

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

October 29, 2019
4:00 p.m.

The Alpena County Board of Commissioners met and was called to order by Chairman Brad McRoberts in the Howard Male Conference Room in the County Annex building in the City of Alpena on October 29, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Prayer

Prayer was offered by Associate Pastor Marlon Smith of Huron Shores Fellowship.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Chairman Brad McRoberts called for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call

Roll was called, the following Commissioners were present: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Fournier, McDonald, Thomson, Kozlowski and McRoberts. Excused: Commissioner Peterson.

Agenda

Moved by Commissioner McDonald and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve the agenda with the following changes: 1) compressor for the freezer at the current jail; 2) Commissioner Karschnick has an issue he would like to add for discussion. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Stan Mischley, representing Alpena Resource Recovery, updated the board on the recycling program. He also shared that this year's county-wide clean-up day was a success and they will be holding the event again next year.

Consent Calendar

- A) **Approval of the Official Proceedings of the Alpena County Board of Commissioners**
Regular Session – September 24, 2019
Intergovernmental Council – October 3, 2019

B) **Animal Control Adhoc Committee** - September 16, 2019

C) **Northern Lights Arena Adhoc Committee** – October 1, 2019

ACTION ITEM NLA- AC#1: The Committee recommends accepting all items as listed, except for the surveillance system, as Alpena County property.

ACTION ITEM NLA- AC#2: The Committee recommends extending the quarterly maintenance report cycle from September 1 through December 31. The Committee will meet the second week of January to review the bills from this time period.

ACTION ITEM NLA- AC#3: The Committee recommends approving reimbursement of the NLA bills in the amount of \$3,050.37 to be taken out of the surcharge fund, #580-900-975.

D) **IT Committee** – October 2, 2019

ACTION ITEM #IT-1: The Committee recommends that Tom Isaacs be the alternate to the Northeast Michigan Fiber Consortium.

E-1) **Personnel Committee** – October 3, 2019

E-2) **Personnel Committee** – October 8, 2019

F) **Central Dispatch Committee** – October 8, 2019

ACTION ITEM #CD-1: The Committee recommends to remove the language in the Alpena County Central Dispatch Law Enforcement Policies, under Restricted Access: Fire Departments/EMS. Remove “Registered owner address information for PDAs with no driver and indications (i.e. airbags, rollover, blood ...) that the driver may be injured.”

ACTION ITEM #CD-2: The Committee recommends to approve the new Alpena County Central Dispatch Search & Rescue Emergency Policy & Procedures as presented.

ACTION ITEM #CD-3: The Committee recommends referring the Medical Examiner Policy update to an adhoc committee involving, at a minimum, law enforcement, the fire department, emergency services and the commissioners.

G) **Airport Committee** – October 10, 2019

ACTION ITEM #AC-1: The Committee recommends the transfer of \$2362.40 from Line #295-536-625 PFC Equity Fund to Line #295-536-805 Consulting Services to pay Primary Airport Services invoice 1096-12.

ACTION ITEM #AC-2: The Committee recommends the transfer of \$1119.90 from Line #295-536-625 PFC Equity Fund to Line #295-536-805 Consulting Services to pay Primary Airport Services invoice 1096-12.

H) **Court Committee** – October 9, 2019

POLLED ITEM #CC-1: POLLED Item to Full Board Agenda.

I) **Ambulance Committee** – October 21, 2019

ACTION ITEM #AM-1: The Committee recommends to place the old Ambulance from Wilson Township currently located at the fairgrounds out for bids as presented.

ACTION ITEM #AM-2: The Committee reviewed and discussed the Ambulance Disbursement Policy Amended on April 27, 2010 and will update and amend as needed.

ACTION ITEM #AM-3: The Committee recommends to increase the Ambulance Millage renewal for 2020 in the amount of \$1.5 million for six (6) years and to discuss the ballot language with attorney review as presented.

