

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

**August 12, 2019**

**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. Prosecuting Attorney Robert Steinhoff introduced the new Child Support Coordinator, Lara Bender. There was no public comment; thus, the public comment was closed.

It was the consensus of the board to approve the agenda as presented.

Michigan State Police Lt. Clint Michel was present to discuss the Facility Use Agreement (four rooms) for State Troopers in the courthouse building. Rent would not be charged; however, MSP would provide services such as training and certifications. Lt. Michelin emphasized the benefits of housing MSP troopers at the courthouse allowing for better coordination between agencies. Sheriff Brock espoused the benefits of such an arrangement. Prosecuting Attorney Robert Steinhoff offered his strong support. Commissioner Doucette would like to see this happen in more counties. Lt. Michelin further elaborated on trooper presence, parking, scheduling, and the timeline to complete such a move. It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to approve the Facility Use Agreement between the Michigan Department of State Police and Alger County. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to approve the 2020 Child Care Fund budget. This item will be added to the consent agenda. Prosecuting Attorney Robert Steinhoff is excited for the staffing and work in the Probate Court.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to approve the hiring of Jana Mathieu as Indigent Defense Attorney. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Rondeau and seconded by Commissioner VanLandschoot to approve the Veterans Affairs Grant Agreement. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

There was some discussion regarding issues surrounding the Burt Township ambulance service and medical control. Sheriff Brock spoke briefly about recent issues concerning his rescue team. It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Mattson to approve the Burt Ambulance Corps becoming part of Alger County's ambulance service and medical control. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Pullen and seconded by Commissioner Rondeau to approve hiring Cohl, Stoker & Toskey for questions concerning ambulance labor issues. Monies are to come from Ambulance Fund #210. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes – Commissioners Mattson, Pullen, Rondeau, VanLandschoot and Doucette. Nays – none. Absent – none. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to approve the resolution requesting reallocation of assets from overfunded MERS divisions to division 11. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

There were no cost savings ideas or revenue sources.

Prosecuting Attorney, Robert Steinhoff is to discuss Marijuana policies with Administrator, Steve Webber.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment to LMAS for their quarterly appropriation in the amount of \$20,049.00 (101-601-969.000). This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize payment to Northcare for their substance abuse payment in the amount of \$9,884.00 (101-631-969.000). This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to approve payment of all board bills as recommended by the Audit Committee. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to approve Financial Reports for all funds (Trial Balance Report Available). This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the treasurer to amend the revenues in reimbursements in the amount of \$22,000.00 (101-000-676.000). This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to amend the expenditures in Employee Fringe Benefits in the amount of \$22,000.00 (101-862). This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the treasurer to amend the revenues in Fund 293 Veteran's Relief in the amount of \$10,000.00. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

It was the consensus of the board to authorize the clerk to amend the expenditures in Fund 293 Veteran's Relief in the amount of \$10,000.00. This item will be added to the consent agenda.

There were no miscellaneous financial matters.

There were no resolutions.

Commissioner Mattson and Commissioner VanLandschoot attended a Judicial Committee meeting. Commissioner Rondeau explained that three Veterans Affairs board members resigned and briefly updated County Fair news. Commissioner Pullen is waiting for airport land exchange documents to be recorded. Commissioner Doucette spoke about Michigan Works and Michigan Launch Initiative.

Correspondence was briefly read from Michigan Indigent Defense Commission and State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Commissioner Doucette reiterated that approving the agreement with the State Police was a good thing. Commissioner Doucette would like HB 4590 to be changed to include all counties in the Upper Peninsula. Commissioner Mattson is glad to see progress in the Prosecuting Attorney's office as well as Probate Court. Commissioner Doucette explained there is a big push to close Line 5. Commissioner Rondeau is very enthusiastic about the agreement with the Michigan State Police. Commissioner Rondeau commented that the U.P. is one of the most mineral rich locations in the United States. Commissioner Pullen would like to see a resolution on Line 5. Commissioner Pullen is excited about the agreement with the State Police. Commissioner Doucette explained concerns surrounding excessive speed on certain roads.

Prosecuting Attorney Robert Steinhoff is working with Sheriff Brock to address speed concerns on Lehen Road. Mr. Steinhoff explained that the MSP agreement makes his office more effective. Mr. Steinhoff explained that he decided to withdraw from Northern Michigan Advocacy for Children MOU and entered into an agreement with Delta County. Mr. Steinhoff is attending a Prosecuting Attorney Association meeting and explained funding congruence with MIDC will be an issue.

Public comment session was open. Brice Burge explained issues at K.I. Sawyer. There was no further public comment from the floor; thus, the public comment session was closed.

The Chairman adjourned this meeting at 6:00 p.m.