

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

**September 12, 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, Rondeau, 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, the public comment session was closed.

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

Terry McLaren discussed the annual child care budget. He said the balance of this year's budget is \$33,000. He also said that next year should not be as expensive. The child care fund expenditure for the 2012 budget is \$273,890 including the juvenile justice services fund basic grant of \$15,000. It was the consensus of the board to authorize the chair to sign the annual child care budget for probate court.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to advertise for a new three year contract for snow removal. The bids are to be back by the Committee of the Whole meeting of October 10, 2011.

There was more discussion on the service contract for the SPS Service Agreement for the Avaya phones. Commissioner Doucette is to ask Murray Donnelly more questions regarding the agreement.

It was the consensus of the board to appoint Karen Gamelin as the Democratic Representative to the Board of County Canvassers.

It was the consensus of the board to appoint Rita Hale as the Republican Representative to the Board of County Canvassers.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the chair to sign the 2009 and 2010 Homeland Security Grant Program Interlocal Funding Agreements between Houghton County and Alger County.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize Commissioners Doucette, Mattson, and Rondeau to attend the UPACC Fall Conference in Harris September 30 ó October 1, 2011.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the sheriff to purchase three manikins for ambulance training in the amount of \$2,193.73. The monies are to come from the ambulance fund (210-000-957.000).

Old business was next. Commissioner Doucette said that Anderson, Tackman wanted the county to change the way we do our billing process. He asked the sheriff regarding the billing process for the department. The sheriff said that he will talk to Tony Grahovac about it. Commissioner Rondeau asked if there was a written opinion from the attorney regarding Honeywell. It was discussed that there was not a written opinion and that this had been discussed at a prior board meeting.

There were no appropriations.

It was the consensus of the board to approve payment of all of the amended 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.

It was the consensus of the board to amend the revenues in the County Property Tax Admin Fee (101-000-403.050) in the amount of \$250.

It was the consensus of the board to amend the expenditures in the Audit budget in the amount of \$250.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

There were no resolutions.

Committee reports were next. Commissioner VanLandschoot discussed the passing of Joe Priante, the Housing Director with AMCAB, and some of the housing in Grand Marais. He will call Earl Hawn to ask him what is going to happen. Commissioner Pullen discussed the purchase of a new computer for emergency management. Commissioner Doucette discussed the progress of Honeywell and he discussed the power outage that the county had today. He said that the emergency generator did kick in and ran for 45 minutes and then quit. Apparently there was no oil in the unit. Murray will be contacting the contractor and talk to them about it and that we should not have to pay the last bill for the

maintenance service. He also said that he authorized Murray to go and purchase water and hand sanitizer for the county when the city had the boil water advisory. It was discussed that there should be a better way for the city to contact the public in the city when this happens.

Correspondence was read and will be placed in the file.

Board comments were next. Commissioner Pullen discussed the county dashboard that the treasurer had done. She asked the commissioners to take a look at it. She said that the treasurer did a wonderful job on it. Commissioner Doucette discussed that Honeywell gave the county two sets of Packer/Lion tickets for the Thanksgiving Day game. He would like to put the employees names in a hat and pull two names. All expenses are to be paid by the employee. The county will not pay any traveling expenses. There was discussion on four new unions, insurance costs, budgets and starting the negotiating process of the courthouse union. Commissioner Pullen said that she did not want to start negotiating yet because of the state's uncertainty and what they are doing. There is to be a special board meeting to discuss the unions on Monday, October 3, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. Commissioner Doucette discussed updating the website. It was also discussed that the county's NACo health cards will be starting October 1, 2011.

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