J) **Finance/Building Maintenance and Recreation Committee** – October 16, 2019

	SUBMITTED:	APPROVED:
General Fund & other funds	\$149,520.03	\$149,520.03

ACTION ITEM #FM-1: The Committee recommends to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for Extension Services provided by Michigan State University to Alpena County, which includes Appendix A – Technical Standards for County Internet Connections for the term January 1, 2020-December 31, 2020, in the amount for FY 2020 of \$6,462.00, with an added attachment (This contract does not guarantee fax transmittals. In the event that MSU Extension would like to guarantee receiving or sending faxes, the cost to MSU Extension is estimated at \$1,000 to \$2,000 to run the necessary fiber for connection) and authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign it. This has had attorney review.

ACTION ITEM #FM-2: The Committee recommends to approve the Prosecuting Attorney's request to connect the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney to the County network and approve the American Widget Company Quote of \$2,000.00 and authorize the Treasurer to transfer monies out of line item #101-229-812 (extradition expenses) and transfer to line item #101-229-727 (office supplies) as presented.

ACTION ITEM #FM-3: The Committee recommends to approve the Emergency Services Coordinator's request to activate the recently-purchased 800 MHz radios by paying the MPSCS activation Fee Schedule with monies coming from line item #211-325-970 in the amount of \$7,000.00 as presented.

ACTION ITEM #FM-4: The Committee recommends to approve the Pay Application #11 Invoice from Spence Brothers for the new Airport Terminal project as presented with the County's portion of \$130,678.09 coming out of line item #481-595-975.

ACTION ITEM #FM-5: The Committee recommends we approve the Third Quarter Budget Adjustments as presented.

K) Budget Meetings:

October 14, 2019

October 17, 2019

October 22, 2019

October 23, 2019

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Karschnick to approve the Consent Calendar which includes actions as listed above and filing of all reports. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Fournier, McDonald, Thomson, Kozlowski and McRoberts. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson is excused. Motion carried.

Contract With Jeanette Tolan For IT Services

Chairman Brad McRoberts presented the Poll Action Item below for approval.

POLL ACTION ITEM #PM-3: The Committee recommends that Jeanette Tolan be hired as a contractor immediately for 24 hours per week until one week after the new director is working.

Moved by Commissioner Thomson and supported by Commissioner McDonald to approve the above Poll Action Item as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Fournier, McDonald, Thomson, Kozlowski and McRoberts. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson is excused. Motion carried.

MAC Administrator Agreement

Chairman Brad McRoberts presented the Poll Action Item below for approval:

POLL ACTION ITEM #CC-1: The Committee recommends to approve the MAC Administrator Agreement with Attorney Bill Pfeifer for 10.01.19 to 09.30.20 contingent on changes made to the agreement of sending the commissioners quarterly reporting instead of monthly reporting and present to the Full Board for approval.

Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Karschnick to approve the above POLL Action Item as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Fournier, McDonald, Thomson, Kozlowski and McRoberts. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson is excused. Motion carried.

BKV Jail Invoice

Chairman Brad McRoberts presented BKV Jail Invoice #51161 for the new Jail project for payment.

ACTION ITEM #24: Recommendation to approve the BKV Jail Invoice #51161 for the new Jail project in the amount of \$7,857.66 with monies coming out of line item #466-301-975 as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Thomson to approve the above Action Item as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Fournier, McDonald, Thomson, Kozlowski and McRoberts. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson is excused. Motion carried.

Granger Construction Pay Application 8 (September) Invoice

Chairman Brad McRoberts presented Granger Construction Pay Application 8 (September) invoice #008182300 for the new Jail project for payment.

ACTION ITEM #25: Recommendation to approve the Granger Construction Pay Application 8 (September), Invoice #008182300, for the new Jail project in the amount of \$148,482.40 with monies coming out of line item #466-301-975 as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Thomson and supported by Commissioner Karschnick to approve the above Action Item as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, McDonald, Thomson and McRoberts. NAYS: Commissioners Fournier and Kozlowski. Commissioner Peterson is excused. Motion carried.

