

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DRAFT - Full Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, April 23, 2024 – 1:00 p.m.  
Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Alpena County Board of Commissioners met and was called to order by Chairman John Kozlowski in the County Annex Building, Howard Male Conference Room, Alpena, Michigan and via Zoom on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

**PRAYER**

Prayer was offered by Father Tyler Bischoff of All Saints Parish.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman John Kozlowski called for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll was called with the following Commissioners present: Bill LaHaie, District #1; Jesse Osmer, District #2; Robin Lalonde, District #3; Bill Peterson, District #4; Brenda Fournier, District #5; Burt Francisco, District #6; Travis Konarzewski, District #7; and John Kozlowski, District #8.

**AGENDA**

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Lalonde to adopt the agenda with the following additions: 1) Two Invoices to Pay and a Budget Adjustment. Motion carried.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Chairman John Kozlowski presented the Consent Calendar with minutes and action items for approval.

- A) **Finance Ways & Means Committee Meeting Minutes – April 9, 2024\* (\*Minutes only)**
  - **Special Full Board Meeting – April 19, 2024\* (\*Minutes only)**
  
- B) **Animal Control Adhoc Committee Meeting Minutes – April 4, 2024 (\*Minutes only)**

**C) Courts & Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes – April 15, 2024**

ACTION ITEM CPSC#1: The Committee recommends approval of the Medical First Responder Tuition Reimbursement request in the amount of \$750.00 per student from line item 210-651-955.002 EMS Training for the following responder agencies:

Alpena City Fire Department:	Michael Stauffer
Green Twp Fire Department:	Amy Bedford
	Mya Klimczak
	Christopher Massey
Long Rapids Twp Fire Department:	Cade MacArthur
	Will MacArthur
	Jesse Mischloney
Maple Ridge Twp Fire Department:	Marshall Suszek
Sanborn Twp Fire Department:	Mitchell Aube
Wilson Twp Fire Department:	Samantha Garrow

ACTION ITEM CPSC #2: The Committee recommends approval of the Animal Control Adhoc Committee’s request regarding Management Operations at the Alpena County Animal Control Shelter to continue staffing county employees including a Shelter Manager with supervisory responsibilities maintaining under the Alpena County Sheriff as presented.

**D) Facilities, Capital, & Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2024**

ACTION ITEM FCSPC #1: The Committee recommends approval for Northern Lights Arena to properly dispose of old unsafe rental skates as presented. These skates have been replaced with new rental skates through Alpena County Youth & Recreation grants.

**INFORMATION ONLY:**

Alpena County Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes – March 13, 2024

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Osmer to approve the Consent Calendar, which includes actions as listed above and filing of all reports as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**BILLS TO PAY**

Clerk Keri Bertrand presented the bills to be paid.

	SUBMITTED:	APPROVED:
General Fund & Other Funds	\$ 41,798.51	\$ 41,798.51

Moved by Commissioner Lalonde and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to pay all bills as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

## **BUDGET ADJUSTMENT - AMY CELL TALENT INVOICE**

Commissioner Peterson presented Invoice #2971 from Amy Cell Talent in the amount of \$4,750. The amount was previously approved but there were not enough funds in the Professional Services line item to pay the invoice.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Francisco to reduce the Contingency line item 101-941-955.000 by \$10,000 and to increase the to the Professional Services line item 101-200-801.000 by \$10,000 and pay Amy Cell Talent Invoice #2971 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

## **PLANTE MORAN INVOICE**

Commissioner Peterson presented Invoice #10059882 from Plante Moran Cressa in the amount of \$6,557.85.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Lalonde to approve a budget adjustment to increase the Building and Grounds line item 631-265-975.006 by \$6,558 to pay the Plante Moran Invoice #10059882 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

## **MEDICAL EXAMINER PROFESSIONAL WITNESS FEES BILL**

Commissioner Peterson presented an invoice from the Medical Examiner's Office for a witness fee in the amount of \$360. Treasurer Kim Ludlow will create a Professional Witness Fees line item 101-648-811.000 within the Medical Examiner's budget and transfer \$2,000.00 from the Administrative Services line item 101-648-806.000 to the Professional Witness Fees line item 101-648-811.000.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve payment of the Medical Examiner Witness Fee invoice of \$360 from the Professional Witness Fee line item 101-648-811.000 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

