

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

March 13, 2017

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 4:03 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 from the Alger County Animal Shelter gave an update on the shelter for the last few months. She said that the annual “Chili Fest” will be this weekend at the American Legion from noon to 5:00pm. In June the shelter will host the “Yooper Days” event. There was no further public comment; thus, the public comment was closed.

The agenda was presented.

Nick Derusha from LMAS was present to answer questions regarding the agency’s annual report. A portion of the District Health appropriation was returned in the amount of \$6,089. Prevention curriculum returned this year. Mr. Derusha also thanked the Board for their support of the E-Cigarette Resolution. Commissioner VanLandschoot stated this LMAS Board is wonderful to work with and thanked Nick for all his hard work.

There was some discussion regarding the current ALTRAN board census and length of terms. It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize the clerk to advertise for an ALTRAN Board member. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none.

There was some discussion regarding the MERS (Municipal Employees’ Retirement System) Retiree Healthcare Funding Vehicle (RHFV). It was the consensus of the board to approve setup of the MERS RHFV. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

The veterans’ millage was discussed. Commissioner Pullen and Commissioner Rondeau questioned using millage funds to pay for a wage increase for the Veteran Affairs Officer. It was the consensus of the board to approve a 3.5% raise for the V.A. Officer. This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

There were no cost savings ideas.

There was no old business.

There were no appropriations.

It was the consensus of the board to approve payment of all of the board bills as recommended 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 treasurer to transfer the following revenue received in 2017 back to 2016:

| REMARKS | TRANSFER REVENUE RECEIVED IN 2017 BACK TO 2016 BUDGET (PER MARCH 20, 2017 BOARD) | |
|---|---|-------------|
| | DEBIT | CREDIT |
| 12/31/2016 101-000-040-000 ACCTS RECEIVABLE | \$47,896.53 | |
| 101-000-845.000 INMATE ROOM & BOARD | | \$210.00 |
| 101-000-503.000 P.A. ADC | | \$3,856.48 |
| 101-000-544.000 P.A. ATTY - STATE INMATE | | \$140.00 |
| 101-000-573.000 COURT EQUITY FUND | | \$6,757.00 |
| 101-000-403.000 CURRENT TAX COLLECTION | | \$13,203.24 |
| 101-000-403.010 CUR. TAX COLL. INTEREST | | \$429.26 |
| 101-000-676.000 REIMBURSEMENTS | | \$23,300.55 |

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 the 2016 budgets:

- *\$590.46 from the Audit budget into the Prosecuting Attorneys budget
- *\$69.20 from the District Court's budget into the Prosecuting Attorneys budget
- *\$91.92 from the District Court's budget into the Jail budget
- *\$142.11 from the Friend of the Court budget into the Jail budget
- *\$360.00 from the Jury Commission budget into the Jail budget
- *\$1,826.76 from the Probate Diversion Officer's budget into the Jail budget
- *\$66.45 from Probate Court's budget into the Jail budget
- *\$460.89 from the County Juvenile Officer budget into the Jail budget
- *\$661.71 from the County Clerk budget into the Jail budget
- *\$641.90 from the Equalization budget into the Jail budget
- *\$536.00 from the Service Contracts budget into the Jail budget
- *\$1,794.07 from the Motor Pool budget into the Jail budget
- *\$858.77 from the Sheriff's Secondary Rd Patrol budget into the Jail budget
- *\$576.92 from the Computers budget into the Jail budget
- *\$994.87 from the Animal Shelters budget into the Jail budget
- *\$457.60 from the Airport budget into the Jail budget
- *\$100.00 from the Contagious Diseases budget into the Jail budget
- *\$531.80 from the Veterans burials budget into the Jail budget

This item will be moved to the consent agenda.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

There were no resolutions.

Committee reports were next. Commissioner VanLandschoot said that he will have meetings this week. Commissioner Rondeau has a meeting in April with the Alger County Road Commission to discuss parking near the Eben Ice Caves. Commissioner Doucette is looking for state funds or grants to help address this issue. Commissioner Pullen stated the airport report was sent to the Forest Service's regional office and approved. The regional office forwarded it on to attorneys for their approval. Commissioner Doucette discussed his trip to Washington, D.C. and has requested the assistance of Congressman Bergman regarding the airport land-swap. When Commissioner Doucette met with our State's Senators, there was quite a bit of optimism concerning the legislation affecting the Upper-Peninsula.

Correspondence was briefly read from Washtenaw County Solid Waste Division amending their Solid Waste Management Plan, DHHS Meeting Notice & Agenda; a US Forest Service survey; and the Rock River Township Recreation Plan.

Commissioner Rondeau asked where the public defender position stands. Commissioner Mattson explained the Judges are being contacted; however, the issue is still being researched. Commissioner Rondeau also had concerns regarding the Soo Locks and the foreign ships that bring contamination and invasive species. Commissioner Rondeau also believes that Congressman Bergman will help the veterans. Commissioner Doucette said security in the courthouse will be on the agenda soon. He said that the Court Staff is demanding that the community service supervisor position be union represented. He said that the U.P. Committee is still determining the direction to take concerning energy conservation. The MAC (Michigan Association of Counties) offices in Lansing will be moving across from the Romney Building most likely in July. Commissioner Doucette also said that Orin Bailey from Michigan Works has resigned as director.

Staff comments were next. Sheriff Brock and Undersheriff Blank will be heading to Escanaba for a meet and greet. The Sheriff will be heading out on vacation and explained the supervisory staff. Commissioner Doucette spoke with representatives in Lansing regarding housing of state trustees in county jails. Tom Casperson will be touring the Alger County jail to see the expansion project. Commissioner Doucette said there will be an article in NACo news regarding the jail expansion project.

Public comment session was open. Neil from the Munising News noted The American Legion is celebrating its 98th anniversary.

The Chairman adjourned this meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Jerry Doucette, Chairman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Froberg
Alger County Clerk