

**ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

December 14, 2009

(Minutes corrected January 13, 2010)

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 Chairwoman Pullen with the following Commissioners present: Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Absent ó none.

The Board of Commissioners said the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

On a motion by Commissioner VanLandschoot, seconded by Commissioner Doucette to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Doucette and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to approve the Special Board minutes of October 29, 2009, the Committee of the Whole minutes from November 4, 2009 and November 5, 2009, the Regular Board minutes from November 9, 2009, and the Special Board minutes from November 23, 2009. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

Bob Seid was present and requested the board to do a supplemental study for a B-4 retirement for his 20 years of service. He said that the cost would be between \$400 and \$500 and that the three counties could split that cost. His 2nd request was for the board to send a letter or an inquiry to Maximus whether or not any of the costs would be picked up by the CRP (Cooperative Reimbursement Program) contract. Commissioner Pullen said that the board discussed this at the Committee of the Whole. She said that she talked to Duane Nuarta from State of Michigan. Duane said that Bob is no longer a title 4d employee because he has retired. Commissioner Pullen talked about a settlement package. She said Duane wouldn't even make any kind of guess or estimation as to whether Bob would receive any benefits or not. She said until she gets something signed from Luce or Schoolcraft Counties to do a supplemental, they will not have one done. She said that Alger County did not vote on Schoolcraft County's B-4 retirement and had no input on the B-4. Commissioner Pullen said that it is the consensus of the board, until the other two counties come to Alger County that Alger County is not going to change from an Old C-1 retirement to the B-4 retirement. The request dies for lack of a motion from the floor. Commissioner Pullen told Bob Seid that his requests were denied. *Corrected to add: Commissioner Pullen stated that Alger County had voted to give Schoolcraft County the money to administer the entire benefit. Schoolcraft County refused to accept it. She said that Alger County felt they had done all that they could do and it is now up to Schoolcraft County.

Budget reductions were next. Judge Carmody asked why two departments are being singled out, one being the Friend of the Court and the other Probate Court. Commissioner Pullen said that Judge Nebel said that he couldn't cut from his budget except to lay someone off. There was much discussion on budgets. Judge Carmody asked why other departments aren't here. Judge Nebel said to take everyone's mileage away. Terry McLaren said that they are going to be drafting a letter to the judges about being under funded for the courts and he said that the judges at that time will file a lawsuit. Judge Carmody said that he will go through everyone's budget and be able to find some more money. He wants the board to put out another memo to ask departments to go through their budgets. Judge Nebel said to take away the phones that were given to the department heads and only have one fax in the courthouse. Judge Carmody said that the Board added another 11% ó 12% decrease to the Friend of the Court's budget and Probate Court's budget. Judge Nebel said that he has no intention of laying anyone off. Judge Carmody mentioned using some of the funds out of the 215 fund. Commissioner Doucette said that the board should put out another memo to other departments asking them to cut more off of their budgets. A special board of commissioners meeting for budgets is scheduled for December 17, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.

On a motion by Commissioner Mattson, seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve the following letter of support to Wilcox Professional Services for new cells 9 and 10 at Wood Island Landfill:

ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mary Ann Froberg, Clerk

101 COURT STREET, MUNISING, MI 49862

December 14, 2009

Mr. Tom Dykowski
Wilcox Professional Services
3500 Ludington, Suite 310
Escanaba, MI 49829

RE: Wood Island Landfill

Dear Mr. Dykowski:

You attended an informational meeting of the Alger County Board of Commissioners on December 10, 2009 explaining to the members the proposed construction of Cells 9 and 10 at Wood Island Landfill. We understand that the proposed Type II cells are located in the same footprint of the previously approved Type III cells.

The Alger County Board of Commissioners has determined that the proposed disposal area is consistent with the approved county solid waste management plan and is in support of the plan. The redesigned cells will add 5 to 6 years to the lifespan on the landfill ensuring the most cost effective way to dispose of solid waste for Alger County.

Sincerely,

Catherine A. Pullen, Chair
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen.

Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve and authorize the Chair and the Clerk to sign the 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program Interlocal Funding Agreement between Houghton County and Alger County. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

On a motion by Commissioner Mattson, seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve monthly payments for the insurance buyouts to those employees who sign up for it. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

There was no old business to discuss.

It was moved by Commissioner Lindstrom and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to authorize payment to Pathways for their community mental health quarterly appropriation in the amount of \$8,305. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

On a motion by Commissioner Lindstrom, seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize payment to NorthCare Substance Abuse Services for their appropriation in the amount of \$5,087. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Lindstrom and seconded by Commissioner Doucette to authorize the Treasurer to transfer the following appropriations:

Transfer \$3,500 from the building department fund to the general fund for rent.

Transfer \$1,138.08 from the remonumentation grant to the general fund transfer in remonumentation administration.

Transfer \$4,500 from the foreclosure fund to the general fund in the postage account.

Transfer \$340,023.00 from the general fund to the revenue sharing reserve fund to reimburse money transferred in January 2009 for cash flow purposes.

Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen.

Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

On a motion by Commissioner Mattson, seconded by Commissioner Lindstrom to approve payment of all of the board bills as recommended by the committee of the whole and the audit committee. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

*It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve to the financial reports for all funds. A full 30-page report is available upon request with the Treasurer. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none. *Corrected to read: It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve the financial reports for all funds.

On a motion by Commissioner Doucette, seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to add department 330 to the general fund for a marine safety grant appropriation. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Doucette and seconded by Commissioner Lindstrom to transfer expenditures from District Health to Veterans Burials in the amount of \$300. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

On a motion by Commissioner Doucette, seconded by Commissioner Mattson to transfer expenditures from District Health to Veterans Affairs in the amount of \$76.38. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

There was a request from the Prosecutor's Office for carrying over the 2009 remainder line item for professional services/computer services to 2010 to purchase some new equipment. It was discussed that budgets are not carried over.

There were no resolutions.

Commissioner Pullen talked about unfunded mandates from the state and that the state doesn't look kindly at being sued. She emailed the administrator from Ottawa County to see if there is anything that can be done and what the next step is. There was nothing more on committee reports.

There was some new correspondence and this will be placed in the file.

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

On a motion by Commissioner Lindstrom, seconded by Commissioner Mattson to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Froberg
Alger County Clerk