OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Special Full Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 6, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room

CALL TO ORDER

The Alpena County Board of Commissioners met, and the special meeting was called to order by Chairman John Kozlowski in the County Annex Building, Howard Male Conference Room, Alpena, Michigan and via Zoom on Thursday, October 6, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called with the following Commissioners present: Bill LaHaie, District #1; Dan Ludlow, District #2; Lucille Bray, District #3; Brenda Fournier, District #5; Travis Konarzewski, District #7; and John Kozlowski, District #8. Commissioners Bill Peterson, District #4; and Todd Britton, District #6 excused.

AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

2027 HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS

County Administrator Jesse Osmer presented the 2027 health insurance benefits for review and approval. He noted the reason for the special meeting today is due to time constraints to allow staff to go through open enrollment and get the final numbers to the provider to be included in the budget. Blue Cross raised their prices by 11.9% and Priority Health came back with a 2.9% increase. Administrator Osmer recommends using Priority Health and shopping around for prices in 3-4 years.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Bray to approve the 2027 health insurance benefits as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioners Peterson and Britton excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #1: Recommendation to approve the Alpena County healthcare benefits for 2027 as presented.

AIRPORT BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Administrator Osmer reported at a previous meeting the board directed himself and the Chairman to move forward terminating the contract with Alpena Ground Services. The term was negotiated to end September 30th at midnight. Budget adjustments now need to be made to move funds that paid Alpena Ground Services into employee wages and benefits. To date three employees have been switched over with a possible fourth to start soon and plan to add the other two before the end of the year, if not immediately beginning after the first of the next fiscal year. There is savings for this year of approximately $15,000.00.

Moved by Commissioner Konarzewski and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to approve the airport budget adjustment memo as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioners Peterson and Britton excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #2: Recommendation to approve reallocating funds from line item 295-595-801.000 to the appropriate line items regarding wages, benefits, and overtime within the same budget for the newly hired Airfield Crew as referenced in the memo, and to direct the Treasurer, Clerk and Administrator's Office to take the necessary actions to complete these adjustments as presented.

RESOLUTION #26-14 OPT OUT OF PA 152 FOR 2027 HEALTHCARE

Administrator Osmer presented Resolution #26-14 to opt out of PA 152 for 2027 healthcare and set custom employee contribution amounts. The county adopts this resolution each year.

EXEMPTION

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL EXEMPTION OPTION AS SET FORTH IN 2011 PUBLIC ACT 152, THE PUBLICLY FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION ACT

WHEREAS, 2011 Public Act 152 (the "Act") was passed by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor on September 24, 2011;

WHEREAS, the Act contains three options for complying with the requirements of the Act;

WHEREAS, the three options are as follows:

1) Section 3 – "Hard Caps" Option – limits a public employer's total annual health care costs for employees based on coverage levels, as defined in the Act;
2) Section 4 – "80%/20%" Option – limits a public employer's share of total annual health care costs to not more than 80%. This option requires an annual majority vote of the governing body;
3) Section 8 – "Exemption" Option – a local unit of government, as defined in the Act, may exempt itself from the requirements of the Act by an annual 2/3 vote of the governing body;

WHEREAS, the County of Alpena has decided to adopt the annual Exemption option as its choice of compliance under the Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the County of Alpena elects to comply with the requirements of 2011 Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, by adopting the annual Exemption option for the medical benefit plan coverage year January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027.

Moved by Commissioner Fourier and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to approve Resolution #26-14 adopting the annual exemption option of PA 152 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioners Peterson and Britton excused. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Fournier to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

John Kozlowski, Chairman of the Board