

**ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

November 17, 2014

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 other public comment from the floor; thus, the public comment session was closed.

Commissioner Doucette asked that the agenda be amended to add to consider a full-time replacement for Amber Denman. It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve the amended agenda as presented. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of October 13, 2014 and the regular board meeting minutes of October 20, 2014. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

On a motion by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of November 10, 2014. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioner Mattson, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none. Abstain ó Commissioner Pullen.

Terry Bond from M-28 Auto Towing & Service LLC was not present to discuss the rotation of calls at the sheriff's department.

Sheila Peters and Darlene Dishong from the insurance committee were present to discuss the health insurance. Sheila said that the retirees will have better coverage with Consumers Mutual Insurance. She said that the premiums will be lower but their deductible will increase from \$300 to \$350. Also under Consumers Mutual, they cover 26 chronic diseases. Sheila said that there is no savings this year. She said that they went to their unions and that they agreed to increase the employee deductions to an 11% of the cost of the premiums. It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to move the retirees from Blue Cross Blue Shield to Consumers Mutual. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to accept the health insurance plan as presented with an 11% contribution by employees. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none. Commissioner Mattson said that he appreciates what the insurance committee has done and commended them for a job well done.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to rescind the motion to accept the health plan as presented with an 11% contribution by employees. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to opt-out for the 2015 health insurance for revenue sharing purposes. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to accept the health insurance plan as presented with an 11% contribution by employees of the cost of the premiums. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was discussed that this does not cover life insurance and that is still on the table. The company that the county is with now had an increase of over 400%. They are currently looking for another company. Darlene said that they might not be able to insure retirees or they will have to take a decrease in the coverage as the retiree gets older.

The sheriff explained dispatching wreckers and the process. He said that companies needed to become legal and obtain their own liability insurance. He said that the dispatchers have a choice of two companies. He said that they ask the person if they have a preference. The sheriff said that usually they say they want a particular service.

There was discussion on a full time replacement for Amber Denman. Commissioner Doucette said that no one else will be brought on with post-retirement benefits. This was discussed at a meeting with the union. He said that Emil and Terry are to get together to write a letter of understanding. Commissioner Pullen said that if the ambulance millage fails, they will not have a job. It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to replace Amber Denman contingent on the letter of understanding and that the letter says what it is supposed to say. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was discussed that Bob Haapala resigned from the DHS Board. It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to authorize the clerk to advertise for a vacancy on the DHS (Department of Human Services) Board for a partial-term ending 10/31/2016. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioner Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Rondeau and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to authorize Commissioner Pullen and Joel VandeVelde from the clerk's office to attend the New County Commissioner Workshop in Escanaba at Bay de Noc Community College on December 3, 2014 in the amount of \$115 each. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioner Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize a letter of support for the Alger County Conservation District regarding the Central U.P. Invasive Species. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioner Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to authorize payment in the amount of \$1,096.77 to upgrade the JIS court system. The monies are to come from circuit court. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioner Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

The sheriff discussed the bid for the new 911 console. He said that they need a 50% down payment to order the equipment. Then 25% would be paid when it comes in and the other 25% would be paid when it is done. He recommended the one bid from Elcom Systems for the 8 channels 1 position console in the amount of \$23,499.24. He said that it can be expanded upon when they grow. It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize the sheriff to purchase the new 8 channels 1 position 911 console from Elcom Systems in the amount of \$23,499.24 and pay for it under the terms the sheriff explained. The monies are to come from the 911 fund ó capital improvements line item. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioner Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize an increase for felony searches done in the clerk's office from \$5 to \$10 per search. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioner Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to authorize an increase for the three-day waiver for marriage licenses in the clerk's office from \$5 to \$10. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioner Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

There were no appropriations.

It was moved by Commissioner Rondeau and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to approve payment of all of the board bills as recommended by the audit committee and the committee of the whole. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve the financial reports for all funds. A full 30-page report is available upon request with the treasurer. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

It was moved by Commissioner Rondeau and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize the clerk to transfer \$1,200 from the circuit court budget into the veteran's burials budget. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioner Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

There were no miscellaneous items.

Resolutions were next. There were none. Commissioner VanLandschoot asked the board to consider recognition for the Munising High School senior football team and for the girls' senior volleyball team by resolutions. It was discussed that a resolution for the Munising High School football team will be done for the December meeting once the season is completed.

Committee reports were next. Commissioner Mattson discussed the 2015 budget. He said that the revenues include rent from DHS and includes a PILT payment the same as last year. Expenses include \$10,000 for a new airport building, 15% increase for electric rates, \$1,000 to veterans burials, includes a 1.5% wage increase for employees and elected officials, a 10% increase for insurance, and budgeted a part-time person at 24 hours per week for the clerk's office. It was discussed that maybe \$3,000 could go to ALTRAN for their support. The Friend of the Court fund was discussed and Laurie Pine was to get back to the budget committee after talking with Judge Carmody. He said that he was very pleased with the way the budget went this year. He said that 2014 will be really close. Commissioner Doucette said that he and the clerk are going to Lansing to meet with DHS on December 11th or 12th. Commissioner VanLandschoot discussed AMCAB and that Amy Lerlie will be starting her new position as the Director. Commissioner Doucette said that he will be gone to the NACo conference the first week of December. He said that the state is in the lame duck session, the senate passed the transportation bill, and in the future the road commissions will be taken over again by the county boards.

Correspondence was briefly read. There was a letter from Senator Debbie Stabenow regarding Veteran's Day and a new Veteran's facility in West Michigan, a letter from the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians that Alger County is a worthy recipient of 2% funding for ALTRAN, and an Order Issuing Original License from FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) regarding the Rock River Beach, Inc. These will be placed in the board file.

Board comments were next. Commissioner Pullen said that she is happy that things worked out with the budget and thanked the budget committee. Commissioner Mattson said that it took a long time for the clerk to get a person back and that it was a long time coming. Commissioner Doucette said that when someone retires or resigns he would like to sit down with them to have an exit interview and evaluate the needs of the county.

Staff comments were next. There were no comments.

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

Commissioner Doucette wished everyone a happy holiday season. It was moved by Commissioner Rondeau and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 p.m. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes 6 Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays 0 none. Absent 0 none.

Jerry Doucette, Chairman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Froberg
Alger County Clerk