

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

April 14, 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, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Absent ó Commissioner Pullen.

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.

Pat Suboski, Equalization Director, presented the board with the L-4024 Equalization Report. Pat also gave a page of taxable value history in Alger County. He said the real assessed valuations are down in Alger County by \$2,000,000. Commissioner Pullen arrived at 4:10 p.m. Pat said that personal property valuations are roughly down \$1,800,000. The total real plus personal property valuations are down by about a 1% decrease. He said that the losses are based on two things; a veteran's exemption and a personal property exemption. Commissioner Mattson asked Pat if the revenues that were budgeted in 2014 included the two exemptions. Pat said that the losses were not included in the budget because he did not know about the exemptions, so the amount in revenues will be short by about \$22,000. He also discussed ballot language that will be on the August election. It was the consensus of the board to approve the adoption of the L-4024 County Equalization Report.

The UPACC (Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners) Conference was discussed. It was the consensus of the board to authorize Commissioners Mattson and Doucette to attend the conference May 8-9, 2014 in Harris, Michigan.

The Fair Housing Policy and Resolution were discussed. It was the consensus of the board to adopt the Fair Housing Policy and Resolution.

The proposed expansion of the Wood Island Waste Management (WIWM) Landfill was discussed. It was the consensus of the board to approve the expansion of the Wood Island Waste Management Landfill.

The Abilita recommendations were discussed. It was the consensus of the board to approve the recommendations of Abilita.

There was discussion on authorizing the sheriff to purchase an E-Z sofa bed for the ambulance garage in the amount of \$649. The undersheriff is to get more information on this and that it will be voted on at next Monday's board meeting.

There was discussion on the 2014 Housing Resource Fund Blight Elimination application and resolution supporting it. It was the consensus of the board to adopt the resolution supporting the 2014 Housing Resource Fund Blight Application.

Cost savings ideas / revenue sources were next on the agenda. There was discussion on a meeting with the DOC (Department of Corrections) at Alger Max about housing 10 to 15 work camp trustees. It would be a lock down situation. The DOC would come and get the trustees to work at Alger Max during the day and then would return them to the jail to be locked up. They would not be mingling with the public. They would pay the county \$35 per day to house the trustees and are looking at a long term commitment. Undersheriff Brock said that Alger County could commit and have room for two trustees for now. There was discussion on expanding the jail at another location.

Old business was next. There was none.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment of the Pathways quarterly appropriation in the amount of \$8,305 for their quarter ending 6/30/2014. The monies are to come from their appropriation (101-649-969.000).

There was discussion on the board 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 amend the revenues in reimbursements in the amount of \$6,904.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to amend the expenditures in the building and grounds budget in the amount of \$6,904.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

It was the consensus of the board to approve Resolution #2014-10 to Change Persons Authorized to Act at all Financial Institutions for Alger County.

Committee reports were next. Commissioner Rondeau discussed a conversation with Dan Johnson about the airport. Commissioner Mattson said that he had a discussion with a Schoolcraft County Commissioner about the costs of running a paved airport and that the airport will always be an expense. He also discussed the fund balances not matching. The treasurer is to get back to him on those balances with which one is correct. Commissioner Doucette discussed meeting with the people from the paper on the airport. Commissioner VanLandschoot discussed a meeting at LMAS about meth labs and the meth lab waste along the roadside. He handed out a bulletin from MDOT discussing the issue. Commissioner Doucette discussed a meeting with UPSET and trying to come up with ideas to raise money on defeating the meth problem. Undersheriff Brock will let the commissioners know when they are going to be having a community program on the meth problem.

Correspondence was discussed by the State of Michigan regarding the Office of Child Support for their FY2014 Federal Performance Incentives and GF/GP Payment Notice; Ann Arbor Credit Bureau; CUPPAD (Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Regional Commission) regarding MDOT Rural Transportation Planning Process; U.S. Department of Agriculture by and through the Forest Service regarding the airport exchange; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding 2014 Sharp-tailed Grouse Survey; and from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regarding the Rock River Beach Hydroelectric Project. These will be filed in the board meeting file.

Board comments were next. There were none.

Staff comments were next. There were none.

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

This meeting is now adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Jerry Doucette, Chairman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Froberg
Alger County Clerk