

**ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

May 11, 2009

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. Leota Paquette spoke out regarding the minutes and that the county is in violation of the open meetings act if they are not done in 8 days after the meeting. She also asked about the web page and the cost. Joe Cilc discussed a letter regarding George Radcliffe receiving a refund on a building permit. He said because it drug out so long George Radcliffe lost his loan. Since then Hiawatha Homes went bankrupt. He is asking for the board to refund \$957. This will be discussed under financial matters in miscellaneous. There was no other public comment from the floor; thus, public comment was closed.

On a motion by Commissioner Lindstrom and seconded by Commissioner Mattson 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 Lindstrom and supported by Commissioner Mattson to approve the minutes from April 13, 2009 as presented. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none. Abstaining ó Commissioner VanLandschoot.

On a motion by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Lindstrom to allow Commissioner Pullen to listen to the tape of the March minutes and to make sure the minutes are good. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

There was discussion on old business. Joe Cilc talked about a letter he submitted regarding his surgery and allowing his wife to drive him around for inspections.

Commissioner Pullen is going to get the prosecutor's comments on the newest Interlocal Agreement to Establish an Upper Peninsula State Fair Authority and Resolution. On a motion by Commissioner VanLandschoot, seconded by Commissioner Lindstrom to postpone the agreement and resolution until the prosecutor gets a chance to look at it. 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 following 2009 Committee List as corrected:

2009 COMMITTEE LIST

AIRPORT

*Cathy Pullen, Joseph VanLandschoot

ALGER COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING / U.P. AREA AGING AGENCY

*Cathy Pullen, Ed Lindstrom

ALTRAN

*Cathy Pullen

Alternate: Ed Lindstrom

AMBULANCE, LAW ENFORCEMENT, EMERGENCY SERVICES/911/HAZ. WASTE

*Jerry Doucette, Esley Mattson, David Cromell

AMCAB

*Ed Lindstrom

AUDIT COMMITTEE

*Alternating, Mary Ann Froberg

BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

*Chair, Vice-Chair, Mary Ann Froberg

Alternate: Jerry Doucette

BUDGET

*Esley Mattson, Joseph VanLandschoot, Mary Ann Froberg, Pam Johnson

BUILDING & GROUNDS

*Esley Mattson, Jerry Doucette, Mary Ann Froberg (Board Policy: at least 1 from District 2 or 3)

COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

*Ed Lindstrom, Cathy Pullen

COUNTY REMONUMENTATION

*Mary Ann Froberg

Alternate: Joseph VanLandschoot

EXECUTIVE/BUILDING CODES

*Esley Mattson, Cathy Pullen

EXTENSION, CONSERVATION, WATERSHED STEERING, RECREATION, RESOURCE & DEVELOPMENT

*Jerry Doucette

Alternate: Ed Lindstrom

EQUALIZATION

*Committee of the Whole, Equalization Director (Jerry Doucette as designated Commissioner who will meet twice a year to make sure state mandates are being met)

FAIR BOARD

*Jerry Doucette

Alternate: Ed Lindstrom

FINANCE & TAXATION

Esley Mattson, Cathy Pullen, Mary Ann Froberg, Pam Johnson

HEALTH & WELFARE (LMAS)

