

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

**November 14, 2016**

**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 – none.

The board of commissioners said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comment session was open. Linda Johnson was present to give an Animal Shelter update. Linda said the “Rekindle the Spirit” fundraiser will be held in December and the “Cutest Critter” fundraiser will be held in January. The Animal Shelter receives funds from Family Fare for receipt turn-ins; whereas \$150,000 will grant the shelter \$1,000. The Animal Shelter is also selling dog licenses. Linda noted cat litter is most needed item. Tractor Supply Co., Family Fare and Target donate ripped bags and dented cans of food. Flea control products are also needed, as well as miscellaneous office supplies.

The agenda was presented.

It was the consensus of the board to approve the Michigan State University Extension Work Plan. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to authorize payment to Todd Brock for his payout of benefits in the amount of \$19,330.40.

Date: 11-1-16  
To: Alger County Clerk's Office  
From: Todd Brock  
Re: Union benefit pay-off

I am sending you this letter at the request of Joel, as he is preparing my file for MERS. I am respectfully requesting the following benefits be paid at the first payroll in November:

- Sick Leave: 100 days X 8 hours per day = 800 hours 800 hours X \$20.80 per hour = \$16,640.00
- EMS Stipend: All requirements have been met for 2016 \$1,000.00
- Physical Fitness Stipend: All requirements have been met for 2016 \$500.00
- Longevity: Pro-rated through 10/31/16 \$400.00
- Unused vacation time: 22 hours X \$20.80 \$457.60
- Unused personal time: 16 hours X \$20.80 \$332.80

TOTAL: \$19,330.40

Please pay this out of the Jail Budget.

Todd W. Brock



Sheriff Robert Hughes



Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none.

There was discussion on the Sheriff Union’s retirement division #2. It will be renamed Sheriff Union & Undersheriff, allowing Steve Blank to remain in the same division with all the same provisions. It was the consensus of the board to adopt the amended Defined Benefit Plan Adoption Agreement for division #2. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to accept the recommendation of the health insurance committee increasing the employee responsibility portion from 12% to 13% and to opt out of PA152. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

There was discussion on the Courthouse Union tentative agreement. Commissioner Doucette reiterated that ability to redline the janitor wage is maintained in the contract language. It was the consensus of the board to approve the Courthouse tentative agreement, pending the ratification by the Courthouse Union. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to amend the Child Care Fund Budget in the amount of \$15,000. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

Commissioner Mattson explained the budget committee has a balanced budget for 2017. The board can take the following week to review the final budget and a vote will be taken at the next board meeting.

Commissioner Doucette discussed New Commissioner's Workshop on December 8<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$125 per person. Commissioner Rondeau expressed interest in attending the workshop. Mary Ann Froberg and Pamela Johnson would also like to attend. It was the consensus of the board to authorize four employees to attend the workshop.

It was moved by Commissioner VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to move into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(e) settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none.

\*\* Closed Session \*\*

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to come out of closed session. No action was taken. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to authorize the following Resolution #2016-17 regarding the lawsuit filed by Alger County v Sterling Fire and Rescue Corporation d/b/a Michigan First Response and Mark Grossbauer, dismissing the lawsuit:

**WHEREAS**, discussion was had relative to the lawsuit filed by Alger County in the Montcalm County Circuit Court captioned, *Alger County v Sterling Fire and Rescue Corporation d/b/a Michigan First Response and Mark R. Grossbauer*, Case No. 15-H-20452-CZ;

**WHEREAS**, after discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Pullen to recommend that Jerry Doucette authorize its attorneys, Burkhart, Lewandowski, Miller & Nastoff, P.C., to dismiss said lawsuit;

**WHEREAS**, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Mattson;

**WHEREAS**, after discussion and consideration of the motion, by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board resolved to authorize its attorneys, Burkhart, Lewandowski, Miller & Nastoff, P.C., to proceed with dismissal of the above-referenced Circuit Court action.

Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none.

There were no cost savings ideas or revenue sources.

There was no old business.

It was the consensus of the Board to authorize payment to NorthCare Network for their substance abuse appropriation from the convention facility tax in the amount of \$13,778.95. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to approve payment of all board bills as approved by the audit committee. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

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. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to transfer the following between general fund budgets:

**Authorize the clerk to transfer the following expenditures in the general fund budgets:**

*\$1,178.37	From the Audit budget (101-105) into the Board of Commissioner's budget (101-101)
*\$3,486.25	From the Circuit Court budget (101-131) into the Building & Grounds budget (101-265)
*\$473.88	From the Medical Examiner budget (101-648) into the Duplicating budget (101-287)
*\$15,000	From the Motor Pool budget (101-304) into the Probate Child Care budget (101-663)

This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the treasurer to transfer \$15,000 from general fund to Probate Child Care Fund #292. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

There were no resolutions

Commissioner Doucette was contacted by NACo to join a task force regarding drones. There are concerns as well as possibilities with drones and Commissioner Doucette would like input regarding the issue. Commissioner VanLandschoot reported Community Action Alger Marquette is very busy. Rod Desjardins and Amy Lerlie are working hard and the Grandview Apartments in Marquette should be completed in October 2017. Commissioner Mattson attended the judicial meeting with Commissioner VanLandschoot. Schoolcraft County is still interested in working with Alger County to hire a Defense Attorney. There is a regional government meeting on November 30 at the AuTrain Township Hall.

Correspondence was briefly read from Michigan Counties Workers Compensation Fund regarding partnering with CompOne, Alger County Road Commission regarding trail permit fees, Judge Carmody regarding 11<sup>TH</sup> Circuit Court Administrator position, and State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Wetlands Protection.

Commissioner Mattson restated he is happy that the county has a balanced budget, two negotiations are complete and some of the pressure is off. Commissioner Rondeau questioned if the Board of Appeals should be contacted in regards to permit denials. Commissioner Mattson will investigate the issue. Commissioner Doucette noted Joe Cilc called with concerns over the phone voicemail system being out of order. The floor of the new jail was laid today, and should be ready to house new inmates in three days.

There were no staff comments

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

The Chairman adjourned this meeting at 5:40 PM

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Jerry Doucette, Chairman

Alger County Board of Commissioners

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Mary Ann Froberg

Alger County Clerk