

FINANCE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.  
Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room

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

Others Present: Keri Bertrand, County Clerk  
Cindy Cebula, County Treasurer  
Jesse Osmer, County Administrator  
Sheriff Erik Smith  
Mandy Smith, Register of Deeds

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bill Peterson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken: All committee members present.

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

**ADOPT AGENDA**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**REGISTER OF DEEDS-GRANT APPLICATION**

Register of Deeds Mandy Smith presented an e-recording grant application from the State of Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget Office of Support Services Electronic Recording Commission for review and approval. The grant will help offset the cost of a new program with a new software provider.

Motion was made by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Bray to approve submitting the e-recording grant application as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval of the Register of Deed's E-Recording Grant Application in the amount of \$93,000 with an organizational match of \$24,000 and a county match of \$69,000 for the installation of new LRMS & e-recording routing as presented. This has Grant Review Committee approval.**

**BILLS TO PAY**

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

	SUBMITTED:	APPROVED:
General Funds & Other Funds	\$62,025.31	\$62,025.31

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

**COUNTY TREASURER MONTHLY REPORTS**

INFORMATION ITEM: Treasurer Cindy Cebula presented the monthly reports for January 2025.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve receiving and filing of the monthly Treasurer’s Report for January 2025 as presented. Motion carried.

**PLAZA POOL VISA CARD**

INFORMATION ITEM: County Administrator Jesse Osmer requested approval for the Plaza Pool to have a visa card as it is now under control of the County. The Pool Director has been ordering items through Maintenance and the Commissioner’s Office and he would like the director to have their own card to make the necessary purchases.

Moved by Commissioner Britton and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve a Visa card for the Plaza Pool as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #4: The Committee recommends approval for Alpena County Plaza Pool Director Kim Bolanowski to obtain a Visa credit card for necessary purchases for the pool with a credit limit of \$1,500 and a per transaction limit up to \$500 as presented.**

**MOTION TO RISE & REPORT**

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

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Board Chairman John Kozlowski presented the Minutes from the following meetings for board approval.

- A) **Approval of the Official Proceedings of the Alpena County Board of Commissioners Regular Session – January 28, 2025 (\*Minutes only)**
- B) **Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2025**

ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval to pay Airport Operations Supervisor Mick Higgins 20 hours of unused PTO from 2024 as presented.

ACTION ITEM #2: The Committee recommends approval of the Soil Erosion Service Agreement Extension with Mike Kieliszewski beginning July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, as presented.

**ACTION ITEM #3:** The Committee recommends approval of the Paid Medical Leave Policy for part-time employees, pending attorney review, as presented.

*Discussion was made on the new Earned Sick Time Act, but law has changed, and no board action has been taken at this time. Once law officially passes, there will be a poll vote for approval.*

Moved by Commissioner Britton and supported by Commissioner Peterson 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, Peterson, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

### **PFAS LITIGATION**

Administrator Osmer reported that he was approached by the same attorneys that handled the opioid remediation lawsuit on doing a class action on PFAS litigation. This is a no risk lawsuit, and we don't pay anything upfront. The law firm would get a portion of any funds received from the settlement. Funds received can be used for anything PFAS related or anything outside that realm. There are no strings attached with the funds.

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

**ACTION ITEM #5: Recommendation to approve signing the PFAS Litigation contract and enter the lawsuit as presented.**

### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT POSITION WITH MONTMORENCY**

Administrator Osmer reported over the past few months there have been negotiations with Montmorency County to merge and hire one Emergency Manager to oversee both counties. The current Emergency Manager for Alpena County would be moving full time to 911. There are enough funds in the 911 budget for her to move to full time. This will be a cost savings to the county.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Peterson to approve moving forward with filling the Emergency Management position with Montmorency County as presented. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #6: Recommendation to approve moving forward merging with Montmorency County and filling the Emergency Management position as presented.**

### **MICHIGAN EARNED SICK TIME ACT POLICY**

Administrator Osmer reported there are still a lot of changes taking place with the Michigan Earned Sick Time Act Policy so no action can be taken today. He will be monitoring the continued progress, and a poll vote may be necessary before the next Full Board meeting. Policy is to go into effect on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Fournier to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

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John Kozlowski, Board Chairman

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Keri Bertrand, County Clerk

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