Clark Hill Invoice

Chairman Brad McRoberts presented Clark Hill Invoice #876877 for the new Jail project for payment.

ACTION ITEM #26: Recommendation to approve the Clark Hill Invoice #876877 for the administrative costs for the 2018 new Jail project bond in the amount of \$1,550.00 with monies coming out of line item #466-301-801 as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Thomson to approve the above Action Item as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Fournier, McDonald, Thomson, Kozlowski and McRoberts. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson is excused. Motion carried.

Walk-in Freezer Compressor at the Jail

Commissioner McRoberts presented information provided by Maintenance Supervisor, Wes Wilder, regarding a compressor for the walk-in freezer at the jail that has failed. It needs to be replaced at a cost of \$2,008.88, plus labor. The parts are obsolete and have to be made to order. The compressor has been ordered and will be installed as soon as it arrives. This freezer will not work for the new jail.

ACTION ITEM #27: Recommendation to approve the purchase of a new compressor for the walk-in freezer at the jail at a cost of \$2,008.88 plus labor with monies coming from line item #101-265-931 as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Adrian and supported by Commissioner McDonald to approve the above Action Item as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Fournier, McDonald, Thomson, Kozlowski and McRoberts. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson is excused. Motion carried.

Thundercat Softball Field Request

Rob Edmonds, President of Thundercat Softball, presented a request from his organization to use the ballfield at the Fairgrounds. He said the field currently needs a new home plate and new bases. He doesn't know if they would use the concession stand but believes the group could raise money to help repair the concession stand. They would be willing to put the sweat equity into the site in order to use it. According to Mr. Edmonds, the Youth & Recreation Committee granted money to restore the infield several years ago. Thundercat Softball, AHS Softball and Alpena Huron Shores Babe Ruth teams volunteered their time to complete this project. The Thundercat program holds an annual Thunderstruck softball tournament weekend, bringing in 32-36 teams with their families from out of town for the weekend. They are not looking for exclusive use of the field. He stated it would cost \$60,000 to \$80,000 to build a new comparable ballfield. They would be interested in a partnership with the County for repairs and maintenance if it was kept as a ballfield.

NEMCSA Annual Report

Frances Whitney, Communications & Outreach Coordinator, presented the 50th anniversary annual report for NEMCSA for 2018. Executive Director Lisa Bolen was also in attendance. Ms. Whitney shared that they receive 50.5% of their funding from federal sources, 38.1% from the State and 11.4% is categorized as local/in-kind. They have started "Bridges out of Poverty" addressing generational poverty and how to break the cycle. They have a food distribution scheduled in Alpena for November 19. They appreciate the support from the board and specifically the Commissioner representatives who have sat on their board over the years.

Resolution #19-17 & 2019 Alpena County Apportionment Report

Ted Somers, Alpena County Equalization Director, presented the 2019 Alpena County Apportionment Report and Resolution #19-17 to approve the Apportionment Report pursuant to Michigan Compiled Law 211.37 as follows:

ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION #19-17 APPROVING THE 2019 APPORTIONMENT REPORT
PURSANT TO MICHIGAN COMPILED LAW 211.37

WHEREAS, Michigan Compiled Law 211.36 requires each township clerk to submit to the County Clerk on or before September 30 each year a statement which sets forth the amount of money to be raised in the Township by Taxation;

WHEREAS, Michigan Compiled Law 211.37 requires the County Board of Commissioners to hold an apportionment session and approve an Apportionment Report in October of each year;

WHEREAS, at the annual apportionment session, the County Board of Commissioners must examine documents and records submitted to the Board that show the amount of money to be raised by ad valorem levies in each Township for schools, highway, drains, township operations, and all other purposes as authorized by law and required the correction of any defects or omissions with regard to those levies; and

WHEREAS, the action of the County Board of Commissioners concerning the spread of these levies is final, except in situations where a change is made to the equalization of the County through an equalization appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal or a Levy passed at the November elections; and

