

**ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

**September 11, 2017**

**Minutes are subject to corrections and approval**

Pursuant to recess, the Alger County Board of Commissioners convened in the conference room of the county building at 4:03 p.m. on the above date.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Doucette with the following Commissioners present: Commissioners Mattson, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Absent – Commissioner Pullen.

The board of commissioners said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comment session was open. Linda Johnson was present to update the Board on the Alger County Animal Shelter for the months of June, July and August. Linda introduced her new assistant Manager Carmen Key. There was no further public comment; thus, the public comment section was closed.

The agenda was presented and amended to add Discussion of the UP Timber Industry Rails Study as item 8a.

Jim Lucas was present to discuss MSU Extension Services as well as 4-H club. There was a change to the MOA, replacing one-part time 4-H employee with one full-time. Forestry education was discussed. It was the consensus of the board to approve the MSU Extension Services Agreement. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

Judge Luoma was present to discuss 2018 Drug Court Grant award for \$40,000. It was the consensus of the board to approve the 2018 Drug Court Grant.

Teri Grout was present and updated the board regarding two Invasive Species Grants. The first grant Ms. Grout would like to apply for is a one-year grant to support staff and services. The second grant is a two-year grant to continue Phragmites Management. It was the consensus of the board to approve two Letters of Support. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

Amy Bergland from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation was present to discuss Michigan Tech's proposal for a rail analysis to show the economic impact of railways on the local manufacturing industry. Local governments have to be the applicants for grant funding to pay for the studies. Alger County currently has Neenah Paper and Timber Products that could benefit from increased railway services. Commissioner Doucette has discussed the issue with Pam Johnson and both agree that Alger County should be the fiduciary of the requested grant; Jim Lucas agreed. It was the consensus of the board to approve Alger County as fiduciary for the U.P. Timber Industry Rails Study. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

Nepotism Board Policy language was discussed.

It was the consensus of the board to approve the replacement of two defibrillators for the sheriff's vehicles in the amount of \$2,790.00 to CardiacLife. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

Attendance for the UPACC Fall Conference October 19 & 20 at the Island Resort was discussed.

There was no cost saving ideas or revenue sources.

There was discussion regarding the bid from David Tyner regarding mowing the airport. The board will explore other options.

The Forestry Service and PILT were briefly discussed.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment to LMAS District Health Department for their quarterly appropriation in the amount of \$20,745.00. Those monies are to come from their appropriation (101-601-969.000). This item will be added to the consent agenda.

There was discussion regarding a Community Corrections charge and the scope of the program.

It was the consensus of the board to approve payment of all of the board bills as recommended by the audit committee. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to approve the financial reports for all funds. A full 30-page report is available upon request with the treasurer. This item is will be added to the consent agenda.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

There were no resolutions

Committee reports were next. Commissioner VanLandschoot will have meetings next week. Commissioner Mattson explained that the 2018 LMAS District Health Maintenance of Effort payments will be reduced by \$2,769 to an annual amount of \$80,196. Commissioner Rondeau and Sheriff Brock discussed road patrols on the weekends as well as First Responders at Superior Central football games. Commissioner Doucette explained the boiler room door is scheduled for repairs October 16 and updated the Board about the increased Emergency 911 surcharge fees. Mr. Webber updated the Board on the state of Indigent Defense.

Correspondence was briefly read from DHS regarding chargeback rates for youth rehabilitation services

Board comments were next. Commissioner Mattson reminded the Board that the dump is open this weekend.

Staff comments were next. Sheriff Brock commented on the Emergency 911 Committee meeting tomorrow as well as requesting reduced millage funds. Mr. Webber explained panic alarms will be effective tomorrow. Commissioner Doucette reminded the Board that from September 23 through September 26, a number of Alger County officials will be attending the MAC Conference on Mackinac Island.

Public comment session was open. There was no public comment from the floor; thus, the public comment session was closed.

The Chairman adjourned this meeting at 6:15 p.m.

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Jerry Doucette, Chairman  
Alger County Board of Commissioners

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Mary Ann Froberg  
Alger County Clerk