

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

February 18, 2013

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

It was moved by Commissioner VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Pullen then asked about putting the airport land exchange on the agenda. The agenda was then amended to add a decision on the airport concerning land exchange under old business. It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve the amended agenda. 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 VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to approve the Organizational Meeting minutes of January 2, 2013, the Committee of the Whole minutes of January 14, 2013 and the Regular Board of Commissionerø minutes of January 21, 2013 with some spelling corrections. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

Tom Jordan with MERS (Municipal Employeesø Retirement System of Michigan) presented the board with a packet for an option to the Alger County employees to enroll in a 457 retirement plan. He said that this is a deferred compensation supplemental retirement program that is geared toward allowing the employees to fund programs solely on their own. He said that the dollars accumulate on a tax deferred basis and that there is no cost to the employer. Tom said that these funds are available to the employee at the time of separation. He said that they are vested at 100% in their contribution. He also discussed a Roth contribution. He explained that tax advantaged option and the catch-up contributions up to \$17,500. He discussed rollover contributions. He also discussed retirement strategies; diversified portfolios; expanded funds; and a self-directed brokerage window that employees could choose. Tom said that a MERS Representative would come in and meet with the employees on an individual basis or as groups. He said that there would have to be a resolution that has to be adopted. He also said that there is an agreement that would have to be drawn up between the employer and MERS because it is an employer sponsored program. The board is to look at the information.

Stacy Welling-Haughey with the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) handed out information regarding the purchase of the AuTrain Basin Project and a list of individuals and organizations who have given their support to the purchase of the AuTrain Basin Project by the Department of Natural Resources, State of Michigan. This is a 2,182 acre non-project lands surrounding the AuTrain Basin. She said that since the Trust Fund was started, Alger Countyø received \$880,240 in Trust Fund grants. She said just this year AuTrain Township received \$246,700 and the City of Munising received \$86,200. Stacy said that in the packet there is a detailed description about the project. She said that she is making sure the board is aware of the project and wants to make sure that the current board is in support of this. It was moved by Commission Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize the chair to write and send out a letter of support to the DNR. Motion carried by the following votes: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent - none. Doug Scheuneman also talked about the Alger County Fish and Game Alliance and the commission that have worked together and went to a lot of meetings regarding the FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) license and the 100 year flood plain. He wanted to thank the board for their support and appreciated their help. John Madigan discussed all of the projects and acquisitions in Alger County and said that they appreciate the boardø efforts. He was asked by Commissioner VanLandschoot and discussed the AuTrain Township launch site that is a Trust Fund grant for kayaks and canoes off of M-28 / Forest Lake Road. John also talked about the letter from the Forest Service regarding the airport and asked the board if they are going to move forward with this. Commissioner Pullen said that she believes that the decision, upon presentation, will be to reduce the land requested. John said that if he can assist in the process at all, to give him a call.

It was moved by Commissioner VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) shall be strategy connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

****CLOSED SESSION****

It was moved by Commissioner VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to come out of closed session at 6:07 p.m. No action was taken in closed session. 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 Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to authorize Steve Webber to purchase a Crew Cab Polaris Ranger 500 from Headwaters Polaris in Watersmeet in an amount up to \$19,325. \$15,985 is to come from the EMD grant #259 (equipment 259-000-937.000) and \$3,340 from the ambulance fund #210 (rescue supplies 210-000-727.040). 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 VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to authorize the sheriff to put the 2003 Ski-Doo snowmobile out on sealed bids with a minimum bid of \$1,500. 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 Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to deny the request on the circuit court judicial wage increases and performance pay for Jill Maddox and Lori Erickson from Schoolcraft County. 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 Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to adopt the following policy on the State Retention Program:

Policy on the Adoption of State Retention and Disposal Schedules of Records

The County of Alger hereby adopts a policy for all departments to follow the retention and disposal schedules of records as given and described by the State of Michigan to meet the administrative, legal, fiscal and archival requirements of the State of Michigan.

