

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

**January 14, 2013**

**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 Chairman Doucette with the following Commissioners present: Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. 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 amended to add use of the county attorney under old business. The amended agenda was presented.

Dave Bowerman was present to discuss the new insurance. He was questioning the insurance that was provided to him. He said that on May 16, 2001 when he retired the county said that they would provide his insurance free of cost. He said that at that time he paid nothing. He said now this year he was told he is responsible for \$500 on his deductible, \$150 on emergency calls, \$30 to see the doctor, and \$10/\$40/\$80 for prescriptions. Dave said that when he retired in good faith that the county was going to provide this coverage for him. He said that for some reason, because of budgets or whatever, they decided not to do that. He wants to know who represented him in this whole deal, who is his representative? No board member could answer. Commissioner Pullen stated that the county would pay 100% of the single subscriber premium. She said that is still being done, however, there is no guarantee as to anything else. She said that the current policy that has been accepted by the union, which has been accepted by other employees, including Bunny Malone and she had more significant changes than Dave. It was discussed when Dave turns 65, there may very well be another change. Commissioner Pullen said that he has a Memorandum of Agreement and his insurance premium is paid. She said that nothing is said about co-pays and deductibles or prescriptions. She said that there is no guarantee that what he had when he retired would be continued. He discussed the law that the President had passed. Active employees were discussed. He said that he is on a fixed income and wants to know how he is going to pay for these differences. Commissioner VanLandschoot said that things change and nothing remains the same, especially in the insurance programs as far as what is covered and what is not covered. Dave also discussed Bunny Malone. Commissioner Pullen said they would not discuss Bunny Malone and that if Bunny Malone has a problem, she should be here. She said that they worked hard to try and get a decent coverage for retirees, for people who needed supplemental insurance. Commissioner Pullen said that the insurance committee worked hard and so did Ron Pierce. Negotiating benefits in contracts were discussed. Dave said that he doesn't think that it is right that money is coming out of his pocket. Dave said that he has talked with the union representative and that he doesn't even know if he represents Dave. He said that he would like to know and come up with an answer of who represents him because it looks like he is the only one representing him at this point. There was discussion on this issue. He said he is not dropping it at this point. He said that the labor representative is looking at if he can represent Dave as a retiree. He said that he feels that he does not feel represented and is not happy with it and has no recourse at this point, but he will be checking into it.

Steve Webber was present to ask the board to be able to purchase more GPSs due to some monies that weren't spent through Region 8. He said that they were able to allocate those monies to the counties. He discussed how it worked at getting the monies. He said that this is covered 100% and there is no cost to the county, the money is there but he needs to allocate that money and would like to purchase eight more GPSs at \$265 each through Putvins. Steve will bring more information to the regular board meeting. It was the consensus to authorize Steve to purchase eight more GPSs.

The Sheriff's Department Union contract proposal was discussed. Commissioner Doucette said that he thinks it is a fair contract and recommends approval of the contract. There was a tentative consensus for the approval of the Sheriff's Department Union contract. The undersheriff thanked everyone for sitting down to negotiate and that they did an outstanding job at negotiating.

Ted Woodaz was present and discussed replacing a cutting tool on the Jaws of Life. He said that they found out with an accident in December that the newer cars coming out, they could not cut through the vehicle right. It was discussed that there were no grants available for this. It was the consensus of the board to authorize the sheriff to purchase the TNT Rescue BFC-320 Brute Force Cutter in the amount of \$4,500 from Fire-Rescue Supply, LLC. The monies are to come from the ambulance budget rescue supplies line item.

It was the consensus of the board to reappoint JoAnn Carlson to the Land Bank Authority for a three-year term ending 12/31/2015.

It was the consensus of the board to reappoint Esley Mattson, Teri Grout, and Phil Hansen to the Alger County Brownfield Authority for a three-year term ending 12/31/2015.

