

FINANCE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 12, 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  
Jesse Osmer, County Administrator  
Amanda Repke, Deputy County Treasurer  
Sheriff Erik Smith  
Girl Scout Troop 1033 – Anna Leddy & Kenna Mousseau  
Michelle Reid, Animal Control Officer  
Nena Sork, Executive Director NEMCMH  
Chelsea McConnell, Straley, Lamp & Kraenzlein  
Julie Jackson, Victim Assistance Coordinator

**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 Ludlow to adopt the agenda with following changes: 1) Removal of SpyGlass Presentation; and 2) Addition of Trailer Purchase for Sheriff's Office. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**BILLS TO PAY**

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

	SUBMITTED:	APPROVED:
General Funds & Other Funds	\$136,062.75	\$136,062.75

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie 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.



## **NORTHEAST MI COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT**

Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Executive Director Nena Sork presented Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health's annual report for FY24. The total number of people served in 2024 was 2,140 individuals. These individuals must have a diagnosis with a serious mental health illness, children with a serious emotional disturbance, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and/or people with substance use disorders. They also provide crisis services for all members of the community. In 2024 NEMCMH partnered with Overdose Prevention Engagement Network (OPEN) to provide free access to Narcan. The New York Times reported there was a 27% drop in overdose deaths from 2023. Nena reported they have recently gone through their 3-year accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities and out of the 2,500 standards they needed to meet, they met 2,495. The 5 standards not met were only changes to policies.

### **RESOLUTION #25-13 PREPAID INPATIENT HEALTH PLANS**

Director Sork presented Resolution #25-13 Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans for review and adoption.

#### **ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION #25-13**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Michigan currently operates a publicly managed and community-based system for the delivery of specialty behavioral health services through 10 Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs), which are responsible for managing Medicaid mental health, developmental disability, and substance use disorder services; and

**WHEREAS**, the current PIHP system has consistently demonstrated value, local accountability, and community engagement, while successfully managing costs and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recently announced plans to initiate a competitive procurement process for the management of PIHP functions, which may open the door to private, non-profit health plans or managed care organizations (MCOs) assuming control over behavioral health services; and

**WHEREAS**, such privatization could disrupt longstanding relationships between local mental health authorities, providers, and the communities they serve, and jeopardize the person-centered, recovery-oriented approach that has been cultivated under the public system; and

**WHEREAS**, many stakeholders, including individuals receiving services, advocates, local officials, and providers have expressed significant concerns about the potential impact of a competitive procurement process on care quality, access, local control, and transparency; and

**WHEREAS**, counties across Michigan have historically played a vital role in the governance, funding, and oversight of the public behavioral health system, and any change to that structure without meaningful county input undermines the principle of local governance; and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining a publicly accountable and locally governed behavioral health system is essential to ensuring that individuals with mental health and substance use needs receive timely, appropriate, and high-quality care.



**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Alpena County Board of Commissioners formally opposes the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' (MDHHS) plan to implement a competitive procurement process for Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board urges Governor Whitmer, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), and the Michigan Legislature to halt any plans for privatization and instead work collaboratively with counties, PIHPs, Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs), service users, and other stakeholders to strengthen and improve the public behavioral health system, by only allowing public organizations with experience in managing Michigan's public mental health system to be part of any bid process should one occur; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel, members of the Michigan Legislature representing Alpena, and the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC).

