

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

September 9, 2013

Minutes are subject to correction 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, and Doucette. Absent ó 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, 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.

Amy Lerlie, Housing Director for AMCAB (Alger Marquette Community Action Board), gave a presentation for the Alger County CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) and the work that is being done. She said they are the administrator for this grant and that this grant is only available through a public jurisdiction. Commissioner Pullen asked about administration fees. Amy explained what is charged for and what she does. There were no other questions from the commissioners.

Terry McLaren was present to discuss the Annual Child Care budget. He was asking the board to approve and have the chairman sign the budget. He said that there were no increases from last year. It was the consensus of the board to authorize approval and have the chairman sign the budget.

Cost saving ideas was next on the agenda. Commissioner Mattson said that he thinks it should be called cost saving ideas/revenue sources. He said that at a law enforcement meeting last week, it was discussed renting out up to four beds in the jail to Luce County. He said that Luce County encouraged our sheriff to contact their sheriff to go over some of the details. Commissioner Doucette said that this would account for intergovernmental sharing for our revenue sharing monies.

There was discussion on the courthouse roof repairs. Murray is getting quotes from Independent Roofing. The commissioners discussed getting more than one quote. It was discussed that there was a \$1,000 deductible with the insurance. It was the consensus of the board to wait until Commissioner Doucette contacts Murray to ask him to get more quotes and maybe have two bids by next week.

There was discussion on two people that have not reimbursed the county for their health insurance. Markus Jones had a policy through cobra. He owes for the months of May, June, and July 2013 for a total amount of \$1,725.92. His policy was cancelled as of August 1, 2013. The other one is Dave Latvala. He had one-half of a single paid insurance through the county. He owes \$1,232.90. His last payment was December 13, 2012. His policy was cancelled August 1, 2011. Commissioner Pullen said that anyone that goes on cobra should have to go through MAC (Michigan Association of Counties). There was discussion on sending the two individuals to a collection agency or through small claims court. The sheriff said that he uses Ann Arbor Credit Bureau for unpaid ambulance billing and it might cost \$5 per letter to start. He is to get the clerk the information. It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to send the information to the Ann Arbor Credit Bureau for the two individuals.

There was discussion on hiring one full-time employee in the sheriff's department pending the final arbitration decision. Commissioner Doucette said that the board members have a copy of an email from the union in their mailboxes. The sheriff discussed the training of employees and how many hours of training the employees have to take. He said that they have to invest heavily in the employees. The sheriff said that the union has dropped their grievance and is looking to fill that one full-time position that was lost. Commissioner Rondeau asked how many deputies the sheriff's department has. The undersheriff said that there are eight full-time deputies ó ten counting the sheriff and undersheriff. Commissioner Pullen asked if they can collect the money for the administrative leave that was paid to the deputy that was fired. There was discussion on an administrative leave policy. The sheriff discussed getting what Hillsdale County has as an administrative policy. The clerk is to call the clerk in Hillsdale County to ask for this. It was discussed that since this was a time sensitive issue they could vote on this today. On a motion by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to authorize the sheriff to hire one full-time employee. After discussion

Commissioner Pullen withdrew her motion and Commissioner Mattson withdrew his second. It was the consensus of the board to authorize the sheriff to hire one full-time employee.

Sealed bids were opened for a new ambulance. There were three bids. One is from Emergency Vehicles Plus in the total cost of ambulance, accessories and delivery of \$223,888.42. There was one bid from Holden & Holden, LTD for a total cost of \$216,763.00. There was one bid from Michigan First Response with a total cost of \$198,860.00 (which does not include the cost of the Stryker Stair Chair). The sheriff is recommending taking the proposals back to the employees to discuss the bids and the specs and then bring back their recommendation for next week's meeting. He said that he has \$160,000 budgeted for this year. He said that it will take a while to build the ambulance so they could split the cost of the ambulance with this year's budget and next year's budget. Commissioner Mattson asked if it could wait until next month when they have a full board because they will only have three commissioner's present at the next regular board meeting and because it is so much money. The sheriff said that it could wait until next month. It was the consensus of the board to wait until the October regular board meeting to purchase an ambulance.

Sealed bids for the 2002 Ford Explorer were discussed and that there were no bids. It was the consensus of the board to authorize the sheriff to contact three or four salvage dealers to get rid of the vehicle.

