

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

**October 8, 2009**

**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 3:15 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, public comment was closed.

It was the consensus of the Board to look at the minutes and make a motion at Monday's regular board meeting.

On a motion by Commissioner Lindstrom, seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to accept 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.

Teri Grout was present to request the board to execute two letters of support. The first letter of support is to the Alger Conservation District for its watershed projects, particularly the AuTrain Watershed Education and Planning Project. The other letter of support and in-kind match is to U.P.R.C. & D. on a U.P. wide proposal to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation which would fund the Conservation District's efforts to control invasive weeds and educate the public about the problems invasives create. She also wanted to invite everyone to the 50<sup>th</sup> Conservation District Dinner on November 4, 2009 in Chatham. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize the Chair to sign both letters of support for the Conservation District.

There is one bid for the Remonumentation program as the County Representative, which is Dustin Taylor from Peninsula Land Surveying. It was the consensus of the Board to appoint Dustin Taylor of Peninsula Land Surveying for the Remonumentation program for a three-year period being 2010, 2011, and 2012.

There are three bids for the Audit proposal. They are from Rehmann from Traverse City, Gabridge & Co. from Grand Rapids, and Anderson, Tackman, & Company, P.L.C., from Marquette. The Commissioners will receive copies of the audit proposals and make a decision at Monday's regular board meeting.

The county website was discussed. Commissioner Doucette's concern is the lack of information on the website for the upcoming election. He asked the board to put in some more information regarding the upcoming election. It was discussed that if any of the Commissioners have any more information they want to add to the website, they are to submit them to the chair for approval. There are two articles from the Munising News that are to be put on the website with the Munising News being properly credited. If there are to be any other articles, they are to be run by the Chair by October 15th. It was discussed that a suggestion query be on the website and to get it going as soon as possible. Commissioner Doucette wants it known that the girls and their staff have done an exceptional job on the website and getting it set-up.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve the following appropriation to LMAS District Health Department for their quarterly payment in the amount of \$3,000.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve the following appropriation to Pathways Community Mental Health for their quarterly payment in the amount of \$8,305.00

Commissioner Lindstrom left at 5:15 p.m.

It was discussed that board bills will be done following the Committee of the Whole meeting by the audit committee.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve to the financial reports for all funds. A full 30-page report is available upon request with the Treasurer.

It was the consensus of the Board to authorize the Treasurer to transfer \$2,250 from the Foreclosure Fund (517) to the General Fund (101) for payment of the Manatron invoices.

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the revenues in the Transfer in Foreclosure Fund account (101-000-446.000) in the amount of \$2,250.

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the revenues in reimbursements in the amount of \$3,701.12.

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the expenditures in the Treasurer's budget in Professional Services (101-253-801.000) in the amount of \$2,250.

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the expenditures increasing the Audit budget in the amount of \$50.06.

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the expenditures increasing the Jury Commission budget in the amount of \$182.33.

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the expenditures increasing the Federal Park Patrol budget in the amount of \$217.52.

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the expenditures decreasing the District Health budget in the amount of \$449.91.

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the expenditures in the Motor Pool budget in the amount of \$3,701.12.

Committee Reports were next. The Treasurer, Clerk and Commissioner Doucette went to Lansing for the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority conference. There was much discussion on the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority workshop. Commissioner Doucette said it was well worth the trip. He said that they sat with Flo McCormick of MAC (Michigan Association of Counties) and had a good discussion. He said the County can not do anything with the Lamms store at this point until we take ownership. Flo informed the group of a grant for assessment of properties throughout the county. It would be a \$400,000 grant being \$200,000 for petroleum contaminated sites and \$200,000 for hazardous substances sites. Once we are to get the grant monies, Flo would come up and do some training. Commissioner Pullen asked if the County did the assessment would there be the expectation that we would continue forward to remedy these sites. Commissioner Doucette said that once they are assessed the County would be making a list and prioritizing the properties. Pam said she would be starting a land bank for the County.

Commissioner Mattson said that there was a LMAS meeting and that the County might be interested in some space at the LMAS building. He said the Clerk is to get in touch with Bill Clark, the maintenance person with the LMAS building. He said that at the next building and grounds meeting, the committee is to go and take a look at the LMAS building and see where the space is. He also said that \$76,500 is the contribution for LMAS in the 2010 budget.

Commissioner Doucette said he went to the energy conference and the theme there is cost is going to escalate. He discussed the conference and to take note of the Governor's decision to put a ban on new construction of the coal fire generation. He said that you are never going to be able to keep up with the generation needs with wind power, hydro-electric power and solar. He said it's just not there. He said the only other way is to build large generation stations being fired with natural gas. He said that the natural gas cost could be driven sky-high because of this decision.

Correspondence was read and discussed and will be placed in the file. Particularly, there is a letter from Brock Robinson concerning a yurt and Joe Cilc, the Building Codes Administrator, and that Brock has reached an impasse regarding yurts and building codes. Joe Cilc was at the meeting and talked about what the problems are. The consensus of the Board is to have Commissioner Pullen write a letter in response to Brock Robinson's letter stating that Joe Cilc is doing his job as the Building Codes Administrator.

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

It was moved by Commissioner VanLandschoot, seconded by Commissioner Mattson to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes 6 Commissioners Doucette, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays 0 none. Absent 0 Commissioner Lindstrom.

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Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman  
Alger County Board of Commissioners

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Mary Ann Froberg  
Alger County Clerk