

COURTS & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 20, 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
Andy Marceau, Alpena City Fire
Sheriff Erik Smith (zoom)
Judge Ed Black
Janelle Mott, Juvenile Officer
Bill Pfeifer, MAC Administrator

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

MOTION TO ADOPT AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CHILD CARE FUND MONTHLY REPORT

Juvenile Officer Janelle Mott presented the Child Care Fund report for the months of June through September. She will be presenting the FY26 Child Care Fund budget at next week's Full Board meeting for approval. Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to receive and file the Child Care Fund reports as presented. Motion carried.

MIDC – INDIGENT INMATE TRANSPORTS

Commissioner Kozlowski had received an email from Sheriff Smith indicating that Cheboygan County's Sheriff's Office had been tracking the time that they spent with indigent inmates for transports courts and for being escorted for Polycom and inquired if this was something Alpena County could be reimbursed for as well. MAC Administrator Bill Pfeifer stated this was a discussion point at one of the state board meetings with a consensus that unless you could specifically show that a particular deputy would not be there but for having to transport MIDC would not reimburse. Administrator Pfeifer will gather more information.

AMBULANCE INVOICE REIMBURSEMENT UPDATE

Commissioner Kozlowski inquired on the status of the ambulance invoice reimbursement from the City of Alpena. Andy Marceau with Alpena City Fire will reach out to the City Clerk/Treasurer and City Manager for more information and will get back to him.

PUBLIC DEFENDER AGREEMENT

At August's Courts & Public Safety Committee meeting MAC Administrator Bill Pfeifer reported there were some concern about these contracts on whether they might be cut and whether the state might not appropriate the same amount of money to MIDC that it has in the past. Although the state has appropriated a little less money this year, everyone is still anticipated to be fully funded. The grants have not formally been approved yet but should be approved tomorrow as they are on the state board meeting agenda. MAC Administrator Pfeifer will notify County Administrator Jesse Osmer once the grants have been approved.

MAC Administrator Pfeifer presented the Public Defender Agreement with the Northeast Michigan Regional Public Defender's Office in the amount of \$868,364.05 for review and approval. Commissioner Kozlowski noted a change to be made under recitals part B stating the Managed Assigned Counsel Administrator reports to the Alpena County Executive Manager and should read Alpena County Administrator. The agreement is effective beginning October 1, 2025, and continues through September 30, 2026.

Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to recommend approval of the Public Defender Agreement as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Kozlowski, and Bray. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval of the Public Defender's Agreement with the Northeast Michigan Regional Public Defender's Office in the amount of \$868,364.05 with monthly installments of \$72,363.67 per month beginning October 1, 2025, and continuing through September 30, 2026, as presented.

MAC ADMINISTRATOR AGREEMENT

MAC Administrator Pfeifer presented the Managed Assigned Counsel Administrator Agreement in the amount of \$20,280.00. The amount has increased over last year's amount of \$18,000.00 due to the amounts that have been approved by the state for indigent defense have going up and also the anticipated additional hours. The agreement is effective beginning October 1, 2025, and continues through September 30, 2026.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Kozlowski to recommend approval of the MAC Administrator Agreement 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 MAC Administrator's Agreement with Bill Pfeifer in the amount of \$20,280.00 with monthly installments of \$1,690.00 per month beginning October 1, 2025, and continuing through September 30, 2026, as presented.

MAC Administrator Pfeifer updated the Committee on a new attorney with the Public Defender Chris Alexander that will primarily be handling arraignments and misdemeanor work.

FIREARMS POLICY

Circuit Court Judge Ed Black presented a draft firearms policy for firearms possession within county buildings, and specifically within the courts. The draft policy was put together due to recent incidents for security within the courts that have caused concern and a request from an elected official about carrying a firearm. Currently, the authority for carrying a firearm in the courts is bested with the Chief Judge. Discussion was made on the sufficiency of only having a CPL and what further certifications

should be met. Additional information will be obtained and discussed at a future Courts & Public Safety Committee meeting.

SHERIFF AED'S AND TRAINER

Commissioner Kozlowski presented a memo on behalf of Sheriff Erik Smith requesting to purchase 13 new AEDs and a trainer at a cost of \$28,000.00. Currently, the Sheriff's Office utilizes 4 AEDs for road patrol and one mounted at the jail. To better be prepared for emergencies they would like to equip all patrol vehicles with AEDs, have 2 additional AEDs for Marine & ORV patrols, have an additional AED at the jail, and purchase an AED trainer. This is not a budgeted expense, but the purchase could be justified under the Alpena County Ambulance Millage fund. Discussion was made on the need to keep the AEDs protected while left in vehicles due to extreme temperatures. Sheriff Smith attended the meeting by zoom reporting there would be no issue with taking equipment inside as the deputies currently do this with their other equipment.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported Commissioner Ludlow to recommend approval of the Sheriff's Office AED purchase as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Kozlowski, and Bray. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #3: The Committee recommends approval of the Sheriff's request to purchase 13 new AEDs and a trainer with a cost of approximately \$28,000.00 to equip all patrol vehicles, Marine and ORV patrols, and have an additional AED at the jail as presented. The funding will come from the Ambulance Millage Fund.

AMBULANCE FUND MONTHLY REPORTS

Chair Bray presented the Ambulance Fund monthly reports to receive and file. Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to receive and file the monthly Ambulance Fund reports 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 September there were 4,195 total calls with 10 incoming texts and 31 outgoing.
- The average time to answer all calls was 2.8 seconds.
- The average call length for all call types for the month was 1 minutes and 30 seconds, with the longest call in August at 21 minutes and 48 seconds.
- Last month the former sheriff was here and voiced concerns about the ice storm. Director Elkie invited him back to her office after the meeting for further discussion and he was very pleased with the information provided to him.
- The total reimbursement from FEMA for emergency protective measures and the lock-in freezer compressor that was damaged out at the jail during the storm is going to be \$61,905.76.
- A new dispatcher started on October 12th.
- Director Elkie invited the committee to follow their social media page as they have gotten more active with writeups and postings.
- Dispatch participated in a fire prevention event at Home Depot teaching children about 911.
- Director Elkie is attending the Michigan Township Association this evening to talk to them about Code Red.
- The kickoff meeting for the CAD integration project with fire has been rescheduled by the vendor to Monday, October 27th.

- One of the team members designed a t-shirt for breast cancer awareness and proceeds from the sales went to Friends Together.
- Dispatch is participating in the downtown Trunk or Treat event this Friday. Director Elkie thanked Alpena Buick GMC for sponsoring the candy each year.
- Director Elkie presented at a health department and hospital focused conference in the UP regarding the storm. The bottom line of every post-storm meeting is the successful asset we have as a county which is our partners.
- FEMA reimburses 75% of the damages that are submitted, however we can increase our reimbursement payment by any donations that we received. Those will count toward the 25% copay. The copay is \$15,000.00 to cover the full project between the emergency protective measures and the compressor at the jail. Director Elkie currently can document \$13,000.00 and Administrator Osmer is trying to locate the individuals who donated to get the remaining \$2,000.00 needed to cover the copay.

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

MEDICAL EXAMINERS MONTHLY REPORTS

Chair Bray presented the Medical Examiner's monthly reports to receive and file. Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to receive and file the monthly Medical Examiner's reports as presented. Commissioner Kozlowski noted a change on the total number of cases investigated by MMMEG to be 101 not 14 as listed. Motion carried.

***Next Meeting: Monday, November 17, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in the Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Lucille Bray, Chair
Courts & Public Safety Committee

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