

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

**November 10, 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 4:10 p.m. on the above date.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Doucette with the following Commissioners present: Commissioners Mattson, Rondeau, and Doucette. Absent 6 Commissioners Pullen and VanLandschoot.

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.

Commissioner Mattson discussed the judicial meeting and that their JIS system is in critical need of an upgrade and is no longer supported by IBM. The courts are one of the last courts in the state to upgrade and needs to be upgraded from version 5.4 to 7.1. It was discussed that the JIS system has not been upgraded for a long time. The bill for the new upgrade is \$11,545. Jill wrote that because there is a balance in the JIS repairs fund, it would allow them to pay for half of the bill. The remaining half of the upgrade bill (\$5,772.50) would be split between the four counties (based on their caseload). The cost for Alger County is \$1,096.77. It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment of the JIS upgrade.

Bids for the new 911 console were opened. The bids were from Anderson Communications and El-Com Services, Inc. Anderson Communications said that they were not bidding. El-Com Services gave three bids. One was for \$24,103.74 6 Motorola MIP5000 8 channels 1 position console; \$35,639.37 Motorola MIP5000 8 channels 2 position console; and \$32,540.99 Motorola MIP5000 24 channels 1 position. The sheriff is to make a suggestion at the regular board meeting.

Commissioner VanLandschoot arrived at 4:17 p.m.

The sheriff discussed Amber Denman's new position and that she decided not to come back to Alger County. She will still work on a part-time basis (about four days per month). This is still in discussion and is put on hold.

There was discussion on felony searches. It was the consensus of the board to authorize increasing the cost of felony searches in the clerk's office from \$5 to \$10 per search.

There was discussion on three-day waivers for marriage licenses. It was the consensus of the board to authorize increasing the three-day waivers for marriage licenses from \$5 to \$10.

Cost savings ideas / revenue sources were next on the agenda. There were none at this time.

Old business was next. There was none.

There were no appropriations.

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 clerk to transfer \$1,200 from the circuit court budget to the veteran's burials budget.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

There were no resolutions. Commissioner Rondeau said that he would talk with Commissioner Pullen about a resolution regarding the regulation of wolves.

Committee reports were next. Commissioner Rondeau discussed the airport and money that was left in the airport budget and wondered about using that money for prepping for the new building. It was said that there are still bills for the airport to come from the budget. Commissioner Doucette said that he talked with Tony Retaskie for classes with the trades. He thought that they could do work at the airport, maybe using the heavy equipment. Commissioner Mattson discussed the raises for the Schoolcraft County circuit court employees. He said that Alger County approved \$0.7 ½ cents (\$.30 cent raise). He said that in a meeting in November, Dan LaFoille told him that Schoolcraft County gave them a \$.60 cent raise. He said that he told Dan that Alger County only approved the \$.30 cent raise. Dan told him to pay what they agreed to, which was done. Commissioner VanLandschoot discussed AMCAB (Alger Marquette Community Action Board) and their

new Director. He said that the new Director that was chosen decided not to take the position. He said that Amy Lerlie will be the new Director taking Earl Hawn's position. Commissioner Doucette said that he talked with Jon Mead and that they are in the process of transferring the monies for the membership fee from UPCAP (Upper Peninsula Commissioner for Aging Progress) to CUPPAD (Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development). He said that they are directly going to pay CUPPAD from UPCAP for Alger County. Commissioner Doucette asked Sergeant Webber to discuss the jail renovation. Steve Webber discussed what has taken place with the jail committee, the architect, and updated the board on the process. Commissioner Mattson said that at the judicial meeting, Judge Carmody would like to see all four counties to charge the same for inmates @ \$40 per day. Commissioner Rondeau asked about the public. Commissioner Doucette said that eventually they will get the public involved in the jail renovation. This was discussed at length.

Correspondence was read and discussed from Alger County DHS (Department of Human Services) for their board minutes and meeting notice. This will be filed in the board meeting file.

Board comments were next. Commissioner Doucette discussed problems with vehicle repairs running over \$500 and not getting approval. He said that he talked with the sheriff about this. Commissioner Mattson said what if the vehicle isn't worth getting it fixed. The sheriff discussed purchasing new vehicles with the USDA grants. Commissioner Mattson said he would like to know what vehicles we have and to try and rotate the vehicles. Commissioner Doucette discussed the lame duck session and the Governor wanting to get things done before the end of the year. He discussed the transportation bill, new guidelines set in truth and sentencing, patrol guidelines, and prison guidelines. He said that they will look at DHS next year. He discussed the energy bill and that things are moving forward. He said that they will have a summit and that they will have to get federal representatives involved regarding FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) and EPA (Environmental Protection Agency). He said that the U.P. should be under one state jurisdiction. There should be one in the U.P. and one south of the bridge. This was discussed at length. There were no other board comments.

Staff comments were next. The sheriff said that Kevin Denecke from MMRMA (Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority) held a seminar for all police agencies regarding best practice review. He said that they did very well and made a few suggestions. There was discussion on security for the courthouse and having MMRMA and a RAP grant to help. There were no other staff comments.

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

This meeting is now adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

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Jerry Doucette, Chairman  
Alger County Board of Commissioners

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Mary Ann Froberg  
Alger County Clerk