## **BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS**

1. City of Alpena Reimbursement Request – Service/Repair Cardiac Monitor – No monies budgeted for 2024 (attached)

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Francisco to approve the following budget adjustment as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval to put money into the Equipment/City Contract line item #210-651-972.000 to reimburse the City of Alpena up to the amount of \$2,250.00 for the service and repair of a Lifepak Cardiac Monitor as no money was budgeted for 2024 and pay Invoice #24-0000246 in the amount of \$2,250.00. See attached approved Board Action #03 from Full Board on 12.27.23.**

### **AMY CELL TALENT – UPDATE ON CANDIDATES**

Amy Cell reported the next step for hiring a County Administrator would be to move forward with entering negotiations with a candidate, have additional interviews, or relaunch the search. Discussion was made on hiring a new County Administrator or keeping things the way they currently are to help save the County the extra money off the budget. Commission Francisco recommended delaying the hiring of a County Administrator until the County can see what revenues this fall will be.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Lalonde to approve hiring Jesse Osmer as the new County Administrator. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Lalonde, Fournier, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: Commissioners LaHaie, Peterson, and Francisco. Commissioner Osmer recused. Motion carried.

### **CRTC LEASE AGREEMENT AMENDMENT**

Maj. Anthony Hylko presented a request for a lease amendment with the CRTC. The current lease is for 50 years and was signed in 2012 and is also governed by an Airport Joint Use Agreement (AJUA) which is a 10-year agreement and is good through 2025. Maj. Hylko reported they do not want to replace the lease but amend the current lease from shared use to exclusive use for the Air National Guard. There are over 725,000 sq ft of airfield pavements where no FAA/GA requirement exists. The pavements are structured specifically for use of the Air National Guard. This will give Maj. Hylko the authority to obtain funding to maintain, repair and invest in the pavements, which takes the responsibility off the airport and County.

Maj. Hylko also presented a request to make use of undeveloped land east of the airport that belongs to Alpena County to simulate austere training to accomplish their training objectives. Historically, they have used portions of the area but would like a formal lease agreement showing their boundaries. Training would be low impact with no permanent infrastructure.

Chair Kozlowski reported that there is an existing easement of right of way in that area and Maj. Hylko reported it would stay the same. The sign on Airport Road could also be replaced with funding from the base under the amended agreement and discussion was made on putting a static display out there as well.

Moved by Commissioner Konarzewski and supported by Commissioner Lalonde to approve moving forward with amendments to the current CRTC lease as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

## **BALLOT LANGUAGE FOR LIBRARY MILLAGE**

Representative on the Board of Trustees Michelle Cornish presented ballot language for the library millage renewal for review and approval.

### **RESOLUTION #24-10 APPROVING BALLOT LANGUAGE FOR LIBRARY MILLAGE**

WHEREAS, Alpena County (“County”) has the powers granted by 1851 Act 156, including the authority to levy a tax to raise funds permitted and authorized by law, and the authority to levy a tax for library purposes pursuant to the County Libraries Act, 1917 PA 138; and

WHEREAS, the County previously placed a proposal on the ballot to provide funds for local public library service in Alpena County; and

WHEREAS, voters previously approved a renewal of .75 mill (rolled back to .7462 mill when it was last levied in 2023) mill for ten years to fund library service in Alpena County and that millage expired in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Library Board determines that it is in the best interests and welfare of Alpena County and its residents that revenue be authorized for the purpose of funding library service; and

WHEREAS, the Library Board desires to request voters approve a millage of .7462 mill, which is a renewal of the millage that expired in 2023, subject to applicable Headlee rollbacks, for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the 2024 levy; and

WHEREAS, Library Board has determined that placing the millage request on the ballot at the August 6, 2024 election is in the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of the County residents.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve the ballot language and adopt Resolution #24-10 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

## **INMATE MEDICAL-ADVANCED CORRECTIONAL HEALTHCARE**

Sheriff Erik Smith presented a renewal contract with the current vendor Advanced Correctional Healthcare for services at the Jail. Sheriff Smith reached out to other vendors and Advanced Health was the only vendor to give options.

Moved by Commissioner Osmer and supported by Commissioner Fournier to renew the contract with Advanced Correctional Healthcare as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #5: Recommendation to approve the proposed renewal contract with Advanced Correctional Healthcare for services at the Jail at the proposed rate of \$209,591.00 from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025, as presented.**

## **FAIRBOARD REQUESTS – FIREWORKS SHOW**

President of the Fair Board Courtney Krentz reported they would like to have fireworks this year at the end of the fair. There have been some questions and concerns from the community and Courtney reported they are offering an early release for animals and that the fireworks are biodegradable. Pending approval, the show would be conducted at 10:00 p.m. and they would allow people to take the animals at 8:00 p.m. if they felt their animals would be affected. The Fair Board is willing to work with Animal Control to alleviate any concerns about the animals at the shelter.

