

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

August 14, 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 4:00 p.m. on the above date.

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

The board of commissioners said the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The agenda was presented. The agenda was amended to include Joe Verlin from Gabridge & Co. to give the 2016 Annual Audit Report.

Gabridge & Co. issued an unmodified opinion for the 2016 Alger County audit, which is the highest ranking opinion. The unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2016 was \$137,671 which is 3.6% of the budget. Commissioner Rondeau asked Mr. Verlin if this was a good amount. Joe explained that Gabridge & Co. recommends 10%.

Mary Ann Froberg explained that Alger County will be implementing a new payroll system using BS&A software. The Courthouse employees' pay period which run Thursday through Wednesday, needs to be backed up to match the sheriff's department pay period which runs Sunday through Saturday. It was the consensus of the board to authorize changing the payroll ending date for the courthouse to be the same as the Sheriff's Department. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to advertise for the Maintenance Worker position. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize Commissioner Pullen, Commissioner Doucette, Mary Ann Froberg, Steve Webber and Pam Johnson to attend the MAC Conference. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize Commissioner Doucette, Mary Ann Froberg and Pam Johnson to attend the LFAD Summit 2017. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment for the virtual server for BS&A in the amount of \$704.00. The monies are to come from all departments. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment to the Alger County Fair in the amount of \$750.00. Monies are to come from their appropriation (101-270-969.000). This item will be added to the consent agenda.

Commissioner Doucette arrived at 4:40 p.m.

Sheriff Brock explained the jail is housing Schoolcraft County's overflow inmates and says the jail revenue will be up. Commissioner Mattson explained that Schoolcraft County officials will meet on October 18 at 4:00 p.m. and are ready for a presentation and estimated costs to take over Emergency 911 dispatching for Schoolcraft County. Sheriff Brock would like to see Schoolcraft County approach Alger County. Sheriff Brock is offering space within Alger County's dispatch area and Schoolcraft could even use their employees for just an administrative fee. Commissioner Mattson said a figure of \$50,000 per year was put out, but Mr. Webber thought that counties are paying closer to \$70,000. Mr. Webber

elaborated that it is in Schoolcraft County's best interest to employ someone from their county, who knows their county better than other counties or the State Police to dispatch their emergency 911 system.

There were no appropriations

There was some discussion regarding the UPPCO bill for the Ambulance garage and attorney bills being turned in late. It was the consensus of the board to approve payment of all of the board bills as recommended by the audit committee. This is to be added 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 is to be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to transfer \$3,000 from the treasurer's budget to the audit budget. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

There will be three resolutions introduced at next week's Regular Board Meeting.

Committee reports were next. Commissioner Doucette explained Alger County will receive a grant from MSHDA in the amount of \$57,791 for the demolition of the Long Brach Saloon in Trenary. The property must be deeded into the Landbank. Commissioner Doucette met with officials at the White House and expressed the need for operating services. Commissioner Doucette emphasized to White House staff the importance of Payment in Lieu of Taxes, municipal bonds and infrastructure spending. Commissioner Doucette spoke with Representative Casperson and they will be arranging a meeting between State and County officials regarding cuts to PILT. Commissioner Rondeau attended a UP State Fair Board meeting.

Correspondence was briefly read from Michigan Supreme Court regarding video systems; Northern Initiatives regarding Community Economic Development Projects Grant; CUPPAD regarding Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grant; Alger-Marquette Community Action Agency regarding continuing application for Head Start and Early Head Start FY-2018; Alger-Marquette Community Action Board regarding FY2017-18 Head Start Application; Department of Health & Human Services Board Meeting Notice / Agenda for August 17, 2017. Mary Ann Froberg explained she received a response from Cohl, Stoker & Toskey, P.C. regarding three possible fixes for the problems with the ALTRAN Board.

Board comments were next. Commissioner Rondeau also received a response letter regarding the ALTRAN Board fixes. Commissioner Doucette will be meeting with Munising City Manager Devin Olson and Mayor Rod DesJardins to further discuss ALTRAN. Commissioner Mattson said Nick Derusha from LMAS thanked Commissioner Rondeau for information about Alaska. Commissioner Mattson received a response from the Landfill and it will be opened September 16 and October 21 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If both of these days are successful, the Landfill will open November 18 from 8:00 am to 12:00 p.m. as well.

Sheriff Brock gave an update regarding recent rescues on the lake and lakeshore. Sheriff Brock also believes all rescues should be billed as opposed to just negligent rescues. Sheriff Brock would like to train the department's dive team because the State of Michigan's dive team takes too long to get here. Sheriff Brock also noted that Munising Bay is a great bay to train on. Mr. Webber noted the amount of people that have inundated the local communities and that the influx of tourists is not accounted for, nor planned for properly. Sheriff Brock was told that law enforcement should have space at the dock for the rescue boat. Sheriff Brock would like to schedule a Law Enforcement Committee meeting for Monday August 20 at 2:00 p.m. Commissioner Doucette would like to recover funds for officer holsters from workers compensation.

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 6:22 p.m.

Jerry Doucette, Chairman
Alger County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Froberg
Alger County Clerk