The appointment to the DHS (Department of Human Services) Board was discussed. There were no other applicants. It was the consensus of the board to appoint Paulette Kivel to the DHS Board for a three-year term ending 12/31/2015.

It was the consensus of the board to appoint Jerry Doucette to the UPCAP Board of Directors for a two-year term.

The renewal of the Lakeshore Energy Services contract was discussed. There is to be a \$100 plus savings to renew the contract. It was the consensus of the board to approve the Lakeshore Energy Services contract for a two-year term.

It was the consensus of the board to approve the following 2013 Committee List:

**2013 COMMITTEE LIST**

**AIRPORT**

\*Cathy Pullen, Mickey Rondeau

**ALGER COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING**

\*Cathy Pullen, Mickey Rondeau

**ALGER COUNTY FAIR BOARD**

\*Mickey Rondeau

Alternate: Jerry Doucette

**ALTRAN**

\*Cathy Pullen

Alternate: Mickey Rondeau

**AMBULANCE, LAW ENFORCEMENT, EMERGENCY SERVICES/911/HAZ. WASTE, COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**

\*Jerry Doucette, Esley Mattson, Bob Hughes

Alternate: Cathy Pullen

**AMCAB\*\***

\*Joseph VanLandschoot

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

\*Alternating, Mary Ann Froberg

**BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

\*Esley Mattson, Jerry Doucette, Pam Johnson, and Mary Ann Froberg

**BUDGET**

\*Esley Mattson, Joseph VanLandschoot, Mary Ann Froberg, Pam Johnson

**BUILDING & GROUNDS**

\*Esley Mattson, Jerry Doucette, Mary Ann Froberg (See Addendum 406 of the Board Policy)

**BUILDING CODES**

\*Mickey Rondeau, Cathy Pullen

**COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY**

\*Jerry Doucette

**COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION (HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES & PARKS)**

\*Mickey Rondeau

Alternate: Jerry Doucette

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS)**

\*Joseph VanLandschoot

**EXTENSION, CONSERVATION, WATERSHED STEERING, RECREATION, RESOURCE & DEVELOPMENT**

\*Mickey Rondeau

**EQUALIZATION**

\*Equalization Director, Cathy Pullen (Designated Commissioner who will meet twice a year to make sure state mandates are being met)

**EXECUTIVE / FINANCE / TAXATION**

Esley Mattson, Jerry Doucette, Mary Ann Froberg, Pam Johnson

**HEALTH & WELFARE (LMAS)**

\*Joseph VanLandschoot, Esley Mattson Alternate: Jerry Doucette

**HUMAN RESOURCES / PUBLIC & LABOR RELATIONS**

\*Esley Mattson, Jerry Doucette, Mary Ann Froberg

**INDUSTRIAL PARK COMMISSION/ SOLID WASTE LANDFILL/ MUNISING LANDFILL**

\*Joseph VanLandschoot Alternate: Esley Mattson

**JUDICIAL COMMITTEE**

\*Esley Mattson, Joseph VanLandschoot

**LAND BANK**

\*Jerry Doucette, Pam Johnson

**PATHWAYS**

\*Cathy Pullen

**PRISON LIAISON**

\*Jerry Doucette Alternate: Esley Mattson

**REGIONAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

\*Esley Mattson, Jerry Doucette

**RESOLUTIONS**

\*Cathy Pullen, Mickey Rondeau

**RETIREE / ELECTED OFFICIALS / NON-REPRESENTED INSURANCE COMMITTEE**

\*Cathy Pullen, Mickey Rondeau

**SIX COUNTY CONSORTIUM / CUPPAD**

\*Esley Mattson, Jerry Doucette Alternate: Cathy Pullen

**UPCAP/U.P. AREA AGING AGENCY ADVISORY BOARD\*\***

\*Jerry Doucette

**U.P. FAIR BOARD**

\*Mickey Rondeau Alternate: Jerry Doucette

\*\*County can make recommendations ó not appointments to these boards.