Andy Marceau with the City of Alpena Fire Department reported himself along with Fire Chief Rob Edmonds looked at the launch site and had no issues. He also spoke with Deputy Michelle Reid, and she had no concerns with the animals at the shelter. There would be a fire response, ambulance response and a boat in the water for any emergencies.

Moved by Commissioner Lalonde and supported by Commissioner Peterson to approve the Fair Board putting on a firework display at the end of the fair as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

## **FAIRBOARD REQUEST – AGREEMENT AMENDMENT**

Commissioner Konarzewski presented an amendment to the current agreement with the County and the Fair Board for review and approval. The Fair Board would like to have the right to access the grounds one month before the fair and one week after the fair.

Moved by Commissioner Osmer and supported by Commissioner Konarzewski to approve the amended agreement as presented. Motion carried.

## **MULTI-COUNTY MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Commissioner Peterson presented a draft interlocal agreement between the Counties of Alpena; Alcona; Iosco; Montmorency; and Oscoda for a Multi-County Materials Management Plan. Diane Rekowski (formerly with NEMCOG) updated the Board on the Materials Management Plan progress and what the interlocal agreement entails. Alpena County is the DPA (Designated Planning Agency). The timeline for submittal to the State is July 6, 2024. There were a few changes noted during legal review but nothing major. Presque Isle County is currently not included in the plan.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Lalonde to approve the Multi-County Materials Management Plan as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

## **REPORTS OF REGULAR COMMITTEES**

**Facilities, Capital & Strategic Planning Committee Update** – Commissioner Konarzewski reported most of the highlights at the Facilities Committee meeting were addressed at this Full Board meeting.

**Courts & Public Safety Committee Update** – Commissioner Lalonde reported the Committee discussed securing a new ambulance purchase in 2024.

**Animal Control Adhoc Committee Update** – Commissioner Francisco reported the Committee discussed the county continuing to staff the Animal Control Shelter with county employees and that the Sheriff will maintain supervisory responsibilities. A group of law enforcement will review the ordinances of the city and county to see if consolidation and updating can be done.

Deputy Reid has also asked to form a Hoarding Task Force.

### **OTHER BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

District #1 Commissioner Bill LaHaie gave an update on the following boards/commissions he represents:

**Planning Commission** – Two Planning Commission members are being replaced.

**Veteran’s Affairs Board** – There was no quorum for the last meeting.

District #2 Commissioner Osmer gave an update on the following boards/commissions he represents:

**Hunt** – They are looking to purchase new vehicles and will be looking for a new administrator to replace the one leaving in September. The number of complaints has declined this past quarter.

**Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary** – Nothing to report.

District #3 Commissioner Robin Lalonde gave an update on the following boards/commissions she represents:

**Fair Board Liaison** – Not able to attend the meeting.

**Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency (NEMCSA)** – Nothing new to report.

**Parks & Recreation Commission** – The Parks Commission purchased a camper for the Sunken Lake Park Managers to reside in while the house issues are being addressed.

**Thunder Bay Transportation** – The damaged van in the accident will take one year to replace. The need for a van was shared, and two were donated from Kalamazoo and will be used until the other van is replaced.

District #4 Commissioner Bill Peterson gave an update on the following boards/commissions he represents:

**26<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court Management Council** – Meeting will take place in August.

**Montmorency Oscoda Alpena (MOA) Landfill Authority** – Injection well is doing good.

**Property Sale at Airport** – Moving along well and going to the zoning commission on the first of May.

**Target** – Meeting in May.

District #5 Commissioner Brenda Fournier was not present to give an update on the following boards/commissioners she represents:

**District Health Department #4** – Three of the main board members were not in attendance. Commissioner LaHaie reported they are going to hire two new techs and are being cautious of cybersecurity. Office in Atlanta looks good, and they will be buying a generator for storing medicine.

District #6 Commissioner Burt Francisco gave an update on the following boards/commissions he represents:

**Northeast Michigan Regional Entity** – Next meeting is May 6.

**Opioid update** – Met on April 18<sup>th</sup> and are close to submitting RFPs. Once Commissioner Francisco has more details, he would like them to come a meeting to give a presentation and talk about what they do and what they want to do with the opioid settlement funds.