*Ed Lindstrom, Esley Mattson

Alternate: Jerry Doucette

HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES & PARKS

*Jerry Doucette

Alternate: Esley Mattson

HUMAN RESOURCES / PUBLIC & LABOR RELATIONS

*Esley Mattson, Cathy Pullen, Mary Ann Froberg

INDUSTRIAL PARK COMMISSION/ SOLID WASTE LANDFILL/ MUNISING LANDFILL

*Esley Mattson, Joseph VanLandschoot

Alternate: Jerry Doucette

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

*Esley Mattson, Ed Lindstrom

PATHWAYS SUBSTANCE ABUSE LIAISON

*Ed Lindstrom

Alternate: Jerry Doucette

PRISON LIAISON

*Jerry Doucette

Alternate: Esley Mattson

REGIONAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

*Esley Mattson, Jerry Doucette

RESOLUTIONS

*Jerry Doucette, Joseph VanLandschoot

SIX COUNTY CONSORTIUM

*Ed Lindstrom, Jerry Doucette

THREE COUNTY COMMITTEE – meets quarterly

*Cathy Pullen, Esley Mattson

UPCAP / CUPPAD

*Ed Lindstrom, Jerry Doucette

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 and seconded by Commissioner Doucette to approve Ed Lindstrom to attend the UPACC spring conference in Baraga. 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 Mattson to authorize payment of board bills as presented by the audit committee and recommended by the committee of the whole. 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 and seconded by Commissioner Lindstrom to accept the financial reports as presented by the treasurer and recommended by the committee of the whole. 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 Doucette to authorize the treasurer to transfer \$10,401.89 from the Friend of the Court 215 fund into reimbursements in the general fund. 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 and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to refund part of George Radcliffe's building permit in the amount of \$957. Monies are to come from the building codes fund #249. 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 paying \$10 per hour for one year only to college students arranged by Judge Carmody to stuff and mail the jury board questionnaires. The board will re-evaluate next year's process once the time slips are submitted this year. 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 Mattson to authorize the chair to sign the following resolution #2009-06:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-06 OF SUPPORT FOR
COUNTY REMONUMENTATION PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan is considering the various uses of proposed economic stimulus monies from the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the State of Michigan Legislature removed \$15,000,000 from the State Survey and Remonumentation fund in an effort to balance the state budget for that year; and

WHEREAS, in Section 54.271 of Act 345 of 1990, the Legislature cited specific funding levels for the program which have not been met; and

WHEREAS, since the removal of these funds in 2006, statewide funding for the program has decreased from \$10,134,000 in 2006 to \$4,000,000 in 2009; and

WHEREAS, the removal of these funds has seriously impaired the effectiveness and progress of this program; and

WHEREAS, this program has been extremely beneficial to all residents of the State of Michigan, since original corner positions of the Public Land Survey control the boundaries of every parcel in Alger County and the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, this program is designed to recover, monument, record and perpetuate these original corner positions; and

WHEREAS, the information provided by this program is also designed to be the basis of all municipal GIS within the State; and

WHEREAS, these additional funds will benefit the implementation of each County-wide GIS, which is intended to assist in 911 emergency responses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alger County Board of Commissioners is in support of the use of \$15,000,000 of the economic stimulus monies for the State of Michigan Survey and Remonumentation Program for 2009 and an additional \$15,000,000 to supplement the program through fiscal year 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Governor Jennifer Granholm, Senator Mike Prusi, Representative Steven Lindberg and the other 82 Michigan counties.

May 11, 2009

Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman
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.

On a motion by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Lindstrom to authorize the chair to sign the following resolution #2009-07:

**RESOLUTION #2009-07 SUPPORTING ADEQUATE STATE FUNDING TO HOLD COUNTIES HARMLESS
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES LAWSUIT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, The State of Michigan, Department of Human Services was sued by Children's Rights regarding the care of children in foster care; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Human Services settled the case out-of-court without consent or consultation from Michigan's counties; and

WHEREAS, Michigan counties are the funding source for one-half of the costs of foster care and juvenile justice services in the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, The cost of the settlement agreement between the Department of Human Services and Children's Rights would require Michigan's counties to pay, without their consent, up to \$32,000,000 per year statewide in *calculable costs*, with additional county costs evident that are not able to be calculated; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's counties face staggering cuts to services across the board due to declining property tax base, state funding cuts to support mandated services, increasing responsibilities eliminated from the state government being forced to counties, and increasing state regulation; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alger County Board of Commissioners urges the legislature and the Governor to hold counties harmless from the increased County Child Care Fund expenses associated with the agreement reached between the Department of Human Services and Children's Rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to the Governor, Senator Prusi, Representative Lindberg, and the Michigan Association of Counties for their consideration and action.

ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF MAY, 2009

ATTEST:

Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes 6 Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen.
Nays 0 none. Absent 0 none.