Moved by Commissioner Bray and supported by Commissioner Kozlowski to adopt Resolution #25-13 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

#### **2024 AUDIT PRESENTATION**

CPA Chelsea McConnell with Straley, Lamp & Kraenzlein, PC, presented the 2024 County Annual Audit.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Konarzewski to receive and file the 2024 County Annual Audit as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

#### **FY26 CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS GRANT APPLICATION**

Victim Assistance Coordinator Julie Jackson presented the FY26 Crime Victims' Rights grant application in the amount of \$77,079.00 with no County match for review and approval.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Britton to recommend approval of the FY26 Crime Victims' Rights 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 #4: The Committee recommends approval of the FY26 Crime Victims' Rights Grant Application for the Prosecutor's Office in the amount of \$77,079.00, with no County match, and authorize the Chairman of the Board and/or County Administrator to sign all pertaining documents as presented.**

#### **COUNTY TREASURER MONTHLY REPORTS**

Deputy Treasurer Amanda Repke presented the monthly reports for July 2025. The County will soon be changing over to HPC credit cards where we will be earning 1% cashback instead of the rewards points.

Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to approve receiving and filing of the monthly Treasurer's Reports for July 2025 as presented. Motion carried.

#### **ENERGY CONSERVATION BOND PAYMENT**

Deputy Treasurer Repke presented a memo requesting to transfer the budgeted Energy Conservation Bond Payment of \$46,399.00 from the General Fund #101-272-995.001 to the Capital Improvement P&I Fund #363-906-699.001 and an increase of \$25.00 to expense line #363-906-801.001 Banking Fees.



Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Bray to recommend approval of the Energy Conservation Bond Payment and expense increase as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #6: The Committee recommends approval to transfer the budgeted Energy Conservation Bond Payment of \$46,399.00 from the General Fund #101-272-995.001 to the Capital Improvement P&I Fund #363-906-699.001 and to increase expense line #363-906-801.001 Banking Fees in the amount of \$25.00 as presented.**

#### **COUNTY POOL VEHICLE**

County Administrator Jesse Osmer reported there are issues with the County pool vehicle. It needs a new transmission estimated at a little over \$6,500.00 and recently the air conditioning was fixed. Administrator Osmer had asked the board for approval to sell it and purchase a new one as it was getting to the point where it was not worth putting more money into the vehicle. After discussion with the Treasurer and others, he would like to try to do a mileage reimbursement for 2026 instead of purchasing a different pool vehicle.

Moved by Commissioner Konarzewski and supported by Commissioner Britton to recommend approval of a mileage reimbursement for 2026 instead of purchasing a new county pool vehicle as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #7: The Committee recommends approval of a mileage reimbursement for 2026 instead of purchasing a new County pool vehicle as presented.**

#### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VEHICLE REPAIRS**

Administrator Osmer reported the Emergency Management vehicle is also in need of repair. Discussion was made to move forward with the repairs at an estimate of \$1,500 or get rid of the vehicle. The vehicle has just under 90,000 miles.

Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Bray to recommend approval to repair the Emergency Management vehicle as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #8: The Committee recommends approval to move forward with the Emergency Management vehicle at an estimate of \$1,500 as presented.**

#### **SHERIFF TRAILER PURCHASE**

The Sheriff's Office has recently signed up for a military surplus website where they can get items for free. They have been approved for a 60,000-kilowatt generator located in Wisconsin and have also applied for 3 more. There is a 14-day window to get the items picked up and Sheriff Smith is requesting authorization to purchase a trailer to go get the generator as it will not fit on any of the current county owned trailers. This trailer can also be used by Maintenance as they have a need for a trailer of that size. Sheriff Smith found a used trailer in Traverse City in the amount of \$7,600 that would fit their needs.

Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Britton to recommend approval for the Sheriff to purchase a universal trailer as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.



**ACTION ITEM #9: The Committee recommends approval of the Sheriff's request to purchase a used universal trailer in the amount of \$7,600 and authorize the County Administrator to work with the Treasurer's Office and Sheriff to find the funds and make the necessary adjustments with sign off from either the Board Chair or Finance Chair as presented.**

#### **SHERIFF BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Sheriff Smith gave an overview of the Sheriff's Office budget for 2026. He met with Commissioners LaHaie and Ludlow and cut \$50,000 out of what was proposed.