District #7 Commissioner Travis Konarzewski gave an update on the following boards/commissions he represents:

**Community Corrections Advisory Board** – Discussed at last meeting.

**Northern Michigan Counties Association** – Discussed at last meeting.

**Road Commission Liaison** – Discussed at last meeting.

District #8 Commissioner John Kozlowski gave an update on the following boards/commissions he represents:

**DARE** – There is a Dare basketball game on Friday.

**Northeast Michigan Consortium** – There is a lot of funding through Michigan Works.

**Northeast Michigan Materials Management Authority (NMMMA)** – Waiting for updates from the City of Alpena on the land lease.

**United Way** – Nothing new to report.

### **BOARD APPOINTMENT FOR THE TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Chair Kozlowski reported that he would like to nominate Kevin Osbourne for the Tax Advisory Committee.



Moved by Commissioner Francisco and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve Kevin Osbourne as a member of the Tax Advisory Committee as presented. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION OF TRIBUTE TO REGISTER OF DEEDS**

Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Lalonde to approve a Resolution of Tribute for Register of Deeds Catherine Murphy as presented. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #6: Recommendation to approve a Resolution of Tribute to Register of Deeds Catherine Murphy as presented.**

**TRIBUTE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**ACTION ITEM #7: Recommendation to adopt Resolution #24-12 Tribute to Law Enforcement Week May 12-18, 2024 as presented.**

**RESOLUTION #24-12  
BY THE ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TRIBUTE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEK  
MAY 12-18, 2024**

A Resolution to declare May 12-18, 2024, as Police Week in Alpena County, Michigan.

Whereas, In 1962, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15<sup>th</sup> falls as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others, and;

Whereas, There are more than 700,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the approximately 17,000 full-time uniformed police officers in Michigan, and;

Whereas, Members of law enforcement deserve the appreciation and respect of the people of Alpena County, Michigan for the merit, dignity, bravery, and reliability they exhibit each and every day. We must also honor the sacrifices made by families of police officers, as each day they must face constant fear as their loved one works to protect us, and;

Whereas, In 2023 alone, 125 law enforcement officers were killed and many, many more assaulted in the line of duty across the country. The names of these dedicated public servants who made the ultimate sacrifice are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., and;

Whereas, Michigan's Alpena County fallen officers will never be forgotten, nor will their service to their respective communities. By choosing to commit themselves to law enforcement, these brave individuals answered the call for service and willingly put their lives in jeopardy. We commend them

for recognizing service as a noble career, and protecting the public safety; and also all of those who are serving without incident to date, and;

Whereas, Alpena County, Michigan and all Michigan citizens have turned to members of law enforcement for assistance and support in times of distress, whether they are coping with a personal crisis, bearing the strains of a pandemic, or struggling through civil disorder or a natural disaster. Our communities rely on these courageous individuals when it is difficult to stand on our own, and we are indebted to the unwavering public service of our local and state police. We are indeed fortunate and grateful for the contributions of law enforcement officers to the people of this state;

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved that the Alpena County Board of Commissioners declare May 12-18, 2024, as Police Week in Alpena County, Michigan. We publicly salute the service of law enforcement officers in our community as well as those of our state and nation and honor police who place their lives on the line for the safety and security of their communities.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Peterson to approve a Resolution of Tribute to Law Enforcement Week May 12-18, 2024. Motion carried.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

Moved by Commissioner Lalonde and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve the appointment of Rebekah Duhaime to the Planning Commission as presented. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #8: Recommendation to appoint Rebekah Duhaime to the Planning Commission (Tourism and Recreation) for the term beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2026, as presented.**

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Osmer to approve the appointment of Hollie Fitzpatrick to the Planning Commission as presented. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #9: Recommendation to appoint Hollie Fitzpatrick to the Planning Commission (Agriculture, Forestry, and Land Use) for a term beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2025, as presented.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kevin Ginter of Alpena supports the idea of a static display at the airport. He also expressed his concern on recycling containers and cleaning up the areas the dumpsters are at.

Beth Pelkey of Alpena representing the Kiwanis Club of Alpena invited the Board of Commissioners to the National Day of Prayer breakfast on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 a.m.

Nancy McSwain of Alpena requested that public comment come at the beginning of the meeting so people can comment before the Board votes on items.

Commissioner Lalonde reported that Sheriff Smith was recognized by his staff and Undersheriff Cash Kroll. He was given a Commendation of Service Award for his exceptional dedication, efforts and

leadership. Commissioner Lalonde read the award to the Board. Sheriff Smith pointed out that when facing obstacles, it's the group that gets through not just one person.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Commissioner Lalonde and supported by Commissioner Fournier to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m. \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Kozlowski, Chairman of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keri Bertrand, County Clerk

kvm

DRAFT