

**ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

September 8, 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 4:30 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, the public comment session was closed.

It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Doucette to approve the agenda s presented. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays – none. Absent – none.

There was much discussion on the 2011 budget. Commissioner Mattson stated that we had fallen 5% short of our projected revenues last year for an approximate total of \$172,000.00. He believes that if our shortfall is similar this year that we will again, fall roughly \$172,000.00 shy of what had been budgeted. Commissioner Mattson went on to say that initially the Treasurer believed that she would come in under budget, but due to the payment of some larger bills in the month of December this was not the case. Another additional \$18,000.00 would have to be added in to the overall shortage. At this point it was anticipated that we are \$57,000.00 over on expenses, and \$172,000.00 short on revenue for a total of \$229,000.00. This figure is without talking to any of the other departments. The jail is expected to come in at approximately \$110,000.00 over budget. Due to the additional \$35,000.00 in PILT money and assorted other additions; the Treasurer does not feel that we will be 5% short of our projected revenues this year. Discussions took place on investment income, Probate Court Judges salary, F.O.C. projected revenues, auditor entries, etc. After refiguring the revenues, it was decided that we would be short by approximately \$43,000.00 instead of the initial figure of \$172,000.00. The current expenditures were examined and refigured as well. The new estimated amount for the expenditures overage was \$68,000.00 making our overall shortage at present just a little over \$111,000.00. Other potential costs for the 2010 budget year could be \$86,000.00 for a law suit to Marquette General Hospital and air conditioning / heating repair costs. Grants will be researched in 2011 to hopefully pay for repairs and or replacement of the generator. The final estimated overage for expenditures at this time is \$196,000.00. This includes the \$86,000.00 lawsuit.

Commissioner Mattson left at 5:20 p.m.

Sheriff Cromell stated that Alger County pays Pathways in excess of \$30,000.00 per year. He believes that this “contract” should be re-visited. It is yet to be determined whether this is a payment that has to be made or merely should be made. Discussion took place on cost allocation and the collection of administrative fees. MGT, who has been contracted by the county for our cost allocation plan, has reinforced the fact that we cannot pick and choose which funds to charge administrative fees to; we would have to either charge all of the funds or none of them. Information needs to be gathered on certain funds that are maintained by grants to see if they have administrative fees included in them. The clerk informed everyone that MGT was going to be here next month to go over the cost allocation plan. It was moved by Commissioner VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Lindstrom to postpone the vote on collecting administrative fees until the October meeting. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Doucette, Lindstrom, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Nays – none. Absent – Commissioner Mattson.

Commissioner Mattson arrived at 6:02 p.m.

Public comment session was open. Sheriff Cromell announced his retirement effective next month. As his term ends at the end of 2012, Commissioner VanLandschoot asked if there were any provisions to fill this vacancy until the next election. Sheriff Cromell stated that, by statute, the Clerk, the Probate Judge, and the Prosecuting Attorney would appoint someone to fill out the term. The Prosecuting Attorney is rechecking the statute as to procedure, and advertising the position to the general public. The Clerk stated that this would definitely change the figures in the existing 2010 budget, i.e., retirement payoff, and a salary change at the Sheriff's level. There was no additional public comment; thus, the public comment session was closed.

There was a motion by Commissioner VanLandschoot, seconded by Commissioner Doucette 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