

COURTS & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, September 15, 2025 – 4:00 p.m.
Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room

Commissioners Present: Lucille Bray, Chair
Dan Ludlow
Bill LaHaie
John Kozlowski

Others Present: Jesse Osmer, County Administrator
Kim Elkie, EM/911 Director
Fire Chief Rob Edmonds
Sheriff Erik Smith
Deputy Michelle Reid

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Lucille Bray called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ROLL CALL

All Committee members present.

MOTION TO ADOPT AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Retired Sheriff for Alpena County Steve Kieliszewski attended the meeting hoping to get answers regarding the county's response to the ice storm that happened several months ago. He is concerned with the lack of immediate attention, protocol, and response from emergency services. Regarding the Emergency Manager position, he expressed that this needs to be a full-time position and questioned if there was another incident to take place, like the ice storm, how is the manager going to respond to both Presque Isle and Alpena counties. County Administrator Jesse Osmer will send the information he is requesting.

CHILD CARE FUND MONTHLY REPORT

Juvenile Officer Janelle Mott was not present to provide the monthly Child Care Fund report.

ANIMAL CONTROL UPDATE

- Animal Control Officer Michelle Reid reported the shelter has taken in 188 animals so far as of noon today. There were 26 cats and 160 dogs. There are still 13 in-house, 2 in foster and 1 at another shelter.
- Commissioner Kozlowski asked Deputy Reid to continue creating the animal control reports that were presented when the Animal Control Adhoc Committee had been meeting.
- County Administrator Osmer inquired if the prosecutor has been helpful in getting animals released to our care and Deputy Reid reported forfeiture hearings are very quick to come now.
- The shelter inspection report shows the flooring in the shelter needs to be addressed again. Administrator Osmer will speak with the Maintenance Superintendent to look at the flooring.

- The Girl Scout's Silver Project, the Rainbow Bridge, is complete and looks fantastic. It will be placed outside on October 1st with an official unveiling.
- The Blessing of the Animals with Pastor Rob from the First United Methodist Church will take place on October 4th.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to receive and file the Animal Control update as presented. Motion carried.

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT FOR ALPENA COUNTY FIRST RESPONDERS

During August's Courts & Public Safety Committee meeting, the full tuition reimbursement request for Alpena County First Responders taking and successfully completing the EMT course was approved at \$1,650.00 per student. The action item was pulled from the Full Board consent calendar to be brought back to this committee for further discussion. Chair Bray reported the fiscal policy states the county was responsible for up to \$750.00 per student for reimbursement.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to approve tuition reimbursement of \$750.00 for Alpena County first responders as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioner Kozlowski. NAYS: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, and Bray. Motion failed.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Kozlowski to approve tuition reimbursement of \$1,650.00 for Alpena County first responders as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie and Bray. NAYS: Commissioners Ludlow and Kozlowski. Motion failed.

Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner Kozlowski to approve tuition reimbursement of half the cost of the \$1,650.00 for Alpena County first responders as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Ludlow and Kozlowski. NAYS: Commissioners LaHaie and Ludlow. Motion failed.

Moved by Commissioner Bray and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to approve tuition reimbursement of \$1,000.00 for Alpena County first responders as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Kozlowski, and Bray. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval of the tuition reimbursement of \$1,000.00/per student to any Alpena County First Responder agency upon successful completion of the course and licensure as a certified Michigan EMT as presented.

AMBULANCE SERVICE AGREEMENT – INMATE TRANSFERS

The Ambulance Service Agreement states that inmates in the care of the Alpena County Sheriff will be transported for a flat fee of \$250.00, per run, for the life of this agreement. The city has overbilled the county for 32 inmates and will reimburse the county \$13,786.74. The city has also overbilled Montmorency County for 5 inmates and will be reimbursing them \$1,853.97. Commissioner Kozlowski will send all information in an email to City Manager Rachel Smolinski and Clerk/Treasurer Anna Soik requesting those reimbursements.

