula.jordan@highlinefast.com](mailto:paula.jordan@highlinefast.com)

📍 1300 Ludington St.  
Escanaba, MI 49829



Download our HighlineFAST App!



**From:** Paula Jordan <Paula.Jordan@highlinefast.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 19, 2025 12:10 PM  
**To:** clerk schoolcraftcounty.us  
**Subject:** BEAD Letter Date

Beth,  
I just realized I did not update the due date in my last email.  
If the board approves the letter of support, we would need it returned by April 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Thank you,

Paula

**Paula Jordan**  
**Community Relations Specialist, Highline**

📞 888-212-0054 | 📞 906-399-0618 | 🌐 [www.HighlineFAST.com](http://www.HighlineFAST.com)

✉ [paula.jordan@highlinefast.com](mailto:paula.jordan@highlinefast.com)

📍 1300 Ludington St.  
Escanaba, MI 49829



Download our HighlineFAST App!



## NOTICE OF COMMITTEE MEETING

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that there will be a meeting of the *Audit-Finance Committee* of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners on **Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.** in the 1st Floor Conference Room, Schoolcraft County Courthouse, Manistique, Michigan.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Discussion:
  - Zoning Administrator Duties/Process
  - Dam Invoices
  - Gulliver Lake – Spicer Engineering Agreement
  - Fishbeck Consulting – Brownfield Development – Additional Fee Request
  - ISD – Building Fee Waiver Request
  - MIWorks – Lease Amendment Request
  - Materials Management Grant/Budget
  - Karhu Quote – County Vulnerability Assessment
  - Budget Review
  - Any other business brought before committee
5. Public Comment
6. Adjournment

and to take up and consider any other matter which may lawfully come before the Board at this time.

*Daniel P. Hoholik*

Dated: March 21, 2025

Daniel P. Hoholik, Audit-Finance Committee Chairman  
Schoolcraft County Commissioner