

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

February 12, 2018

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 4:08 p.m. on the above date.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Doucette with the following Commissioners present: Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Absent – none.

The board of commissioners said the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

It was the consensus of the board to accept the 2018 Committee List. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to accept the agenda as presented.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize 911 trainings in the approximate amount of \$5,300. Monies are to come from the 911 Fund #265. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize purchasing 17 jackets for the rescue crew and two corrections deputies in the approximate amount of \$2,000. Monies are to come from the Recsue-21 department budget. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

Mr. Webber explained that hiring an Equalization Director is time sensitive. A Special Board meeting will be held Monday February 19 at 3:00 P.M. to meet the applicants.

Monies have been appropriated by the State of Michigan to fund the State's portion of the Indigent Defense Fund. Previously this position was to be a contracted; however, under the current report, the full-time Defense Attorney and a part-time assistant would be employed by the county. It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to authorize hiring a full-time attorney and part-time skilled support person with MIDC monies, as long as, state funding exists. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none.

Nick DeRusha will attend next week's meeting to discuss the LMAS report.

It was the consensus of the board to request an engagement letter for an OPEB Valuation with deferred reporting of remaining unfunded liabilities until the 2018 audit. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

Cost saving ideas / revenue sources were next.

There was no unfinished business.

There were no appropriations

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

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to transfer between 2017 general fund budgets – see sheet. This is to be added to the consent agenda.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

There were no resolutions

Committee reports were next. Commissioner Mattson discussed Judicial and Budget Committee details. Commissioner Rondeau discussed the Veteran's Museum. Commissioner Doucette announced a

Rural Task Force meeting is scheduled for February 19 at 10:00 A.M. at the Alger County Road Commission. Commissioner Pullen gave update on the Animal Shelter and Commission on Aging.

Correspondence was briefly read from DEQ,

Board comments were next. Commissioner Pullen said the OPEBs are what they are, but the work done by the Board over the last few years has put the county in a better position. Commissioner Rondeau commented on the reduction of timber logging in Alger County and Commissioner Doucette commented on PILT. Commissioner Rondeau commented on the Empire Mine. Commissioner VanLandschoot seconded Commissioner Pullen's commented regarding the work of the present board. Commissioner Doucette shared a press release about the Rail Study and noted that a large replica of the new Michigan quarter will be donated for the board room.

Staff comments were next. Sheriff Brock discussed the influx of ice-climbers and emergency preparations. Undersheriff Brock updated the board on recent rescues. There was some discussion about the Eben Ice Caves. Mr. Webber discussed keeping the oldest ambulance as backup, so the Ambulance service would not be down to two rigs if one breaks down.

Public comment session was open. Commissioner Doucette spoke with Terry Grout and would like the board to discuss the continuation of free rent for the Alger Conservation District. There was no further public comment; thus, the public comment was closed.

The Chairman adjourned this meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Jerry Doucette, Chairman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Froberg
Alger County Clerk