It was moved by Commissioner Doucette and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize the chair to sign the following resolution #2009-08:

2009-08

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING JULY 12-18, 2009 AS
"ROAD RAGE AWARENESS WEEK"**

It is with urgency that we continue to persist on getting the message out that "Road Rage Kills" and Only We can prevent it. We must continue to educate our public through our billboards, brochures, literature as well as presentations to our high school and college students, driver education classes with seminars, conferences, forums, workshops, and by any means necessary.

WHEREAS, Reaching Out Against Road Rage, Inc. (R.O.A.R.R.), a non-profit (501c3 tax-exempt) organization located in Muskegon County, within the state of Michigan, has a mission, which consists of the three P's: **prevention** of Road Rage; **protection** and support of victims against Road Rage; and the **promotion** of life by saving lives.

WHEREAS, to achieve this mission R.O.A.R.R., Inc. is promoting awareness and education on the prevention of Road Rage; working in an effort to reduce the number of incidents; and advocate support and assistance to victims and their families in their recovery process.

WHEREAS, The National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration (NHTSA) defines Road Rage as "an assault with a motor vehicle or other dangerous weapon by the operator or passenger(s) of another motor vehicle or an assault precipitated by an incident that occurred on a roadway"

WHEREAS, a study done by the AAA Foundation indicates an average of at least 1,500 men, women, and children are injured or killed each year in the United States from the violent acts of Road Rage.

WHEREAS, R.O.A.R.R., Inc. understands that to solve a problem, we must first be aware of the problem. Road Rage is a growing problem in Michigan as well as in our country.

WHEREAS, R.O.A.R.R., Inc., recognize that drivers face roads wrought with death due in part to the rage in other drivers and themselves.

WHEREAS, we must stop the killing, injuries, and mental anguish; we must work together as a community; and reprogram the destructive attitudes and behaviors that cause Road Rage.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the organization R.O.A.R.R., Inc., Board of Directors, Kay Shabazz, President, and other individuals and organizations are partnered in a "Road Rage Awareness Campaign" to bring closure to the escalating Road Rage problem.

BE IT RESOLVED, that we urge support and collaboration to adopt the week of July 12-18, 2009 as "Road Rage Awareness Week".

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that July 12-18, 2009, be proclaimed as "Road Rage Awareness Week", thus promoting prevention of a dysfunctional act to improve traffic safety.

Dated: May 11, 2009

Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman
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.

On a motion by Commissioner VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to approve the following
resolution #2009-09:

RESOLUTION #2009-09

**A RESOLUTION HONORING THE OFFICER OF THE YEAR
FOR ALGER MAXIMUM CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
AND CAMP CUSINO**

GREGORY SCHRAM

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 District Commissioners commend and salute **GREGORY SCHRAM**, Officer of the Year for Alger Maximum Correctional Facility and Camp Cusino.

Dated: May 11, 2009

Alger County Board of Commissioners:

Catherine A. Pullen, Chairperson

Jerry Doucette, Commissioner

Esley M. Mattson, Vice-Chairman

Joseph VanLandschoot, Commissioner

Edward A. Lindstrom, Commissioner

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 VanLandschoot to authorize the chair to sign the following resolution #2009-10:

RESOLUTION #2009-10 IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION H (SJR-H)

WHEREAS, the Michigan Senate is considering Senate Joint Resolution H, (SRJ-H), a proposal to amend Article IX, Section 3 of the 1963 Constitution of the State of Michigan by requiring that, effective 2010, increases in the taxable value of real estate in the State of Michigan be restricted and/or held flat during periods of slow growth and/or a decline in assessed valuation. A copy of SJR-H is attached to this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, SJR-H was introduced by Senator John Pappageorge and is currently pending before the Finance Committee of the Michigan Senate; and

