

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Full Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 25, 2024 – 5:30 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, June 25, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

PRAYER

Prayer was offered by Pastor Jim Erickson of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Alpena.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

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

STATEMENT

Chairman Kozlowski read a statement on behalf of the Board regarding an individual that approached the podium during public comment at a recent meeting. The individual's views and comments were not of the board and as a result they are looking for options to ensure that, going forward, some comments are followed or perhaps even prefaced to an individual speaking and known to use foul language or offensive gestures.

AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Lalonde and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to adopt the agenda with the following additions: 1) Petition to Abandon Hinks Road and 2) Resolution #24-17 for Materials Management Planning as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dennis Schultz of Alpena thanked the Board for what they do and reported he sent them a note on his thoughts relative to the library circumstance and asked that they act expeditiously.

Michael Kramer of Alpena reported it is ill advised to cut the Sheriff's Office budget. It is imperative to keep the budget where it is and protect the community in these troubled times.

Brad Somers of Alpena clarified the usage of the 601 River Street location. The Boys & Girls Club had previously discussed selling the property but are now looking at other opportunities for the building as there is a need for adequate gym space in the community. There are currently 14 different youth serving organizations utilizing that facility. They have not decided whether to sell and the Boys & Girls Club wants to be in contact with the Board about any future plans.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Chairman Kozlowski presented the Consent Calendar with minutes for approval.

- A) **Finance Ways & Means Committee Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2024* (*Minutes only)**
- B) **Courts & Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2024**
- C) **Facilities, Capital & Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2024**
- D) **Budget Committee Workshop Minutes – June 20, 2024**

INFORMATION ONLY:

Alpena County Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2024

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

BILLS TO PAY

Clerk Keri Bertrand presented the bills to be paid.

	SUBMITTED:	APPROVED:
General Fund & Other Funds	\$ 69,954.54	\$ 69,954.54

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

PROPOSED PAY SCALE FOR VICTIMS ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR

County Administrator Jesse Osmer reported the Department of Labor is changing the rules on how they will handle salary requirements beginning July 1st. Victims Assistance Coordinator Julie Jackson's position is currently grant funded as a salary employee, and the rule change will prevent the grant from covering her salary. If she is hourly the grant will continue to pay. Two options were presented before the Board. Option one is a 38-hour work week to allow her to room if she needs to work a little more and not acquire comp or overtime. Option two is a 40-hour work week. There would be no increase in pay.

Moved by Commissioner Lalonde and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to approve Pay Scale Option 1 for the Victims Assistance Coordinator as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #1: Recommendation to approve Pay Scale Option 1 of 38 hours per week for the Victims Assistance Coordinator as presented.

NEMCSA FY25 DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Region 9 Area Agency on Aging Director Laurie Sauer presented a draft FY25 Implementation Plan for NEMCSA for review and approval. This is a continuation of their three-year plan and they are maintaining the services already in place for older adults in Northeast Michigan. The plan is updated each year throughout the three-year plan.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Francisco to approve NEMCSA's FY25 Draft Implementation Plan as presented. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #4: Recommendation to approve the Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency (NEMCSA) FY2025 Draft Implementation Plan for Aging Services as presented.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

1. Home Improvement Director Budget Amendment Request –

ACTION ITEM #1: Recommendation to approve the Home Improvement Director's Budget Amendment Request as follows:

Increased 2024 Budgeted Revenues as follows:

Current HPG Grant line item #276-703-503.000 of \$124,404

Current HPG Admin line item #276-703-503.001 of \$12,836

Increase 2024 Budgeted Expenditures as follows:
Charges-Admin line item #276-703-830.000 by \$12,836
Current HPG Expend line item #276-703-969.003 by \$45,000

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Konarzewski to approve the Home Improvement Budget Adjustment as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

OLD BOYS & GIRLS CLUB PROPERTY

Administrator Osmer reported the Boys & Girls Club had never received official communication from the Board regarding the sale of the property at 601 River Street and presented a draft letter seeking the Board's approval to sign the letter and send out regarding the original agreement. The letter also states the Boys & Girls Club would revert 5% of the 75% profit they would have made from the sale for each month the property is not listed. Chair Kozlowski would like to have a meeting with the Boys & Girls Club before moving forward with a letter. County Administrator Osmer will set up the meeting for further discussion.

AIRPORT LOTS CONTRACT

Administrator Osmer reported he had sent out notes to the Board on the recommendations made by the attorney regarding the Airport Lots Contract. Discussion was made on the attorney recommendations with approval by purchaser Duane Jennings.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve proceeding with the recommended attorney updates to the Airport Lots Contract and to approve the contract be signed by the Chairman once updates are complete. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF REGULAR COMMITTEES

Facilities, Capital & Strategic Planning Committee Update – Commissioner Konarzewski reported the primary focus of the meeting was the library discussion.

Courts & Public Safety Committee Update – Chair Kozlowski reported the Committee was given updates by the Juvenile Officer and the EM/911 Director.

Budget Committee Workshop Update – Chair Peterson reported the Commissioners will be breaking into groups to go through each department budget.

OTHER BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

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

Planning Commission – Discussion on Wilson Township Zoning Amendment and the Drain Commissioner was present to give an update on Long Lake. The June meeting was cancelled.

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

Parks & Recreation Commission – Commissioner Lalonde reported the money for the Long Lake Park pole barn was moved to Sunken Lake Park to repair the roof. The Sunken Lake Park house will also be evaluated by Omega regarding the old electrical.

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

Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary – Commissioner Lalonde encouraged everyone to look up Force Blue, a group of retired navy seals that have partnered up with NOAA. They will be returning in September and will be diving within the shipwrecks filming a documentary.