WHEREAS, the action of the County Board of Commissioners for 2019 will be the official authorization for 16 taxing authorities within the County to levy property taxes for 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Alpena County Equalization Department has prepared an Apportionment Report for consideration by the County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Apportionment Report, if approved, will provide final authorization for the levy of property taxes upon which taxing authorities depend to provide educational, health, economic development, public safety, and other services which are important to the well-being of the county's economy and Alpena County Residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the attached 2019 Apportionment Report showing the millage levies apportioned to various taxing authorities in

Alpena County for the year 2019 is hereby approved in accordance with Michigan Compiled Law 211.37; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alpena Board of Commissioners, under the authority of Michigan Compiled Law 211.37, directs that the millage rates specified in the attached 2019 Apportionment Report for Township, school, highway, drain, and all other purposes as authorized by law shall be spread against the taxable value of properties on the proper assessment rolls of the Townships and Cities in the County.

Moved by Commissioner Adrian and supported by Commissioner Karschnick to approve above Resolution #19-17 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Fournier, McDonald, Thomson, Kozlowski and McRoberts. NAYS: None. Excused: Commissioner Peterson. Motion carried.

Catholic Human Services

Donna Hardies, Certified Prevention Specialist with Catholic Human Services/Up North Prevention, presented an update and packet to the board regarding the prevention services they have offered in Alpena County during the last year. She explained they provide prevention services in the schools as well as through the courts. They are collaborating on a grant request for \$26,000 via the liquor tax application through Substance Use Disorder Services (SUDS) in conjunction with Mid-Michigan Regional Medical Center's Emergency Department and 1016 Recovery Center.

Ameresco

Jeff Metcalf, Regional Vice-President of Ameresco, appeared before the board at the request of Commissioner John Kozlowski to give an update and answer questions from the commissioners, especially those who were not on the board when the County contracted with Ameresco. Mr. Metcalf explained that reporting over multiple years shows savings are being met from this \$1.6 million energy project. Ameresco offers a sustainability project and he expressed to the board they are an "energy solutions" company and these are "cost avoidance" projects, not necessarily cost savings projects. He stated that there is a very detailed scope of the project laid out in the contract. He also explained that approximately two years ago the County was provided a report delineating four years of usage, comparing to baseline usage 2-3 years prior to the project. At the time of this report, the County felt they had enough information and no reports have been compiled since, as there is a cost associated with the reporting because they send someone out to compile the information. He told the board Ameresco currently has four years of reports available to the County. Since the contract is over 100 pages long, he did not bring a hard copy of it to the meeting. He will email a digital copy of the contract to Commissioner Kozlowski along with the reports mentioned above and John will, in turn, forward the information to the other commissioners. Mr. Metcalf will provide his contact information to

Commissioner Kozlowski after the meeting. Ameresco was selected through an RFP project and funds itself from the savings.

Undersheriff's Wage Scale

Commissioner Dave Karschnick requested to revisit the wages of Undersheriff Erik Smith, who was sworn in on 8/26/19. He stated that at the finance meeting on 8/13/19 the recommendation was made for the Undersheriff's wage scale to have a base of \$55,000. Voting on this action item failed in both directions (to approve and to disapprove) at the August full-board meeting on 8/29/19.

ACTION ITEM #28: Recommendation that the wage scale for the Undersheriff be as follows and retroactive to 8/26/19:

Base	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
\$55,000	\$57,000	\$58,500	\$60,000

Moved by Commissioner Karschnick and supported by Commissioner Adrian to approve the above Action Item as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Thomson and McRoberts. NAYS: Commissioners Fournier, McDonald and Kozlowski. Excused: Commissioner Peterson. Motion carried.