#### **BUDGET ADJUSTMENT**

Administrator Osmer reported radios for the Sheriff's Office have been sitting in the budget with a \$100,000 earmark for two years now and he would like to purchase the radios this year with a total cost of \$220,000. There are some revenues that came in a little higher and some dead accounts where revenue is sitting. He is still working with the Treasurer's Office and auditor on the budget adjustments. By purchasing the radios in 2025, would decrease \$100,000 from what has had to be put aside each year.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to recommend approval for County Administrator to work with the auditor and Treasurer to find funding for the purchase of Sheriff radios in 2025 and bring back to the Full Board as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

#### **MOTION TO RISE & REPORT**

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

#### **ANIMAL CONTROL SHELTER GIRL SCOUT SILVER PROJECT**

Alpena Animal Control Officer Michelle Reid reported the Girl Scouts had approached her earlier this summer wanting to do another silver project. Three years ago, they painted the murals on the shelter as a silver project. Anna Leddy and Kenna Mousseau with Girl Scout Troop 1033 presented their project to create an arched bridge that would be 8' x 3' x 9" with handrails that will allow people who are grieving the loss of their pet, a place to go to remember them. The wood and concrete have been donated and they will be fundraising for the rest of the supplies needed.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to approve the Girl Scouts Silver Award Rainbow Bridge Project at the Animal Control Shelter as presented. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #11: Recommendation to approve the Girl Scout's Silver Award Rainbow Bridge Project at the Alpena Animal Control Shelter as presented.**

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Board Chairman John Kozlowski presented the consent calendar for board approval:

- A) **Approval of the Official Proceedings of the Alpena County Board of Commissioners Regular Session – July 22, 2025 (\*Minutes only)**
- B) **Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2025**



ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval of the 2025 Amrize (formerly Holcim) Offsite Response Plan as amended.

ACTION ITEM #2: The Committee recommends approval of the 2025 Meijer Store #282 Offsite Response Plan as amended.

**C) Central Dispatch Committee Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2025**

ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval of the Motor Vehicle Wrecker Policy as amended.

ACTION ITEM #2: The Committee recommends approval of the Human Services Red Cross/Salvation Army Policy as amended.

ACTION ITEM #3: The Committee recommends approval to delete the Calls Received at Law Agencies as presented.

**D) Local Planning Team Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2025**

ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval of the updated Local Planning Team (LPT) Bylaws, as amended.

**E) Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes – August 5, 2025**

PC ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval that all non-union employees begin acquiring overtime and comp time upon exceeding 40 hours per week, rather than upon exceeding 8 hours per day and to promote this in union contracts moving forward for the sake of a more consistent and uniform approach as presented.

PC ACTION ITEM #2: The Committee recommends approval of a policy for PTO to be paid out on the last working day given by an employee who is separating from the County with verbiage to be drafted by the County Administrator and Human Resources to be applied to the handbook upon final approval by an attorney as presented.

PC ACTION ITEM #3: The Committee recommends approval of the Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Agreement as presented.

*\*With spelling and grammar corrections.*

PC ACTION ITEM #4: The Committee recommends approval of a Moonlighting Policy and authorizes that the document for employees to fill out be created by the County Administrator and Human Resources as presented.

PC ACTION ITEM #5: The Committee recommends approval of the Office Pet Policy as presented.

*\*With spelling and grammar corrections.*

PC ACTION ITEM #6: The Committee recommends approval of the FY26 Payroll Adjustments as presented.



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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**CLOSED SESSION**

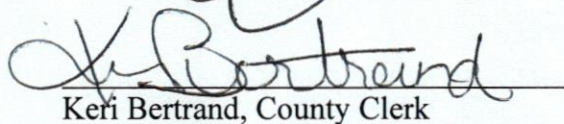
The Board went into closed session at 10:24 a.m. for an update on a litigation and opened session at 10:27 a.m. Roll call was taken. All members present.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.



John Kozlowski, Board Chairman



Keri Bertrand, County Clerk

kvm