

ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

September 10, 2009

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, and Pullen. Absent – Commissioner VanLandschoot.

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.

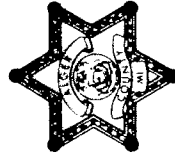
On a motion by Commissioner Doucette, seconded by Commissioner Lindstrom to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, and Pullen. Nays – none. Absent – Commissioner VanLandschoot.

Commissioner VanLandschoot arrived at 3:22 p.m.

Pat Suboski, Equalization Director, explained the county millage language for the November election. Back in 1984, Alger County had an allocation board and the people voted to fix the county allocation at 6.15 mills, the township allocation at 1.0000 mills, the ISD allocation at .2350 mills for a total of 7.3850 mills. In 1994 that changed and it reduced the school operating portion from the 15 mills and it froze the millage that was left available. Then there is the headlee rollback constitutional amendment which passed back in 1978 limiting the growth of taxation excluding new construction to the rate of inflation. The millage rate is rolled back per year if the rate of inflation is lower than the actual growth of property values. From 1984 to 1990 the county levied 6.15 mills. Then the headlee rollback started kicking in and it reduced in 1991 from 6.15 down to 6.09, and each year that millage has been going down. The current county millage is currently at 5.0781. He said if the millage is passes, a portion of the .5 mill would retain the millage at 5.0781. Pat also said it took 10 years for the millage to be reduced about 8/10 of a mill. He said it would take about 10 years before that .5 mill would kick in. Commissioner Doucette asked Pat to go over a list with him before putting it on the website.

Becky Wilder presented the Board with the EMPG (Emergency Management Performance Grant) for FY 2010 in the amount of \$21,244. The State's share is \$7,806 with a balance of \$13,438 left for the County to pay. It is the consensus of the Board to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the grant and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division, Michigan Department of State Police (Representing the State of Michigan), the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and Alger County.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve purchasing a new patrol car for the Sheriff's Department replacing the damaged vehicle that was hit by a deer. The State bid price for a 2010 Ford Explorer (via Macomb County) is \$21,459.00. See the following correspondence:



Under Sheriff
Robert Hughes

September 9, 2009

Alger County Board of Commissioners
Munising MI. 49839

Dear Board Members,



State of Michigan
COUNTY OF ALGER
101 E. Varnum Street, Suite B
Munising, Michigan 49862

David M. Cromell
Sheriff

Phone [906] 387-4444
Fax [906] 387-5278

We would like to report a recent collision involving one of our patrol cars and a deer in August of 2009. As a result of this collision we are requesting action to purchase a new vehicle for the Alger County Sheriff Department to replace the damaged vehicle. The rationale of replacing the vehicle rather than repairing the vehicle is as follows:

- The Kelley blue book price value of this car is \$3,745
- The estimate for repairs at this time is \$3,439
- Of the repair bill we would have to pay \$1,000 Deductible
- The vehicle is 8 years old and has 135,000 miles on it.
- The age and mileage of this vehicle leads to more extensive repair bills.

We would propose the following:

- Increase the 2009 motor pool fund by \$4,663.87 in the categories of \$1,000.00 for Gasoline and \$3,663.87 for Vehicle maintenance. This is money recently received in various grants and transferred to the Motor pool by way of a Treasurers Journal Entry.
- Maintain the 2010 and 2011 motor pool budget at its current level that would allow for the necessary lease payments of our Dodge Charger and a new purchase.
- Purchase by way of a 2-year Municipal Lease a 2010 Ford Explorer with funding as follows:

State bid Price (via MaComb County) of a 2010 Ford Explorer	\$21,459.00
Down payment of \$12,679.81 in 2009 from the following revenue sources:	
• Utilize Money From Fiscal 2009-2010 416 Road Patrol for vehicle -	3,500.00
• Money From Insurance Company for wrecked vehicle	\$ 2,439.90
• Equipment (Vehicle) Money currently in Motor pool Budget	\$ 5,739.91
• Ambulance/Rescue vehicle usage (Snowmobile/ORV pulling)	\$ 1,000.00

Remainder of vehicle to be paid in 2010 and 2011 with annual payments of \$5083.71 to the Ford Motor Municipal Lease Program (see attached).

Sincerely,

Sheriff Cromell
Undersheriff Hughes

It was the consensus of the Board to approve payment to Burt Township for their ambulance corps in the amount of \$23,927.85. This is the balance from their 2008 ambulance millage money. It was clarified that \$7,000 of the \$35,927.85 is supposed to be put in their trust and agency for purchasing a new ambulance and the remaining goes for their operating expense. The total amount of their ambulance millage for 2008 is \$35,927.85.

It was the consensus of the Board to appoint Kay Powers from Grand Marais as the Democratic nominee to serve a four year term on the Alger County Board of Canvassers.

It was the consensus of the Board to reappoint Betty Hall as the Republican nominee to serve a four year term on the Alger County Board of Canvassers.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve Dr. Christine Krueger, M.D. to attend a Medical Examiner's Conference in Mount Pleasant October 22 – 26, 2009 in the amount of \$1,169.45.

It was the consensus of the Board to authorize and approve Commissioner Doucette, Pam Johnson, and Mary Ann Froberg to attend a Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Conference in Lansing September 29, 2009.

It was the consensus of the Board to authorize Commissioner Lindstrom to attend the UPACC (U.P. Association of County Commissioners) Fall Conference at Bay Mills October 2nd and 3rd. The county only has to pay a registration fee. The county website was discussed. Commissioner Doucette and the Clerk will get together to discuss adding the millage information. There will be a link for the minutes to be added.

It was discussed that board bills will be done on Friday, September 11, 2009 at 8:00 am 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 the following funds: Foreclosure Fund (517) to General Fund - \$4,000 (Transfer in Foreclosure 101-000-446.000); Homestead Property Tax Fund (255) to General Fund - \$2,000 (Transfer in Hmtd Tax – 101-000-444.000); Wireless 911 Fund (265) to General Fund - \$36,000 (Transfer in Wireless 911 - 101-000-444.100)

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the revenues in reimbursements in the amount of \$1,020.09.

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the expenditures in the Sheriff's Department budget under payroll in the amount of \$1,020.09.

There was discussion on the invoice for \$500 from the Alger County Conservation District that was approved at last month's meeting. Monies are to come from the Board of Commissioners account.

Commissioner Pullen went to the three-county meeting (Alger, Luce, and Schoolcraft) on July 26th and said it went very well. They talked about Bob Seid and that Schoolcraft County said that they were not going to approve merging his retirement. Alger County is going to have Bob retire from Alger County. She also discussed indirect charges (cost of writing checks, taking in funds, keeping track of grants, etc.) and what Alger County can collect for doing these things. The Treasurer and the Clerk are supposed to research this. She also talked about charging mileage for the Board of Commissioners meetings and Commissioner Pullen is to check with MAC (Michigan Association of Counties) about this issue. There was discussion on the jail and about Camp Cusino. She said Leelanau County moved their jail out of the county seat. There were numerous other discussions from the three-county meeting. The next three-county meeting is set for November 11, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. in Luce County.

Commissioner Doucette discussed the Brownfield meeting that was held.

Correspondence was discussed and will be placed in the file.

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

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

Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Froberg
Alger County Clerk