

FINANCE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 13, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.
Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room

Commissioners Present: John Kozlowski, Board Chairman
Bill Peterson, Finance Chair, excused
William LaHaie
Dan Ludlow
Lucille Bray
Brenda Fournier
Todd Britton
Travis Konarzewski

Others Present: Keri Bertrand, County Clerk
Jesse Osmer, County Administrator
Cindy Cebula, County Treasurer
Chrissy Delekta, District Court Administrator
Kim Elkie, Central Dispatch Director
Mick Higgins, Airport Manager
Sheriff Erik Smith
Chuck Hein, Road Commissioner
Attorney Tim Gulden
Abbi Kaszubowski, Charter Township of Alpena Supervisor
Nathan Lytle, F&V Operations

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chairman John Kozlowski called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken: All committee members present except Commissioner Peterson, excused.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ADOPT AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BILLS TO PAY

INFORMATION ITEM: Chairman Kozlowski presented the bills to pay for approval.

SUBMITTED:

APPROVED:

General Funds & Other Funds

\$151,532.22

\$151,532.22

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

COUNTY TREASURER MONTHLY REPORTS

Treasurer Cindy Cebula presented the monthly financial reports for December 2025.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Konarzewski to approve receiving and filing the monthly Treasurer's reports for December 2025 as presented. Motion carried.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

District Court: District Court Administrator Chrissy Delekta presented a carry-over request for the Drunk Driving Case Flow for review and approval.

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

ACTION ITEM #3: The Committee recommends approval to carry over the 2025 balance of \$5,585.00 from the Drunk Driving Case Flow line item 101-286-977.000 into the 2026 budget as presented.

911: Central Dispatch Director Kim Elkie presented an amendment to Board Action #01 from December 9, 2025, for review and approval.

Moved by Commissioner Bray and supported by Commissioner Fournier to recommend approval of the 911 budget adjustment as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #4: The Committee recommends approval to amend Board Action #01 from December 9, 2025, and approve a carry of \$8,406.00 Ambulance Fund expenditures (261-325-970.003) and \$68,435.00 Maintenance-TeleRAD (261-325-820.002) budgeted and not spent in 2025 to the same line items in the 2026 budget as presented.

County Administrator: County Administrator Jesse Osmer presented budget adjustments due to the liability insurance coming in lower than projected for 2026.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Britton to recommend approval of the County Administrator's budget adjustments as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #5: The Committee recommends approval of the following budget adjustments due to the liability insurance being lower than projected for 2026:

- **Decrease expenditure line item 208-757-803.000 BLP Liability Insurance from \$1,330.00 to \$1,242.00**
- **Decrease expenditure line item 208-758-803.000 SLP Liability Insurance from \$1,550.00 to \$1,447.00**
- **Decrease expenditure line item 208-759-803.000 LLP Liability Insurance from \$1,500.00 to \$1,400.00**

- **Decrease expenditure line item 101-265-803.000 Liability Insurance from \$272,614.00 to \$254,485.00; Increase expenditure line item 101-969-995.667 Transfer to Self-Insurance Fund by \$18,129.00**
- **Decrease expenditure line item 246-265-803.000 DHD4 Liability Insurance from \$6,812.00 to \$6.369.00**

Treasurer: Administrator Osmer presented an amendment to Board Action #12 from November 12, 2025, also related to the projected liability insurance.

Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner Bray to recommend approval of the Treasurer's budget adjustment as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #6: The Committee recommends approval to amend the following actions from Board Action #12 from November 12, 2025 as follows:

- **Retract – "Increase 402-234-699.000 by \$230,000 (to be transferred from the 631 fund)"**
- **Retract – "Decrease the 631 Fund balance from \$548,000 to \$178,000 and transfer the amounts listed above from the difference."**
- **Retract – "Increase 677-271-699.000 by \$140,000 (to be transferred from the 631 fund)"**

Treasurer: County Administrator Osmer presented a budget adjustment also related to the projected liability insurance.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Britton to recommend approval of the Treasurer's budget adjustment as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #7: The Committee recommends approval to amend the amount of the transfer from the Self-Insurance Fund (677) to the General Fund (101-969) of \$221,000.00 to \$183,000.00 as presented.

