

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Full Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 22, 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, October 22, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PRAYER

Prayer was offered by Pastor Warren Hoffman of Huron Shore Fellowship.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called with the following Commissioners present: Bill LaHaie, District #1; Dan Ludlow, District #2; Lucille Bray, District #3; Bill Peterson, District #4; Brenda Fournier, District #5; Burt Francisco, District #6; and John Kozlowski, District #8. Commissioner Travis Konarzewski, District #7, excused, joined by zoom.

AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Fournier to adopt the agenda with the following changes: 1) Addition of a Closed Session for discussion on Union Negotiations and 2) Move the Drug Court agenda item up to after the Consent Calendar as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Friends of the Plaza Pool member Ann Skiba reported the Plaza Pool will be celebrating its 50th anniversary next year meaning the community pool has been used and loved by many. The pool this year is on its way to having over 40,000 visits. Ann shared the many events and activities that happen at the pool which promote healthy lifestyles, safety, recreation and fun for people of all ages. FOPP formed in 2021 and operates as a 501c3 non-profit, and they have raised at least \$20,000 per year for the past 8 years totaling \$168,000 that they donated to Alpena County for operational expenses at the pool. FOPP presented a check in the amount of \$5,000 to Alpena County to be specifically used for equipment repairs at the pool.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Chairman Kozlowski presented the Consent Calendar with minutes for approval.

- A) **Finance Ways & Means Committee Meeting Minutes** – October 8, 2024
- B) **Budget Committee Meeting Minutes** – October 8, 2024
- C) **Intergovernmental Meeting Minutes** – October 3, 2024
- D) **Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes** – October 1, 2024

ACTION ITEM #PC-1: The Committee recommends approval to pay Chief Deputy Treasurer Cindy Cebula for her unused estimated 76.13 PTO hours (estimated \$1,966.44) that are remaining at the end of 2024 as presented.

*ACTION ITEM #PC-2: The Committee recommends approval for the County Administrator to move forward with the process of moving in lieu of payment discussions from union contracts to the Health Steering Committee for negotiating as presented.

Not approved on consent calendar

Recommendation by the County Administrator to pull ACTION ITEM #PC-2 from Minutes

INFORMATION ONLY:

Alpena County Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2024

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve the Consent Calendar which includes actions as listed above and filing of all reports, with removal of Action Item #PC-2 from the draft Personnel Committee meeting minutes. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

DRUG COURT

Judge Alan Curtis previously presented a request for a grant for the Drug Court. After looking into the grant by statute there is a \$5 surcharge that is placed on every civil filing in District Court that must be used for Drug Court. If approved to accept the grant dollars beginning October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, that surcharge amount would be saved and used for FY26 and not be part of the General Fund.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Francisco to approve accepting the Drug Court grant funds as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #3: Recommendation to approve the District Court Judge move forward with accepting the Drug Court Grant funding as presented.

BILLS TO PAY

Clerk Keri Bertrand presented the bills to be paid.

	SUBMITTED:	APPROVED:
General Fund & Other Funds	\$54,726.31	\$54,726.31

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

RESOLUTION #24-27 COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT

Northeast Michigan Community Corrections Program Manager Jessica VanWulfen presented Resolution #24-27 FY25 Community Corrections Grant Application for approval. County Administrator Jesse Osmer read the resolution aloud.

RESOLUTION #24-27

**Approval
of the
FY 2025 Community Corrections Grant Application
of the
Northeast Michigan Council of Governments**

- WHEREAS,** the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) serves as the Fiscal Agent and Program Manager for the Northeast Michigan Community Corrections Advisory Board (NEMCCAB), and
- WHEREAS,** NEMCCAB strongly desires to provide Community Correction’s Programs and Services in Northeast MI, and
- WHEREAS,** NEMCOG has worked with the Office of Community Corrections and members of the NEMCCABs to develop a FY 2025 Community Corrections Grant Application for the NEMCCAB, and
- WHEREAS,** the FY 2025 Community Corrections Grant Application has been prepared by NEMCOG in the amount of \$175,000 for Community Corrections Programs and Services in the counties of: Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Montmorency, and Otsego
- WHEREAS,** the Northeast Michigan Community Corrections Advisory Board, approves this Grant Application, and recommends its approval by the member counties,
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Alpena County Board of Commissioners approves the FY 2025 Community Corrections Grant Application for the annual amount of \$175,000 for Programs and Services.

Moved by Commissioner Bray and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to approve and adopt Resolution #24-27 as presented. Motion carried.

