

**ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

**January 30, 2018**

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

It was moved by Commissioner VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to approve the agenda. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none.

CDBG mortgages and subordination agreements were discussed. Rod DesJardins was present and explained what AMCAB (Alger-Marquette Community Action Board), now CAAM (Community Action Alger-Marquette) did with the program with the county. CAAM is a third-party administrator for the county's CDBG program. In the program, contractors would go in to a home and rehab what needs to be done on the home. The question is does the county want to subordinate those liens anymore. The situation about a mortgage to Katherine Wilson was discussed and that she had the equity in the property to cover both mortgages. This was taken to the Prosecutor to see about the legality of not subordinating the CDBG mortgages. Legally, the county does not have to sign anymore subordination agreements. The program was discussed because of the people that had come to the board and asked for their mortgages to be forgiven. It was also discussed that Peoples State Bank was going to foreclose on one of their mortgages and that the county was told that they would lose the money owed them from one of the CDBG mortgages. Those monies that are paid back are used to help more people from the program, if that is what the county chooses to do. This was discussed at length. The county is to put a committee together to handle each property separately when someone wants to refinance and wants to subordinate their CDBG mortgage to make sure the equity is in the property. It was moved by Commissioner Rondeau and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize signing the subordination agreement for the Katherine Wilson property. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none. Commissioner Rondeau said that he wants to be on the committee. The committee will be discussed at the February meeting.

The Opioid Litigation with Smith & Johnson, Attorneys, P.C. was discussed. Commissioner Doucette discussed this with MAC (Michigan Association of Counties) and said that we should join the lawsuit. On a motion by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to join in the Opioid Litigation and sign the following Retainer Agreement:

**RETAINER AGREEMENT**

The County of Alger, State of Michigan, hereby retains, Weitz & Luxenberg, P.C. ("W&L"), as lead counsel and the Sam Bernstein Law Firm PLLC, and Smith & Johnson Attorneys PC (collectively, "Claimant's Counsel") to prosecute and adjust for the County of Alger a claim for past and future damages and/or expenditures caused by the culpable conduct of any and all pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors and/or retailers of opioid analgesics. The County of Alger hereby gives Claimant's Counsel the exclusive right to take all legal steps to enforce its claims.

**I. Fee.**

In consideration of the services rendered and/or to be rendered by Claimant’s Counsel, the County of Alger hereby agrees to pay the following contingent fee:

Thirty (30) percent of the net sum recovered, whether recovered by suit, settlement or otherwise, for the County of Alger’s share of the recovery only.

This fee will be paid ONLY if there is a recovery and will be deducted after the reimbursement of the litigation expenses and/or costs. Litigation expenses and/or costs include, but are not limited to, filing fees, costs associated with conducting discovery, hearings, conferences, meetings, trials, expert consultation and testimony, and investigation costs.

W&L is authorized, in good faith and in the honest belief that it is in the best interests of the County of Alger, to associate other firm(s) to assist in this matter at no additional fee to the County of Alger. Regardless, W&L will maintain full control of the matter on behalf of the client at all times.

W&L will advance all costs of the litigation.

On behalf of the County of Alger:

On behalf of Sam Bernstein Law Firm PLLC:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

On behalf of Weitz & Luxenberg, P.C.:

On behalf of Smith & Johnson Attorneys PC:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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

There was discussion on attending the MAC Conference March 26 – 28, 2018 in Lansing. It was moved by Commissioner Rondeau and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize Commissioners Pullen and Doucette, Clerk Mary Ann Froberg, and Treasurer Pam Johnson to attend the MAC Conference. 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 pass the following Resolution #2018-02:

**RESOLUTION #2018-02**

At a special meeting of the Alger County Board of Commissioners held on January 30, 2018 at Munising, Michigan.

Present were: Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette

Absent were: None

**WHEREAS**, it has come to the attention of the Alger County Treasurer that in 2018 the Alger County Board of Commissioners authorized the County Treasurer to collect the Limestone Township summer tax collection.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alger County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Treasurer to collect a 1% administration fee, as authorized by MCL a211.44.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Alger County Board of Commissioners at the time, date, and place specified above pursuant to the required statutory procedures.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Ann Froberg, County Clerk

Dated: January 30, 2018

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

Steve Webber discussed the court security/community corrections position. This is to be starting as of February 1, 2018. The entity that needs the work oversees making sure they are there and do the work. The cost is \$38,560.00 for the deputy to work three days per week. This will cover court security for District Court Tuesdays and Thursdays and community service on Wednesdays. Then there will be a part-time or temporary person covering the shift at the sheriff's department for those days. This will run for 11 months and then it will be gone over in the budget process. It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to authorize a court security/community service position as described above. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none.

Board comments was next. Commissioner Pullen stated that she talked with the Forest Service today and was assured that Alger County will own the airport. Commissioner Rondeau really hopes that we can get this thing done with the airport. Commissioner Mattson asked about Equalization. The Equalization Director's position was discussed. Commissioner Doucette discussed talking with the Congressman about our PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) and said that he will continue this fight.

Staff comments were next. Steve Webber thanked everyone for listening. Mayr Ann Froberg discussed the Indigent Defense Plan and what must be done.

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

It was moved by Commissioner Rondeau and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none.

---

Jerry Doucette, Chairman  
Alger County Board of Commissioners

---

Mary Ann Froberg  
Alger County Clerk