Fair Board Liaison – Commissioner Lalonde encouraged everyone to visit their Facebook page. They currently have a wood horse head fundraiser going on for a new sound system and are still looking for vendors for this year's fair.

Thunder Bay Transportation – Meeting is next week.

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

26th Judicial Circuit Court Management Council – Next meeting is in August.

Montmorency Oscoda Alpena (MOA) Landfill Authority – Injection well continues to run well.

Target – Next meeting is in July.

District #5 Commissioner Brenda Fournier gave an update on the following boards/commissioners she represents:

District Health Department #4 – Commissioner LaHaie attended the meeting and reported a financial report was given and there was discussion regarding a weapons free area which was turned down and will be discussed at a future meeting. Allocations for 2025 have increased 5%.

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

Northeast Michigan Regional Entity – Next meeting is in July.

Opioid Update – Money that was allocated by the Executive Committee has been disbursed to the Sunrise Center and Freedom Recovery. Commissioner Francisco will reach out to the Alano Club and Charter Township Supervisor Nathan Skibbe to determine how they will invoice Alano’s \$83,882.

District #7 Commissioner Travis Konarzewski gave an update on the following boards/commissions he represents:

Community Corrections Advisory Board – No updates.

Northern MI Counties Association – No updates as they have not yet met this month.

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

DARE – Nothing new to update.

NE MI Consortium – Chair Kozlowski emailed the Board the reports from the meeting to review.

Northeast Michigan Materials Management Authority (NMMMA) – There is a meeting on Thursday.

United Way – Nothing new to report.

PETITION TO ABANDON ROAD

Alpena County Road Commission Managing Director Ryan Brege reported a resident had contacted him regarding the paving of Hinks Park Road, but he was unaware of any paving taking place. Any work that takes place on a county road requires a permit from the Road Commission and the paving they planned to do was not built to any standard the Road Commission would approve. Two options were provided to the Board. One option is to upgrade the road to the Road Commission standards or the second option is for the County to petition to abandon the road. Seven signatures are required from property owners in Alpena Township and it was recommended that at least one signature be from a Parks Commission member or someone on the County Board as that road is completely encompassed by County property. No public hearing would be required. The road could then be abandoned at their next meeting on July 2nd. Chairman Kozlowski will get the required signatures and return to the Road Commission.

RESOLUTION #24-17

Chair Kozlowski presented Resolution #24-17 of the Board of Commissioners assuming the responsibilities of becoming the County Approval Agency (CAA) for Materials Management Planning.

Resolution #24-17

A Resolution of the Alpena County Board of Commissioners Assuming the Responsibilities of Becoming the County Approval Agency (CAA)

WHEREAS, The State of Michigan’s Solid Waste Program was updated with significant amendments to Part 115, Solid Waste Management, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (1994 PA 451) in December 2022 and became effective on March 29, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the amendments include a new Materials Management Planning process that requires each county to develop a Materials Management Plan (MMP); and

WHEREAS, a County Board of Commissioners must elect to assume the responsibility of becoming the County Approval Agency; and

WHEREAS, a County has 180 days from the date the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Director initiates the MMP Process to assume the responsibility of becoming the County Approval Agency and submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) for Materials Management Planning; and

WHEREAS, the Alpena County Board of Commissioners has determined that it is in the interest of the County to elect to assume the responsibility of becoming the County Approval Agency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alpena County Board of Commissioners hereby elects to assume the responsibility of becoming the County Approval Agency.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the forgoing Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Alpena County Board of Commissioners, held on June 25, 2024.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve Resolution #24-17 as presented. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OTHER BOARDS

Chair Kozlowski reported he would like to appoint Commissioner Ludlow to the Committees and Boards that former District 2 Commissioner Jesse Osmer was appointed to.

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Lalonde to approve Commissioner Ludlow be appointed to the recommended Committees and Boards as presented. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #6: Recommendation for the Board Chair to appoint Commission Dan Ludlow to the following Committees and Other Boards as follows:

COMMITTEES:

Courts & Public Safety Committee

OTHER BOARDS:

HUNT

**NEMCOG
NEMCSA
Parks & Recreation Commission
Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary
4-County Health Board – Alternate
Target Alpena - Alternate**

AIRPORT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chair Kozlowski reported the Board would be reestablishing an Airport Committee. This Committee will bring any airport issues before the Board sooner, especially with all the construction happening at the airport. Commissioner Peterson and Commissioner Konarzewski previously volunteered to be part of the Committee and Commissioner LaHaie reported he would like to be part of the Committee as well.

Moved by Commissioner Lalonde and supported by Commissioner Fournier to approve Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Konarzewski, and Commissioner LaHaie be appointed to the Airport Committee as presented. Motion carried.

Chair Kozlowski asked the Committee members to establish a day that works best for them next month to have the first meeting.

BUDGET REVIEW GROUPS

Chair Kozlowski reported the Commissioners will be placed in groups for reviewing each department's budget. The Committees are as follows: Commissioners Peterson and Lalonde; Commissioners Ludlow and Francisco; Commissioners Kozlowski and LaHaie; and Commissioners Konarzewski and Fournier. Chair Kozlowski will allocate the departments to each group within the next few days. The intent is to meet with the Department Heads to see how to reduce their budget or look at additional ways for revenue. Treasurer Ludlow will send a spreadsheet to the Department Heads with their budget on July 3rd.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioners went into closed session for discussion on a Personnel Issue and Possible Litigation at 6:30 p.m. and opened session at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Lalonde, Peterson, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski present.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner Lalonde and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

John Kozlowski, Chairman of the Board

Keri Bertrand, County Clerk

kvm