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

There was discussion on a bill to AKT Peerless to conduct a site investigation at Lammiø Store in Chatham for brownfield work. It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize payment to AKT Peerless in the amount of \$4,070. The monies are to come from the brownfield fund #795 (795-000-801.000). Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

Don Kinnunen was present to discuss being the Member Representative to MMRMA (Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority). Don said that he originally initiated this program in the mid-1980s for the county and that the county could not find a better deal at that time. He explained the history of being a member of MMRMA and some of the claims originally filed. Don explained trips that he has taken to Detroit for cases with no cost to the county. He said that over the years, the county should be sitting a lot better than it is right now. He said that the premium is approximately \$76,000 and that his goal at that time was to come back to the county and say that there was enough money being put into MMRMA that the county would never have to pay the premium again. Don said that right now Alger County has a little over \$600,000 in the pool. He said that it is earmarked for different things. He said that there is interest earned on this money, and right now it is 3.5%. He explained to the board that they had better look at where the problem areas are. He said that he had gathered information to give to the sheriff, to the treasurer, or whoever. He received information on hiring practices, arrests, and the use of tasers. He said that he gets all of the information. Don said that any other department if they want something on the freedom of information, he will stick it in their box so they get that information. He said that there is a whole library of information and if departments would follow that, they wouldn't be in some of the predicaments they are in today. He said that at one time his goal was that there was enough money in that fund and that it would be a self-sustained fund. They would not have to pay a premium and the years after that they would get dividends. He said that if they didn't have to pay out what they have over the years, they would have over \$1,000,000 in the fund right now. Don explained who is a member of MMRMA and said that our county is the most solvent of any county our size and even the bigger counties. He explained the claims loss analysis summary and money that is put aside for law suits, IDNR reserve, and that so much is for stop-loss. Don said that if the clerk takes the program over, she better be aggressive and step on some toes. He said that he gives the sheriff cds for his department, tells him what grants are available out there at no cost to

him, that he can send his deputies to seminars on high speed chases and using tasers among other things. He said that there is a guy in the U.P. that gives training sessions in Marquette. Don talked about preventing things from happening. He talked about past and present things that have happened. It was discussed that the stop-loss is at \$50,000. He said that he enjoys it, believes in the program, and that this is the best program that the county ever got involved in. He said that he gets a little upset when he doesn't get cooperation from departments in getting the information he needs. He said that there is information out there that helps the individual, helps the elected officials or helps the department heads so that they don't have to get where they get. It was moved by Commissioner VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to appoint Don Kinnunen as the MMRMA Representative for 5 years starting in 2013. It was noted that this is on a voluntary basis. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

Old business was next. Commissioner Pullen discussed a letter from the Forest Service. She said that if they are going to continue with the land swap, the Forest Service wants the county to agree to pay an undefined amount of money or agree that if the county is within 25%, up or down, in the monetary value of the trade swap, that the county will either give them money or reduce the amount of land the county has asked for. Commissioner Pullen said that she talked to John Madigan before she gave the board copies of the letter and that he didn't feel that it would be a problem in reducing the land. Commissioner Pullen's recommendation is that they agree to have her and Mickey set up a meeting with John Madigan and find out where he thinks they could carve out, but authorize the county to take less land in exchange. Commissioner Pullen said that she would like a decision tonight because they have been working on it for so long now. There was discussion on the value of the property. Commissioner Mattson said that he does not see where they can commit financially. It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot that the airport committee be authorized to meet with John Madigan and the ad-hoc committee and to come to some agreement that the county gets fewer acres for the airport in order to facilitate the land swap with no additional cost to the county. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none. There was discussion on Dick Cremer's building and the agreement that was done. Commissioner Pullen said that she has a copy of that agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to authorize payment to Pathways for their mental health quarterly appropriation in the amount of \$8,305. The monies are to come from the community mental health budget (101-649-969.000). 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 Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to authorize payment to NorthCare Network for their 2012 substance abuse appropriation in the amount of \$6,436.50. The monies are to come from the substance abuse budget (101-631-969.000). 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 authorize payment to the Burt Township Ambulance Corp in the total amount of \$45,669. \$38,669 is to come from the ambulance fund ó Burt Township ambulance operations (210-000-742.000) and \$7,000 is to come from the ambulance fund - Burt Township ambulance replacement (210-000-743.000). 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 authorize payment to Mathias First Responders in the amount of \$5,600. The monies are to come from the ambulance budget appropriations (210-000-969.000). 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 VanLandschoot and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to authorize payment to Rock River First Responders in the amount of \$5,600. The monies are to come from the ambulance budget appropriations (210-000-969.000). Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