There was discussion on purchasing a computer for the sheriff from Compudyne. Commissioner Doucette said that he did not hear from MAC and did not want to put this off any longer. It was the consensus of the board to authorize the sheriff to purchase the computer from Compudyne in the amount of \$1,147.69. The monies are to be split (\$286.92 from each of the following funds: Ambulance, 911, Jail, and Sheriff).

There was discussion on commissioners attending the U.P. Association of County Commissioners. Registration is \$50 per person and the room is \$70.85 for single or double occupancy. It was the consensus of the board to authorize three commissioners to attend the conference October 17-18, 2013.

Old business was next. There was none.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment to NorthCare Network for their substance abuse appropriation in the amount of \$15,281. The monies are to come from their appropriation (101-631-969.000).

Board bills were next. Commissioner Pullen said that they are meeting tomorrow, September 10, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. It was the consensus of the board to approve payment of all board bills at the regular board meeting after they have been reviewed 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 from the foreclosure fund #517 into the general fund the amount of \$17,201.47.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the treasurer to transfer in summer tax collection (101-000-444.200) the amount of \$1,900 out of the summer tax collection fund (602-000-995.101).

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the treasurer to amend the following revenues:

REVENUE AMENDMENTS

- A. Authorize the treasurer to amend the general fund transfer in foreclosure fund (101-000-446.000) in the amount of \$12,701.47
- B. Authorize the treasurer to amend the general fund postage (101-000-649.000) in the amount of \$2,500
- C. Authorize the treasurer to amend the revenues in the general fund federal park patrol (101-000-506.000) in the amount of \$2,390.49
- D. Authorize the treasurer to amend the revenues in the general fund miscellaneous revenue in the amount of \$6,732.09 (101-000-677.000). These funds will be coming from the fund balance.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to amend the following expenditures:

EXPENDITURE AMENDMENTS

- A. Authorize the clerk to amend the expenditures in the treasurer's budget in the amount of \$12,701.47
- B. Authorize the clerk to amend the expenditures in the general fund postage account (101-288-729.000) in the amount of \$2,500
- C. Authorize the clerk to amend the expenditures in the general fund federal park patrol in the amount of \$2,390.49
- D. Authorize the clerk to amend the audit budget (101-105-811.000) in the amount of \$4,300
- E. Authorize the clerk to amend the expenditures in the attorneys/consultants budget in the amount of \$2,432.09 (101-135-969.000)

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

Resolutions were next. There were none.

Committee reports were next. Commissioner Pullen discussed that Pathways is considering purchasing a building rather than rent space in Delta County. She discussed ALTRAN this month and discussed their funds and that the Superior Station is working well. Commissioner Rondeau reported on the junior livestock at the U.P. State Fair and that it generated over \$470,000. Commissioner Mattson discussed a budget meeting from last month. He said that they estimated being short between \$81,300 and \$92,300 using worst and best case scenarios. Commissioner Doucette discussed an event on Saturday for diabetes with UPCAP and that UPCAP is moving right along. He said they are looking at a good session at the county commissioner's conference. He discussed Marquette County and their health insurance increase being 50%+ (which is in excess of \$2,000,000). It was discussed that Alger County's went up 6%.

Correspondence was next. There was none.

Board comments were next. Commissioner Rondeau discussed a letter from a lady in Germany regarding the area of Slapneck. He said that he received some historical information from Dan Johnson. He also discussed a grant that does something with cattle that he brought to Paul Naasz but did not get a response. Commissioner Mattson discussed cost saving ideas and revenues so it would continue our revenue sharing with the state. He said that he discussed with Schoolcraft County that in the near future, their equalization director will be retiring. He said that maybe down the road they could combine Equalization Directors after Alger County's is gone. Commissioner Doucette discussed that Tim McGuire and a couple of his staff members from MAC will be here on September 27, 2013 and will be at Sydney's at 9:00 a.m. to meet for breakfast. He invited everyone that could attend. He also discussed looking at insurance and discussing with the insurance committee to be looking at 80/20 and hard-cap plans.

Staff comments were next. The sheriff discussed the pricing of some of the Stryker equipment and said that their cost increases in October. He said he wants to call to see if the costs of the equipment will carry into October and would like it to be kept on the agenda. He also said that it was very good and proactive that the board passed the resolution to oppose HB4785. There were no other comments.

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

This meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Jerry Doucette, Chairman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Froberg
Alger County Clerk