MONTHLY AMBULANCE OPERATIONS UPDATE

Fire Chief Rob Edmonds provided an update on EMS operations.

- The state will be court-ordered to get the title for the ambulance pending the signing off of one more vendor.
- They had a CE Blitz offering last Saturday with 10 personnel attending. Six of those were from Alpena City Fire Department and four from area first responders.
- The call volume is steady at about 14 calls a day.

Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to receive and file the monthly ambulance operations update as presented. Motion carried.

911/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Emergency Management and E/911 Services Director Kim Elkie provided the Emergency Management and E/911 monthly update:

- For the month of August there were 4,780 total calls with 14 incoming texts and 24 outgoing.
- The average time to answer all calls was 2.5 seconds.
- The average call length for all call types for the month was 1 minutes and 29 seconds, with the longest call in August at 22 minutes and 30 seconds.
- Last month Director Elkie informed the committee that the weather warning siren on Woodview was offline. The siren was repaired, but during the preventative maintenance on the other sirens, there were issues with the ones on Bear Point Road, Wilson Street, and Carriveau Road. The Carriveau siren could have possibly been damaged during the ice storm, but there is no way to prove it to claim on the insurance. The invoice totaled \$5,951.00 and will be submitted for payment at Full Board. All sirens are back online.
- The final COVID reimbursement was received in the amount of \$756.48.
- Director Elkie is hoping to have all the remaining information to FEMA this week for the ice storm.
- The U.S. Senate recently passed an Enhancing First Response Act that would reclassify 911 dispatchers as public safety workers. Currently, dispatchers are classified as office and administrative support. The bill now moves to the House of Representatives.
- They participated in Relay for Life and raised \$1,081.00 for the American Cancer Society and are already planning for next year.
- A job offer was accepted last week, and they are looking forward to welcoming a new team member.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to receive and file the Emergency Management and E911 update as presented. Motion carried.

CAD INTEGRATION FOR REPORTING SOFTWARE

Director Elkie reported that fire and EMS are being required by the state to change their reporting platforms to a different software system. Director Elkie presented a quote and product information from Central Square allowing the fire and EMS agencies to electronically access their call details from 911's computer-aided dispatch system versus receiving the current paper hard-copies. The cost to implement the project is \$2,340.00 which will cover the entirety of all our county fire departments with a first year's subscription fee of \$3,000.00 bring the total cost to \$5,340.00. The amount is being requested into 911's 2025 budget line item 261-325-970.003 Ambulance Fund Expenditures, from the Ambulance and Emergency Services System Millage fund monies to cover the implementation costs and first year subscription fee. There will be an annual recurring subscription fee of \$3,000.00, which will be requested from millage funds as part of 911's annual budget preparation.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to recommend approval of the Ambulance Fund Request for CAD Integration as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Kozlowski, and Bray. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #2: The Committee recommends approval of the quote from Central Square in the amount of \$5,340.00 to paid from line item 261-325-970.003 Ambulance Fund Expenditures to allow for fire and EMS agencies to electronically access their call details from 911's computer-aided dispatch system versus the paper hard-copies they currently receive as presented. There will be an annual recurring subscription fee of \$3,000.00, which will be requested from millage funds as part of 911's annual budget preparation.

AMBULANCE FUND MONTHLY REPORTS

Chair Bray presented the Ambulance Fund monthly reports to receive and file. Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to receive and file the monthly Ambulance Fund reports as presented. Motion carried.

MEDICAL EXAMINERS MONTHLY REPORTS

Chair Bray presented the Medical Examiner's monthly reports to receive and file. Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to receive and file the monthly Medical Examiner's reports as presented. Motion carried.

VETERANS AFFAIRS MONTHLY REPORT

Chair Bray presented the Veteran's Affairs Office monthly report to receive and file. Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to receive and file the monthly Veteran's Affairs report as presented. Motion carried.

***Next Meeting: Monday, October 20, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in the Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Lucille Bray, Chair
Courts & Public Safety Committee

kvm