

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

**October 12, 2010**

**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 3:30 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 – none.

The board of commissioners said the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

It was the consensus of the board to approve the agenda deleting item 6 – Pat Suboski for the apportionment report.

Law library expenses were discussed. Judge Carmody said that per discussions and understandings reached at the judicial council meeting on October 4, 2010, Alger County's cost allocation to Schoolcraft County is \$168.05. The consensus of the board is to postpone paying this until further questions are answered.

Judicial compensation was next on the agenda. Judge Luoma gave the board a copy of District Court's Personnel Policies and Procedures. He also discussed his increases for employees. He introduced Nial Raaen, the new State Court Administrator. Mr. Raaen said the county has a responsibility to finance the court employees. Judge Nebel said this is an inequitable situation between union and non-union employees. Judge Luoma said that he wants the non-union and union employees to be treated equitably and that he submitted a proposal. He is asking for a way to equalize the employees and that nothing as been done in two years. It was also discussed that the budgets for the judges come from the state supreme court. Judge Luoma said that all he is asking for is that the court employees be treated fairly to the other county employees. He asked what does it take to get a decision on this. He wants a resolution of the issues. It was discussed to cut union dues from any of their increases. Mr. Raaen said he hopes the board finds a way to achieve being equitable. The judges are asking the board to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Alger County Board of Commissioners and Circuit Court, District Court, and Probate Court. Commissioner Pullen said part of going forward is the cost of an actuarial. Judge Luoma asked what they should tell their employees. Commissioner Pullen said the board would give them a 3% raise. Judge Luoma then asked them for a policy regarding employees. Judge Luoma said that he thinks Alger County needs a classification system and that he is also asking for a pay scale and benefits for employees. The board said they would give them their proposal when they are doing the budgets.

Board comments were next. There were none.

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

This meeting is now adjourned.

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Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman  
Alger County Board of Commissioners

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Mary Ann Froberg  
Alger County Clerk