Juvenile Division: Administrator Osmer presented a memo from Juvenile Officer Janelle Mott requesting an increase in the Contractual Services Blended Funding line item for 2026.

Moved by Commissioner Bray and supported by Commissioner Fournier to recommend approval of the Juvenile Division's budget adjustment as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #8: The Committee recommends approval to increase line item 292-662-801.000 Contractual Services Blended Funding in the amount of \$150,000.00 as presented.

Parks: Treasurer Cebula presented a budget adjustment request for the Parks & Recreation Commission. When the Parks budget was created, the remaining balance of the Sparks grant that was available for expenditures was not carried over to 2026.

Moved by Commissioner Britton and supported by Commissioner Fournier to recommend approval of the Park's budget adjustment as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #9: The Committee recommends approval to increase line item 208-760-972.005 MDNR Sparks Grant in the amount of \$45,726.00 as presented.

Ambulance Fund: Chairman Kozlowski reported this budget adjustment is from unspent money for AEDs and needs to be moved back to where it originally came from.

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

ACTION ITEM #10: The Committee recommends approval to move \$5,160.00 from line item 101-301-995.210 to 210-651-699.101 as presented.

MOTION TO RISE & REPORT

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Konarzewski to rise and report. Motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Board Chairman John Kozlowski presented the consent calendar for approval:

- A) **Approval of the Official Proceedings of the Alpena County Board of Commissioners**
Regular Session – December 17, 2025 (*Minutes only)
- B) **Approval of the Official Proceedings of the Alpena County Board of Commissioners**
Organizational – January 2, 2026 (*Minutes only)
- C) **Approval of the Official Proceedings of the Alpena County Board of Commissioners**
Special Meeting – January 2, 2026 (*Minutes only)

Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner Bray to approve the Consent Calendar as listed above and filing of all reports as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #26-02

Chairman Kozlowski presented Resolution #26-02 recognizing the 70th anniversary of the national debut of the Lawrence Welk Show. The board received an email from an individual that is reaching out to different counties looking for support for the Lawrence Welk show.

26-02

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RECOGNIZING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL DEBUT OF**

**“THE LAWRENCE WELK SHOW” AND HONORING ITS LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS
TO AMERICAN MUSIC, TELEVISION, AND CULTURE**

WHEREAS, *The Lawrence Welk Show* first made its national television debut in 1955 and went on to enjoy an original run, including syndication, of more than a quarter century, from 1955 to 1982; and

WHEREAS, *The Lawrence Welk Show* continues to be broadcast in repeat across much of the United States, demonstrating its enduring popularity and cultural significance across generations; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Welk and Myron Floren, both originating from the American Midwest, exemplify how perseverance, talent, and dedication can lead to extraordinary achievement, serving as inspirational examples of what individuals from any community in America can accomplish; and

WHEREAS, *The Lawrence Welk Show* featured a wide variety of musical genres including country, jazz, polka, patriotic music, and other traditional American styles, while also incorporating tap and other forms of dance; and

WHEREAS, the program was widely recognized for its commitment to family-friendly entertainment and for promoting shared cultural experiences that brought families and communities together; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Welk, Myron Floren, and the cast and staff of *The Lawrence Welk Show*, drawn from across America, made positive and lasting contributions to music, television, and American culture; and

WHEREAS, the Alpena County Board of Commissioners recognizes and respects the legacy of Lawrence Welk and *The Lawrence Welk Show*, and acknowledges its long-lasting contribution to American music, culture, and unity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alpena County Board of Commissioners hereby expresses its support for efforts in Michigan and nationwide to raise awareness of and celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the national debut of *The Lawrence Welk Show*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Alpena County Board of Commissioners honors the memory and achievements of Lawrence Welk, Myron Floren, and all those associated with *The Lawrence Welk Show*, and recognizes their positive influence on American entertainment and cultural heritage; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board expresses its hope that the legacy of Lawrence Welk and *The Lawrence Welk Show* will continue to be treasured, preserved, and passed down to future generations, serving as a source of unity, inspiration, and pride for Michiganders and all Americans.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Britton to approve Resolution #26-02 as presented. Motion carried.

ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

Charter Township of Alpena’s attorney Tim Gulden reported back in 1977 Bear Point Harbor Inc. provided the county with an easement to sewer lines that run off of Island Drive in the Bear Point Subdivision. Nathan Lytle with F&V Operations, the company that handles the township’s water and sewer operations, discovered the issue where the county rather than the township obtained the easement. Charter Township & F&V need to be able to access this stretch of sewer lines in case of a problem and for maintenance.

Moved by Commissioner Konarzewski and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to approve the assignment of right of way agreement pending attorney review as presented. Roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #12: Recommendation to approve the Assignment of Right of Way Agreement to Charter Township of Alpena for the easement to the sewer lines off Island Drive in the Bear Point Subdivision as presented.

RELEASE OF DEED RESTRICTION

Administrator Osmer reported the deed states there is a restriction on the height that the Verizon tower that will be constructed out at the jail can be. This deed restriction needs to be lifted.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to approve removing the height restriction from the deed as presented. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #13: Recommendation to approve removing the height restriction from the deed for the construction of the Verizon tower at the jail as presented.

ROAD COMMISSION MEMBER TERMS

Administrator Osmer reported the three current Road Commissioner terms expire in 2026, 2028, and 2030. Discussion was made to have the two newest members terms expire in 2029 and 2031.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to approve the new Road Commissioners terms to expire in 2029 and 2031 as presented. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #14: Recommendation to approve changing Cameron Augustyn's Road Commission term to end in 2029 and keep Charles Hein's term to end in 2031 as presented.

HANGAR PURCHASE

Airport Manager Mick Higgins reported that the widow of the owner of the previously discussed hangar at the airport has decided to sell it to the county in the amount of \$30,000.00. There is already someone interested in leasing the hangar. The hangar is solar powered, and the lease price would be \$150 per month with the stipulation that a flying aircraft must be in the hangar within 18 months. Once power is run to the hangar and if the occupant decides to use the power the lease rate would be \$250 per month.

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

ACTION ITEM #15: Recommendation to approve the purchase of the Lawrence hangar at the airport in the amount of \$30,000.00 with funds to come from the Airport Fund, and approval to lease the hangar for a term of two years with the stipulation the lessee has a flying aircraft in that hangar within 18 months as presented.

UPDATED 2026 BOARD POLICIES

Administrator Osmer presented the updated 2026 board policies for review and approval. The board approved the draft copy in 2025 and noted the items they would like changed.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Konarzewski to approve the updated 2026 Board Policies as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #16: Recommendation to approve the 2026 Board Policies as presented.

TENNIS COURTS AT ALPENA HIGH SCHOOL

Administrator Osmer reported the county owns the tennis courts at Alpena High School and he was contacted by an entity tied to the high school that is looking for the county to release the courts to their ownership. Administrator Osmer will meet with the entity and bring the discussion back to the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

The board went into closed session at 10:22 a.m. for discussion on a contract and legal issue and opened session at 10:53 a.m. Roll call was taken. All members present except Commissioner Peterson, excused.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to approve signing the contract with Alcona County as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #17: Recommendation to approve signing the Interlocal Agreement between Alpena County and Alcona County to house Alcona County inmates at the Alpena County Jail; authorize the Treasurer to create line item 101-351-628.005 Contractual Services-Alcona Co.; and increase the amount in that line item to \$285,000.00 as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Bray to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

John Kozlowski, Board Chairman

Keri Bertrand, County Clerk

kvm