WHEREAS, the proposal to amend Article IX, Section 3 of the 1963 Constitution of the State of Michigan, if subsequently passed by the vote of the people, would cause substantial harm to the government Alger County, by resulting in an annual reduction of revenue and would cause similar substantial harm to other Michigan counties, townships, villages and cities across the State of Michigan forcing all local governments to reduce the delivery of vital public services to the residents of the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Alger County Board of Commissioners opposes the passage of SJR-H and other similar efforts that would impair the ability of counties and other local governments to deliver vital public services to the residents of the State of Michigan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Alger County Board of Commissioners opposes the passage of Senate Joint Resolution H (SJR-H), a proposal to amend Article IX, Section 3 of the 1963 Constitution of Michigan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That certified copies of this Resolution be sent to Governor Jennifer Granholm, Senator Mike Prusi, Representative Steve Lindberg, the Michigan Association of Counties and the other 82 Michigan counties.

May 11, 2009

Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman
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.

On a motion by Commissioner VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Doucette to authorize the chair to sign the following resolution #2009-11:

RESOLUTION #2009-11

RESTORE STATE REVENUE SHARING

WHEREAS, the counties of Michigan work on behalf of the State of Michigan to provide numerous state mandated services; and

WHEREAS, counties depend heavily upon state revenue sharing to provide numerous essential public health, safety and welfare services; and

WHEREAS, the residents of the State of Michigan and Alger county demand an efficient, professional level of public services; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 State Revenue Sharing payments were discontinued to counties, relieving the State Budget of \$183 million in annual state revenue sharing payments to counties, with the promise and agreement that these payments would be restored when each of the individual county's Revenue Sharing Reserve Fund were exhausted; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alger County Board of Commissioners does hereby support and urge the State of Michigan to fulfill its obligations and promises and fully and unconditionally restore State Revenue Sharing for all of Michigan's 83 counties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan Legislature for their review, Michigan Association of Counties, and the other 82 Michigan counties.

May 11, 2009

Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman
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 Doucette and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to authorize the chair to sign the following resolution #2009-12:

RESOLUTION #2009-12

WHEREAS, A package of twelve bills of great importance to Michigan citizens and Michigan workers have passed the House of Representatives and is under consideration by the Michigan Senate; and

WHEREAS, This package was developed by Representative Fred Miller and is entitled "Hire Michigan First" and its intent is that when companies benefit from taxpayer dollars in the form of contracts, tax breaks or other incentives, Michigan residents will have the first opportunity to be hired in these jobs; and

WHEREAS, The bills amend the various laws that provide economic incentives for new jobs, new companies and/or new construction to mandate that any one receiving state tax dollars to assist in their job development will have to hire Michigan workers before importing people from out of the state for the new jobs; and

WHEREAS, This requirement would apply to companies that get tax breaks in any form, as well as the contracting out of employment for construction or other services; and

WHEREAS, Exceptions are allowed only if Michigan residents are not available or trained for specific jobs, the hiring of illegal workers is banned; and

WHEREAS, The bills include strict reporting requirements so that the state can actually track the success of the Michigan hiring and there are strong penalties attached for anyone or any company that does not live up to the commitments made in the initial contract between the state and the company receiving the tax break; and

WHEREAS, It is important for the citizens of Michigan to know that they will come first for consideration of good-paying jobs generated by Michigan businesses;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alger County Board of Commissioners endorses the "Hire Michigan First" legislation and urges our legislators to support this important legislation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Granholm, Senator Prusi, Representative Lindberg, the Michigan Association of Counties and the other 82 Michigan counties.

May 11, 2009

Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman
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.

Commissioner Pullen talked about the Commission on Aging receiving an eviction notice this afternoon for July 10th from the Mather Building. She said they are looking at Central School and will find more out about it tomorrow. They are also looking at the old physical therapy building by the hospital.

Commissioner Doucette followed up on a discussion from last week regarding the conservation department receiving money through Michigan Works. He said they were told that there is no money for the conservation district north of Midland and Saginaw.

Commissioner Lindstrom talked about the Pathways meeting and that they are keeping things afloat. He said that there is a waiting list for those needing help.

Commissioner Pullen read correspondence.

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

On a motion by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Lindstrom 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