Resolution #19-18 Supporting House Bills 4937-38 And Senate Bills 504-505

Commissioner John Kozlowski spoke about the level of knowledge it takes to be a county commissioner and how much of the first term of two years is spent learning the job. He presented Resolution #19-18 in support of House Bills 4937-38 and Senate Bills 504-505, as follows, with noting that, if adopted, these changes would not take effect until 2022:

ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION #19-18
SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION TO ADOPT 4-YEAR TERMS
FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS the 1963 Michigan Constitution stipulated four-year terms for the county Board of Supervisors, the preceding body to today's Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS the Legislature voted in 1966 to abolish Boards of Supervisors and formally replace them with Boards of Commissioners after the 1968 elections; and

WHEREAS Public Act 261 of 1966 promulgated that the length of terms for the new county commissioners shall be concurrent with that of state representatives, as specified in Article IV, section 3 of the Michigan Constitution; and

WHEREAS the scope of duties of a county commissioner has greatly increased in the last century - road patrols, indigent defense, mental health treatment and substance abuse prevention programming, solid waste pick-up and disposal, food and water supply safety, park operations, economic development efforts, emergency management and response; and

WHEREAS Michigan is one of only five states in the United States that provides for exclusively two-year terms for county commissioners; and

WHEREAS all other county and township elected officials in Michigan are elected to terms of at least four years; and

WHEREAS the position of county commissioner is a highly complex oversight role that requires years to master; and

WHEREAS legislation to amend state law to enact four-year terms has been filed in the form of House bills 4937-38 and Senate Bills 504-505; and

WHEREAS the Michigan Association of Counties supports the legislation as introduced;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ALPENA COUNTY supports House Bills 4937-38 and Senate Bills 504-505 to enact four-year terms for county commissioners.

Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Karschnick to approve above Resolution #19-18 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Fournier, McDonald, Thomson, Kozlowski and McRoberts. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson is excused. Motion carried.

Reconsideration of Northern Lights Arena Reimbursement Request

Commissioner Kozlowski presented a request from NLA requesting reconsideration of reimbursement requests for 2017-18 and 2018-19 in the amount of \$4,828.56 that were denied due to questions about the relevance to maintenance. Commissioner Kozlowski received an up-to-date surcharge report this morning and he notes that year after year more money is being spent out of the account and fewer funds are going back in. The aging roof was discussed at the recent NLA Committee meeting and there will not be enough reserve in the surcharge fund to replace the roof should the need arise. According to the contract, the purpose of the surcharge fund is for such purposes. He recommends to not reconsider the previously-denied reimbursements.

ACTION ITEM #29: Recommendation to deny Northern Lights Arena's request for reconsideration of previously-submitted reimbursements that were denied.

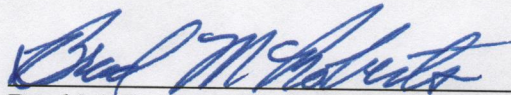
Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve the above Action Item as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Adrian, Karschnick, Fournier, McDonald, Thomson, Kozlowski and McRoberts. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson is excused. Motion carried.

Public Comment

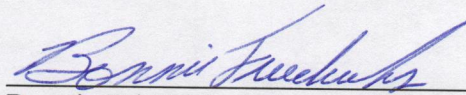
Fran Arthur and Cindy Krentz were asked to come from the gallery to the podium to answer additional questions and represent 4-H Horse Development Club, who presented at last month's full-board meeting. Upon questioning, they stated they would leave the bathrooms and perhaps leave the dugouts as well but would alter them to provide seating. The group has not started fundraising yet due to 4-H rules. According to Ms. Arthur, any funds raised for infrastructure must be raised and spent only for a specified project. They stated the largest benefit to allowing the field to be changed to a horse arena is that there are over 600 horsemen in Alpena County and the current arena is too small and there is currently no warmup area. The proposed new area would have better parking for horse trailers and more room for spectators. Of note, she stated the Alpena High School Equestrian team is not able to use the current arena. Their long-term plan would be for a covered arena with the ability to hold events year-round.

Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Karschnick and supported by Commissioner Fournier to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.



Brad McRoberts, Chairman of the Board



Bonnie Friedrichs, County Clerk

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