SHERIFF BOAT EXTRAS

Sgt. J.P. Ritter reported a poll vote was previously approved by the board for the purchase of a new fully funded boat for the Sheriff's Office through the Stonegarden Grant. After the poll was approved Sgt. Ritter and Sheriff Erik Smith would like to add side steps and an engine guard to the boat with a total cost of \$4,579. The extra cost should be covered with the FY24 Stonegarden Grant, but they will not know for certain for a couple months. If the items are not covered, they will be requested in next year's budget.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to approve the additional boat accessories for the new Sheriff boat as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #4: Recommendation to approve the additional charges totaling \$4,579 to add side steps and an engine guard to the new Sheriff boat to be expensed from line item 101-312-977.001 Thermal Imaging Unit as presented.

MSU EXTENSION ANNUAL REPORT

MSU Extension District 14 Director Adam Koivisto and 4H Coordinator Michelle Eagling presented the Michigan State University Extension Annual Report and Addendum. Adam gave a 4H update stating Alpena County has one of the largest 4H groups in northern Michigan. Michelle highlighted some of their programs and reported there was a huge increase in volunteers.

Adam reported a new Community Nutrition Instructor has started and is working with seniors and elementary school students on healthy eating curriculums. Mary Dunckel's work on the Alpena Joint Recreation Plan was highlighted and discussion was made on Agricultural Programs.

2025 OLDER PERSONS COMMITTEE GRANT ALLOCATIONS

Older Persons Committee Chairman Craig Zelazny presented the 2025 Older Persons Grant Application Allocations for approval.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Bray to approve the 2025 Older Persons Grant Allocations as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #6: Recommendation to approve the Older Persons Committee recommendations of the 2025 Older Persons Grant Allocations and authorize the County Administrator to sign all pertaining documents as presented.

2025 YOUTH & RECREATION COMMITTEE GRANT ALLOCATIONS

Youth and Recreation Chairman Tony Suszek presented the 2025 Youth and Recreation Grant Application Allocations for approval.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Francisco to approve the 2025 Youth and Recreation Grant Allocations as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #7: Recommendation to approve the Youth & Recreation Committee recommendations of the 2025 Youth & Recreation Grant Allocations and authorize the County Administrator to sign all pertaining documents as presented.

MSU EXTENTION DISCUSSION

Youth and Rec Chairman Suszek reported one of their committee's biggest supports is MSU Extension. If the millage does not pass and MSU Extension's funding is cut from the county budget the committee could discuss the possibility of funding the program in 2025.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SEALED BID RECOMMENDATIONS

IT Director Logan Kemp presented his recommendations from the Video Surveillance System and Video Surveillance Cameras sealed bid openings.

Moved by Commissioner Bray and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve the sealed bid recommendation for the Video Surveillance Cameras as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #8: Recommendation to approve the Request for Proposal from Modern Tech Solutions LLC in an amount not to exceed \$9,785 for Video Surveillance Cameras to be expensed from Data Processing Equipment and Replacement Fund line item 402-234-980.251 as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Francisco to approve the sealed bid recommendation for the Video Surveillance System as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #9: Recommendation to approve the Request for Proposal from Modern Tech Solutions LLC in an amount not to exceed \$4,780 on behalf of the City of Alpena for a Video Surveillance System to be expensed from Data Processing Equipment and Replacement line item 402-234-980.251 as presented. The City of Alpena will reimburse the County for the costs associated with the Video Surveillance System.

REPORTS OF REGULAR COMMITTEES

Facilities, Capital & Strategic Planning Committee Update – Meeting was cancelled due to lack of discussion items.

Courts & Public Safety Committee Update – Chair Kozlowski reported the Committee approved the MIDC grant, and the county's portion will remain the same as last year's amount. They also approved the Public Defender Agreement and the MAC Administrator Agreement which are both part of that MIDC grant.

Personnel Committee Update – Chair Fournier reported the Committee discussed the County Administrator's evaluation which is due at the end of November. Applications are currently being taken for the Opioid Steering Committee in which Commissioner Francisco offered any assistance.

OTHER BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

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

Planning Commission – Commission did not meet.

Veterans Affairs Board Liaison – Nothing new to report.

District Health Department #4 – A new auditor was hired, they are hiring a full time Sanitarian position in Cheboygan, they received a new van donated by Delta Dental, and they have been monitoring IT scams.

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

NEMCSA – They had the opportunity to tour the new PACE building which is set to open in 2025.

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

Thunder Bay Transportation – Meeting is on Thursday.