Commissioner VanLandschoot wanted it noted that he is a citizen at large on the UPCAP Advisory Board.

It was the consensus of the board to approve the board policy.

Old business was next. Commissioner Pullen said that it was brought to her attention of hiring Attorney Burkhart for negotiations. She thinks they need to consider a phrase in board policy authorizing the chair to contact an attorney at will for legal opinions as needed. She thinks that they need to broaden the base regarding contacting an attorney and should make a decision next week. She said that to amend the board policy the prosecutor, the treasurer, and the clerk have to look at it first. Commissioner Pullen is to put something together and get it to the clerk by Wednesday.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment to LMAS for their first quarterly appropriation for January through March 2013 in the amount of \$20,745 (101-601-969.000).

There was discussion on the board bills. There was a bill to Northern Motors in the amount of \$1,036 for the building department. Commissioner Doucette wanted to know why Joe Cilc has a vehicle. Commissioner Pullen said that the building department purchased it with their funds and it was within their budget at that time. Commissioner Doucette also asked how many miles he puts on the vehicle. Paying mileage was discussed. Commissioner Doucette said that they have to start looking at this. It was discussed that he had not gotten board approval before expending the monies, as in board policy. Commissioner Doucette said that he will talk with Joe. A bill for the EMS computer in the amount of \$645 was discussed. It should have been brought before the finance committee. There were two bills for a lavatory at the jail discussed. The total of those two bills were approximately \$3,000. The undersheriff thinks he has a credit of \$1,200 from that company. The undersheriff said that Murray will touch base regarding those bills. 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.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the treasurer to transfer all 2013 general fund appropriations into the individual funds as follows:

**Transfer all 2013 General Fund appropriations into individual Funds:**

Circuit Ct. Prob. Oversight -	\$ 2,000.00
Co. Law Library -	\$ 14,000.00
Emergency Management -	\$ 18,389.00
Probate Child Care -	\$ 40,000.00
Sheriff's Secondary Rd -	\$ 14,000.00
Snowmobile Law Enforc. -	\$ 1,100.00
Marine Safety Grant -	\$ 2,500.00
ORV Fund -	\$ 900.00
F.I.A. -	\$ 10,000.00
Capitol Improvement	<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$112,889.00</b>

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to transfer the expenditures between the 2012 budgets as follows:

Transfer the following amounts in the 2012 budgets:

- \*\$10,000 from the Jail budget into the Circuit Court budget
- \*\$1,500 from the Board of Commissioner's budget into the Circuit Court budget
- \*\$1,500 from the Audit budget into the Circuit Court budget
- \*\$3,737.92 from the Medical Examiner's budget into the Circuit Court budget
- \*\$1,500 from the Substance Abuse budget into the Circuit Court budget
- \*\$385.64 from the Advertising budget into the Circuit Court budget
- \*\$2,700 from the Probate Court budget into the Attorneys/Consultants budget
- \*\$1,441.40 from the Equalization budget into the Attorneys/Consultants budget
- \*\$188.74 from the Jury Commission budget into the District Court budget
- \*\$512.16 from the County Clerk budget into the County Juvenile Officer's budget
- \*\$1,536.19 from the Treasurer's budget into the Prosecuting Attorney's budget
- \*\$108.98 from the Advertising budget into the Service Contracts budget
- \*\$3,805.72 from the Treasurer's budget into the Building & Grounds budget
- \*\$874.75 from the Motor Pool budget into the Building & Grounds budget
- \*\$1,522.93 from the Computers budget into the Duplicating budget
- \*\$1,200 from the Computers budget into the Postage Account budget
- \*\$324 from the Elections budget into the Postage Account
- \*\$3,431 from the USDA Payment budget into the Sheriff's Department budget
- \*\$600 from the Animal Shelter budget into the Sheriff's Department budget
- \*\$649.47 from the Jail budget into the Sheriff's Department budget
- \*\$2.45 from the District Health Dept. budget into the Airport budget
- \*\$306 from the Jury Commission budget into the Employee Fringe Benefits budget
- \*\$102 from the Fair Board budget into the Employee Fringe Benefits budget
- \*\$100 from the Contagious Diseases budget into the Employee Fringe Benefits budget
- \*\$500.16 from the County Clerk's budget into the Employee Fringe Benefits budget
- \*\$500 from the Medical Examiner budget into the Employee Fringe Benefits budget
- \*\$1,313.77 from the Substance Abuse budget into the County Law Library budget
- \*\$574.21 from the Substance Abuse budget into the Building Codes budget