The board bill to Honeywell was discussed. The clerk said that the price for the audit of \$10,377 was for one year only. The new bill includes an escalation rate increase of 5% at the contract anniversary. It was moved by Commissioner Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve payment of all of the board bills including the Honeywell bill as recommended at the Committee of the Whole with the exception of the bill to Schoolcraft County for performance pay reimbursement in the amount of \$141.62. 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 Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Pullen 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 Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to authorize the treasurer to transfer the following 2013 revenues back to 2012:

Please make a motion to have Treasurer transfer 2013 revenue back to 2012 due to the fact it was for the year 2012.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

101-000040000	\$74,526.12
101-000403010 Current Tax Interest	\$ 720.77
101-000403000 Current Tax Collection	\$22,184.13
101-000502000 Friend of the Court	\$15,375.59
101-000503000 P.A. ADC	\$ 3,708.85
101-000541000	\$ 0.00
101-000567000 Diverted Felons	\$ 5,135.00
101-000571000 Convention Facility Tax	\$12,873.00
101-000573000 Court Equity Fund Distrib	\$ 7,702.00
101-000576000 Diversion Officer	\$ 780.10
101-000628000 Remonumentation Adm. Fee	\$ 82.14
101-000676000 Reimbursement	\$ 5,964.54

Thank You,
Pam Johnson

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 authorize the treasurer to amend the 2012 miscellaneous revenues budget in the amount of \$40,975.92 (101-000-677.000). 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 Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to authorize the treasurer to transfer the 2013 cost allocation plan monies as follows:

COST ALLOCATION PLAN

Ambulance	\$ 85,649
Building Department	14,013 (When available)
F.O.C.	2,588
Wireless 911	22,497
Foreclosure	1,388
D.T.R.	66
MSU EXTENSION	5,500
COUNTY AGING (3 YRS)	9,603
LIMESTONE SUMMER	21
Homestead	<u>137</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	\$ 141,462

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 Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot authorize the clerk to transfer the expenditures between the 2012 budgets as follows:

- *\$954.15 from the Friend of the Court budget into the Board of Commissioners budget
- *\$668.74 from the Friend of the Court budget into the Motor Pool budget
- *\$16.79 from the Friend of the Court budget into the Equalization Department budget
- *\$23.03 from the Computers budget into the Elections Department budget

*\$4.05 from the Computers budget into the County Treasurers budget

*\$11.05 from the Computers budget into the Airport budget

*\$72.98 from the Computers budget into the Medical Examiners budget

*\$77.02 from the Veterans Affairs budget into the Medical Examiners budget

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 authorize the clerk to amend the following 2012 expenditures in the amount of \$40,975.92:

*Circuit Court	\$4,498.16
*Attorneys/Consultants	\$4,481.25
*District Court	\$1,960.82
*Probate Court	\$4,788.55
*County Clerk/ROD	\$469.54
*Prosecuting Attorney	\$1,585.57
*Building and Grounds	\$10,458.05
*Duplicating Account	\$1,127.43
*Sheriff's Department	\$1,542.97
*Jail	\$3,522.08
*Animal Shelter	\$363.18
*Veterans Burials	\$600.00
*Employee Fringe Benefits	\$1,169.00
*Building Codes	\$15.31
*County Law Library	\$.03
*Substance Abuse	\$4,393.98