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

26th Judicial Circuit Court Management Council – The budget was set for next year.

Montmorency Oscoda Alpena (MOA) Landfill Authority – Finished up budget and will be approved at the next meeting. Six and a half million gallons went down the injection well so far this year saving a lot of money.

Target – Next meeting is in November.

District #5: Commissioner Brenda Fournier was unable to attend, and Commissioner LaHaie gave an update on the Health Department meeting.

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

LEPC, Central Dispatch, and LPT – They are continuing to update the Emergency Operations Plan, MAVIS system is continuing to be updated with the firefighters, and there was some training with Holcim that was very beneficial.

Northeast Michigan Regional Entity – Did not meet in October the next. The next meeting is in November.

Opioid Update – Nothing new to report.

District #7 Commissioner Travis Konarzewski was not present, excused.

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

DARE/TEAMS – The program will be starting back up.

NE MI Consortium – Meeting is on Monday.

Northeast Michigan Materials Management Authority (NMMMA) – Meeting will take place on Thursday, and they are looking to hire an Executive Director.

NMMMA FUNDING FOR CLEAN UP DAY & ELECTRONICS DAY

Chair Kozlowski presented a letter from NMMMA requesting financial support in the amount of \$7,500 for Clean Up Day and Electronics Day for 2025. Discussion was made to remain funding in the amount of \$5,000 as in past years.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to recommend approval to financially support the annual Clean Up and Electronics Days' for NMMMA as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #10: Recommendation to approve payment to the NMMMA in the amount of \$5,000 to help support the annual Countywide Clean Up Day and Electronic Day in 2025 as presented.

RESOLUTION #24-26 FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH

Chairman Kozlowski read Resolution #24-26 aloud.

**RESOLUTION #24-26
FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, the mission of the Family Court Awareness Month Committee (FCAMC) is to increase awareness on the importance of a family court system that prioritizes child safety and acts in the best interest of children, and;

WHEREAS, the mission at the FCAMC is fueled by the desire to create awareness and change in the family court system for the conservatively estimated, 58,000 children a year ordered into unsupervised contact with abusive parents, while honoring the hundreds of children who have been reported as murdered due to being court ordered into visitation with a dangerous parent, and;

WHEREAS, the mission of the FCAMC is to increase awareness on the importance of empirically-based education and training on domestic violence and child abuse, including emotional, psychological, physical, and sexual abuse, as well as childhood trauma, coercive control, and post separation abuse for judges and all professionals working on cases within the family court system, and;

WHEREAS, the mission of the FCAMC is to increase awareness on the importance of using scientifically valid, evidence-based, treatment programs and services that are proven in terms of safety, effectiveness, and therapeutic value, and;

WHEREAS, the mission at the FCAMC is to educate judges and other family court professionals utilizing scientifically sound, evidence-based, peer-reviewed research. Such research is a critical component to making decisions that are truly in the best interest of children.

NOW, THEREFORE be it RESOLVED that the Alpena County Board of Commissioners hereby declare the Month of NOVEMBER, to be FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH. We encourage all residents to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the harm of children in the hands of family members and to honor and value the lives of children.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to adopt Resolution #24-26 as presented. Motion carried.

FAIRGROUNDS DISCUSSION – FAIR WEEK

County Administrator Osmer reported he met with the Fairgrounds Manager and Fair Board President regarding concerns with campers during fair week. There is no way to monitor if someone is there, specifically to camp when going in and out of the gate and whether they were attending the fair and paid the fee to do so. Recommendation was made to let the Fair Board and affiliates have until December 1st to reserve their sites for next year and beginning December 1st open it up to the public in which the week of the fair the rate would be increased by \$20 and would then be turned over to the Fair Board. Those that purchase camping sites that week will get a gate pass and have the option to attend the fair if they choose and the Fair Board will not lose money.

Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to recommend changing the rates during fair week as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #12: Recommendation to approve increasing the fairgrounds camping rate \$20 during fair week to cover the gate fee cost and give the \$20 per site back to the Fair Board as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Commissioner Fournier thanked the Friends of the Plaza Pool for their donation and thanked Youth and Rec Chair Suszek for possibly stepping up to help with MSU Extension.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into closed session for discussion on Union Negotiations. Session closed at 2:26 p.m. and opened at 2:43 p.m. Roll was called with the following Commissioners present: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, and Kozlowski. Commissioner Konarzewski, excused.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

John Kozlowski, Chairman of the Board

Keri Bertrand, County Clerk

kvm