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the treasurer to transfer \$1,313.77 from the general fund law library into the law library fund #269.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the treasurer to transfer \$574.21 from the general fund building codes into the building department fund #249.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

It was the consensus of the board to approve the following #2013-01 resolution:

**RESOLUTION #2013-01**

**WHEREAS**, it has come to the attention of the Alger County Treasurer that in 2013 the Alger County Board of Commissioners authorized the County Treasurer to collect the Limestone Township summer tax collection.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alger County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Treasurer to collect a 1% administration fee, as authorized by MCL a211.44.

Dated: January 21, 2013

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Jerry Doucette, Chairman  
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Committee reports were next. Commissioner Pullen discussed the airport and the Commission on Aging and the collection for cost allocation. Commissioner Rondeau discussed the Conservation District meeting and said that he is amazed at how much work they get done by grants. Commissioner Mattson discussed the finance and executive committee meetings and that the 2012 budget looks ugly. He said that they will have to jump on the 2013 budget early. Commissioner VanLandschoot discussed meeting with AMCAB and that he should have information for them next week or next month. He also discussed speaking with Tom Moseley about the LMAS building regarding an energy audit. It was discussed that it should be brought up to the LMAS Board because it is not a county building. Commissioner Doucette discussed the tentative agreement with the sheriff's union and that they are working with the courthouse union. He said that he will be attending the MAC (Michigan Association of Counties) conference.

Correspondence was read, discussed, and will be filed.

Board comments were next. Commissioner Rondeau discussed listening to FOX News and the mandates that are coming out in Obamacare and that the insurance premiums are to be raised 50% in the next year. He also commended Commissioner Pullen for being on the Pathways Board. Commissioner Mattson wanted to make a comment regarding the insurance committee and who makes up that committee and what the long range goal was. He said that it was to come up with the best plan for everyone. He commended the committee on the job that was done. Commissioner VanLandschoot discussed the appointment to the DHS (Department of Human Services) Board and about asking her to attend the next DHS Board meeting.

Staff comments were next. The undersheriff wanted the board to know about a person who might be at the next board meeting that has been arrested 11 times since 2007 and owes the county \$5,348.46. He was missing boots and a jacket when he was released. They didn't know if he had them when he was arrested. It was discussed that the sheriff told him to go buy a pair of boots and a coat and it will be taken off of his bill. The board asked the undersheriff to see if there was a tape when he was arrested and to look at that tape to see if he had boots and a coat. Steve Webber handed the board a request for the GPS bids. He said that they have \$2,162 from the grant and that the costs of the GPSs were \$2,120. He also wanted to express a thank you to Commissioner Mattson and Commissioner Doucette with their negotiations.

Public comment session was open. Dave Bowerman wanted to thank the board for listening to him and wants the board to get back to him with who represents him. He feels that they did not keep up to their agreement when he retired. He said that he wanted them to know that he is going to pursue this further. The board discussed having a retiree on the insurance committee and didn't know if it was appropriate. There was discussion on when Dave retired and that it was a Memorandum of Agreement with the union contract and maybe the union is who would represent those retirees. There was no other public comment; thus, the public comment session was closed.

This meeting is now adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

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Jerry Doucette, Chairman  
Alger County Board of Commissioners

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Mary Ann Froberg  
Alger County Clerk