

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

May 9, 2011

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 4:00 p.m. on the above date.

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Pullen with the following Commissioners present: Commissioners Doucette, Mattson, VanLandschoot, and Pullen. Absent – Commissioner Rondeau.

The board of commissioners said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comment session was open. Murray Donnelly was present to ask about the airport standing. As May 15th will be here soon, he inquired about the need to put the lights out, rolling the runway, and who would be responsible for getting it done. Commissioner VanLandschoot stated that it should be a go as far as Dick Bowerman being the new airport manager. He added that he would call him and get back with Murray. There was no other 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.

It was the consensus of the board to accept the agenda as presented.

Nick Derusha, the LMAS Director, was available to make a presentation. He provided a copy of the 2010 annual report and went through it with the Board. He touched on staff, revenues, expenses, emergency preparedness, accreditation, vaccinations, and environmental health.

Commissioner Rondeau arrived at 4:15 p.m.

Nick continued his presentation speaking on subjects such as Great Lakes recreation, statistics, and personal family health programs. He finished his presentation by saying that their Board has put together a committee to look at, and report on such things as how appropriations are set up, how the Board of Health is made up, and how assets are divided. After the Board approves this committee report, it will be presented to the Alger County Board of Commissioners.

The Honeywell Resolution and Notice of Intent were discussed next. Commissioner Doucette stated that Dick Williams had informed him that there is a forty-five day waiting period on this, and that if we could show some type of intent it would expedite the process. He also added that if we wait until next month to address this that the process and the forty-five day waiting period would start all over again. Commissioner Pullen stated that if there was a consensus at this meeting we could probably get the Notice of Intent into this week's newspaper. She then asked for a short recess to make a telephone call to the newspaper. Commissioner Pullen re-entered and announced that the Notice of Intent could be published in this week's edition if the newspaper received a copy of it this evening. Commissioner Pullen then asked exactly what Honeywell would need. Commissioner Doucette stated that all they would need was Alger County's intent to sign the Resolution. It was the consensus of the Board to sign the Resolution, and have the Notice of Intent be published in this week's newspaper.

Old business was next. Commissioner Pullen asked if the administration bills had gone out yet. Pam said that she had an appointment with Anderson/Tackman for guidance on how to correctly set up the billings. She added that the Clerk's office would send out the billings and the Treasurer's office would make the journal entries.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve the second quarterly payment to Pathways in the amount of \$8,305.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve the Convention Facility tax payment to Northcare in the amount of \$8,644.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve payment of all of the board bills as recommended by the audit committee.

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

Under miscellaneous financial matters Commissioner Pullen inquired about 2010 fund balances. Pam stated that per the auditors, nothing should be posted back to the prior year after the first 60 days of the new year had elapsed. She also added that any fund balances at that time would be zeroed out and put into the general fund. Also under miscellaneous was a proposal to purchase five new dispatch chairs at a price of \$3,715.40. Four of the chairs would be purchased from the 911 fund, and the fifth chair would be purchased from the ambulance fund. Undersheriff Grahovac stated that these chairs were used 24 /7 and the inexpensive chairs that they had been purchasing are just not holding up and forever being replaced. Commissioner Mattson added that these new chairs would come with a 12-year warrantee. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize the purchase of the chairs. Undersheriff Grahovac will get all of the pertinent information to the Clerk prior to the regular board meeting. The last thing under miscellaneous financial was the bidding process for a new ambulance.

Undersheriff Grahovac asked if Board action was necessary to initiate the bidding process. He also stated that discussion from the law enforcement meeting revolved around the desire to have bids in by June 13th so as to discuss them at the next Committee of the Whole meeting. Commissioner Pullen citing Board policy stated that anything with an estimated cost of \$1,000 or more shall be placed out on bids. In conclusion, she said that the Sheriff could put out bids for an ambulance and that the Board could ultimately vote to accept or reject them.

There were no new resolutions.

Committee reports were next. Commissioner Doucette gave a report on the UPACC conference that was attended by himself and Commissioner Mattson. He stated that there had been a heated discussion regarding unfunded state mandates, and the possibility of resulting court action & proceedings if nothing is done. He also touched on other topics such as revenues, and the redistricting system. Commissioner Mattson said that there was also much discussion regarding the State Court of Justice, and that court employees should be paid by the state. He added that there were discussions regarding revenue sharing and insurance costs as well. Commissioner Mattson finished by saying that they had voted to add two candidates to the MACC Board and announced that Commissioner Doucette was one of them. Board congratulations went out to Commissioner Doucette. Commissioner VanLandschoot gave a brief report from the MCSSA reiterating the struggle with unfunded state mandates. Commissioner Pullen attended the Six-County Employment Alliance where it was discussed to possibly do some meetings by video conference in an attempt to save money. Commissioner Mattson had attended the law enforcement meeting. They had met with Doug Miron and Bob Lindbeck to discuss the possibility of shared services with the Road Commission. The Emergency Management position was also discussed as well as the walk through of Camp Cusino on May 20th. Commissioner Mattson also attended the building and grounds meeting. He stated that Murray and the Sheriff had given a presentation on putting on an addition to the ambulance garage so there would be adequate room to store boats, etc. Commissioner Doucette reported that UPCAP is looking at an 18 % reduction in services next year.

Correspondence was read and will be placed in the file.

Board comments were next. Commissioner VanLandschoot said that Teri Grout from the Conservation District had 15 to 20 crab apple trees that they would donate to the County if we wanted them. Commissioner Doucette announced that Frank Mead's wife had just passed away. Commissioner Doucette also stated that he would like to revisit NACO's countywide drug program. Commissioner Pullen questioned whether the inmate count at Alger Max was taken into account with the county's appropriation to LMAS. Commissioner Mattson stated that they were looking into that now, and would get back to the Board as soon as there was clarification.

Public comment session was open. Undersheriff Grahovac thanked Commissioners Doucette, Mattson, and Rondeau for their time and efforts in getting the snowmobile trail on 94 to go through. There was no other public comment from the floor; thus, the public comment session was closed.

This meeting is now adjourned.

Catherine A. Pullen, Chairwoman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Froberg
Alger County Clerk