

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

**May 13, 2019**

**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 4:00 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.

Commissioner Rondeau introduced The Alger County Veteran’s Affairs Service Officer, Rebecca Johns.

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

The agenda was presented.

Lynn Johnson, Crisis Service Supervisor with Pathways was present to discuss Jail Diversion. Mr. Johnson explained that the State of Michigan expects diversion services to be performed. There has been improved coordination between Luce County, Pathways and Alger County. Efforts have been made to involve veterans in diversion services. There was some discussion concerning Pathway’s responsiveness at the jail. Sheriff Brock agreed that Pathways has been phenomenal to work with. Mr. Johnson elaborated on ways to expedite mental evaluations and coordinate assessments between the Sheriff’s Department and Pathways in the most cost-effective way. Prosecuting Attorney Robert Steinhoff discussed Pathways procedures with law enforcement.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to authorize the chair to sign the Jail Diversion Collaborative Agreement. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none. This item will be reaffirmed at the regular board meeting.

There was discussion regarding rates for probate court attorney fees and travel time. It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to approve \$75 per hour for Probate Court Appointed Attorney fees and \$40 per hour for travel time. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none. This item will be reaffirmed at the regular board meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to authorize wage for Juvenile Officer to \$20.56 per hour. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none. This item will be reaffirmed at the regular board meeting.

There was some discussion regarding the required documents and clarification of grant wording and funding amounts. It was the consensus of the board to authorize wage for the Veteran’s Officer at \$19.00 per hour. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize a three-year contract with a wage increase of 3% for the first year, 2.5% for the second year and 2% for the third year for the Equalization Director. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to approve the Letter of Agreement for Steve Blank, Undersheriff. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to approve 40-hour paid sick time for part-time employees with over 25 hours per week. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to appoint Suzanne Hetherington to the Library Board. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

There was discussion regarding freight costs for a potential filing system. Further research is needed into freight costs.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment to D. Robb Ferguson, Attorney for airport exchange work in the amount of \$3,140. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize Chair to sign 44N Plan Updates. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize six employees to attend the UPACC Spring Conference for June 6 & 7. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

There were no cost savings ideas or revenue sources.

There was no unfinished business.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment to LMAS for their quarterly appropriation in the amount of \$20,049.00. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to approve payment of all 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 Financial Reports for all funds (Trial Balance Report Available). This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to transfer \$10,000 from the general fund capital improvements budget into the Probate Court attorney fees line item (101-148-805.000). This item will be added to the consent agenda.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to approve Resolution #2019-04 Grand Island Township Tax Collection:

**WHEREAS**, it has come to the attention of the Alger County Treasurer that in 2019 the Alger County Board of Commissioners authorized the County Treasurer to collect the Grand Island Township summer/winter tax collection.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alger County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Treasurer to collect a 1% administration fee, as authorized by MCL a211.44.

Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson approve Resolution #2019-05 9-1-1 Surcharge:

**WHEREAS**, the Alger County Board of Commissioners held the authority under 2007 PA 164, which amended Michigan’s Emergency 9-1-1 Service Enabling Act, being MCL 484.1101 *et seq.*, as amended (“9-1-1 Act”) to set a default county 9-1-1 surcharge cap (“default surcharge cap”) on all communications devices of residents within the county under Section 401 e(1) and (2) of the 9-1-1 Act, being MCL §484.1401e(1) and (2) provided the Board acted before February 15, 2008 and the Michigan Public Service Commission (“MPSC”) approved the rate set; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alger County Board of Commissioners authorizes the continuation of its local commission enacted 911 surcharge of .42 with no change in the amount from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none.

It was the consensus of the board to approve Resolution #2019-06 Alger Correctional Facility Officer of the Year:

**WHEREAS**, in the spirit of excellence in the Department of Corrections for the State of Michigan and the County of Alger; and

**WHEREAS**, this Resolution will serve to focus attention on the exemplary commitment and discipline that distinguish exceptional officers and to recognize them for their efforts;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Alger County Board of Commissioners commend and salute MARC MAXON, Officer of the Year for the Alger Correctional Facility.

Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none.

Committee reports were next.

Correspondence was briefly read from Michigan Association of Counties, Upper Peninsula Commission For Area Progress, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, National Association of Counties, and Raoul Revord.

Steve Webber explained that he spoke with Raoul Revord concerning the Public Defender position.

Board comments were next. Commissioner Pullen will meet tomorrow with D. Robb Ferguson to review airport escrow paperwork.

Staff comments were next. Rebecca Johns updated the board regarding Veterans Affairs work, accreditation, grants, and equipment. Sheriff Brock reminded the board about the upcoming Police Memorial. Sheila Peters explained topics of discussion at the recent Emergency Management conference. Robert Steinhoff updated the board regarding the Prosecuting Attorney’s office and an upcoming retirement. Steve Webber remarked on Emergency Management issues. Sheriff Brock met last week with Michigan State Police Lt. Clint Michelin and City of Munising Police Chief John Nelson, and all agreed Prosecuting Attorney Robert Steinhoff is doing a wonderful job.

Public comment session was open. “Thank You for what you do.” There was no further public comment from the floor; thus, the public comment session was closed.

The Chairman adjourned this meeting at 5:45 p.m.

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Jerry Doucette, Chairman  
Alger County Board of Commissioners

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Mary Ann Froberg  
Alger County Clerk