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 Mattson and seconded by Commissioner Pullen to authorize the treasurer to transfer \$15.31 from the general fund building codes budget into the building department fund #249. 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 Mattson and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to authorize the treasurer to transfer \$.03 from the general fund law library into the law library fund #269. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

There were no miscellaneous items.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve the following resolution #2013-02:

RESOLUTION #2013-02

A RESOLUTION HONORING THE ALGER CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AND ITS CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO SERVE THE GREATER MUNISING AREA AND SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF ALGER COUNTY

WHEREAS, The Alger Correctional Facility assists in the training of our Sheriff's Office personnel and has been very helpful with the Emergency Response Team (ERT) which has aided in many search efforts for lost children, lost hunters and lost adults. The ERT has trained in the Alger County jail on cell extrications and hostage situations and on "Active Shooter" response and would give our Sheriff's Office assistance if one of these situations occurred;

WHEREAS, The Alger Correctional Facility supports the Alger County Sheriff's Office with critical incidents both public and within the county jail. Most recently the ERT supplied three officers during armed robbery trials with out-of-state defendants which helped keep expenses under control and provided greater security for our small, rural community;

WHEREAS, Warden Bauman has allowed the use of the firing range at the Alger Correctional Facility for training by the Alger County Sheriff's Office and has offered the use of the exercise room if needed;

WHEREAS, The Alger Correctional Facility provides meals at a reduced cost for the Alger County Jail;

WHEREAS, The Alger Correctional Facility increases Alger County's economic well-being and development through employment;

WHEREAS, One of the Alger Correctional Facility's primary goals has always been the protection of Alger County residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alger County Board of Commissioners is grateful for the presence of the Alger Correctional Facility and its employees in our community. We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the efforts made in partnering with the County of Alger and to extend the hope that this relationship will continue for many years.

Dated: February 18, 2013

Jerry Doucette, Chairman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

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

Committee reports were next. Commissioner Doucette discussed an UPCAP meeting that he attended regarding the Veteran's and a plot of land to have a State Veterans Cemetery. He discussed PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) and the bill that is to be signed. He said that he will miss the signing of that bill. He discussed a transportation bill, PA 51 and unfunded mandates and that there is to be no retroactive monies to be given. He said that they wanted to bring up a class-action suit, but Alger County cannot come up with the money. He talked about a survey that was taken regarding wolves and that 85% of Michigan said there was no problem with the wolves.

There was new correspondence regarding the MSU research facility getting a new name being Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center. This will be placed in the file.

Board comments were next. Commissioner Pullen discussed Karen Bahrman's letter regarding board policy and wants it to be discussed at the next board meeting. She said that the county is coming into some hard times and that they made stupid mistakes in the past that they will be paying for as long as they are in office and they need to make sure it warrants better opinions. She said that she wants the board chair to be able to reach out to an attorney at will. She said that when you elect somebody board chair and trust them enough and put them in office for two years, you have to trust them to spend \$1,000. Commissioner Rondeau said that he would like MAC (Michigan Association of Counties) to address Michigan paying \$25,000,000 per year to subsidize film makers that do films here in Michigan. He said that is \$301,000 a year for each county and he would like to see something done about that. He also commented that the public out in his area is getting tired of what is going on at the sheriff's department. He said that he would like to see the people on law enforcement do something about what is going on. Commissioner VanLandschoot discussed doing some work regarding the State Veterans Cemetery and that he did some preliminary work on it. He said that when he talked to some people regarding the cemeteries out there, it doesn't seem to be flying very well. He said that the people want to leave it the way it is. Commissioner Doucette said that he appreciates their time for the length of this meeting and asked the board to come up with some direction with what was said in the closed session.

Staff comments were next. There were none.

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 Pullen and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes ó Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot, and Doucette. Nays ó none. Absent ó none.

Jerry Doucette, Chairman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Froberg
Alger County Clerk