

FACILITIES, CAPITAL & STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 16, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.
Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room

Commissioners Present: Travis Konarzewski, Chair
Brenda Fournier
Todd Britton
John Kozlowski

Others Present: Nick Akins, Maintenance Superintendent
Holly Akins, Fairgrounds Manager
Logan Kemp, IT Director
Courtney Tauriainen, Fair Board President
Michelle Eagling, 4H Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Travis Konarzewski called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CAMPING AT FAIRGROUNDS

County Administrator Jesse Osmer reported there have been issues again this year with homeless campers at the fairgrounds and has been looking into different options. One option would be to begin contracting with these third parties. A second option would be to begin invoicing the third parties for damages, or the third option to deny future third parties from being able to purchase lots and require first person purchases only. Discussion was made to deny the third-party purchases beginning in 2026. Administrator Osmer will draft a letter stating that the county will no longer allow this for next season and bring back for the Committee to review.

FAIR WEEK CAMPING

Administrator Osmer reported in past seasons temporary campsites, in addition to the permanent sites, were created to be used during fair week. The Fair Board and 4H are asking for a permit to be pulled again, although this year, there is a horse show within the track and no campers would be able to set up until Sunday after 8pm. Reservations for the 2025 season were opened prior to the public this year for the Fair Board and 4H families, but there is a waiting list for sites. Administrator Osmer will meet with the Fair Board President, 4H Program Coordinator, and Fairgrounds Manager in the coming months to bring back information in preparation of next year.

Moved by Commissioner Britton and supported by Commissioner Fournier to recommend approval to obtain a temporary campsite permit during the fair as presented. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval to obtain a temporary campsite permit for the Alpena County Fairgrounds to be used during the week of the fair as presented.

CELL PHONE TOWER

Administrator Osmer reported Sheriff Smith was approached by a contracting company called TeleCAD Wireless, that Verizon uses, about the need for a cell phone tower in Wilson Township. They have identified the Sheriff's Office as a possible location for this tower requiring as little as a 50x50 square foot patch. There is a grassy area to the left of the pole barn for possible use. TeleCAD began with offering \$75,000 to \$80,000 and would like a 75-year lease. This revenue would go towards the new radios the Sheriff's Office will need to replace the ones that will sunset next July and no longer be useful. Discussion was made to counteroffer at \$125,000.00.

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Kozlowski to recommend approval moving forward with a counteroffer of \$125,000 to put a cell phone tower at the Sheriff's Office as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Fournier, Britton, Kozlowski, and Konarzewski. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**A poll vote will be sent out as TeleCAD is requesting a response by end of day tomorrow.

ACTION ITEM #2: Recommendation to allow TeleCAD, a company working on behalf of Verizon to:

- **Place a tower at our property located on M-32, on the grounds of the Alpena County Sheriff Department – preferably behind the jail, but possibly in the lot near the pole barn when you first enter the parking lot.**
- **Signing a 75-year lease with the company.**
- **Charging a total of \$125,000.00, to be paid in a lump sum.**
- **If modifications or additions are made to the tower, an opportunity to collect a small fee or payment if it generates additional revenue for Verizon.**
- **To offer up other property, if appropriate, pending identifying said property and getting approval by the Board.**

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES

Maintenance Superintendent Nick Akins gave an update on the following projects:

- Generators – Waiting on generator quotes.
- Cattle Barn & Horse Barn – A tripping hazard issue was brought up by the Fair Board in the cattle and horse barns and has been addressed.
- Signage at Fairgrounds – The Health Inspector recommended updating signs at the fairgrounds. Nick will get the signs ordered and up before fair week.
- MDOT – There was a flaw in the design of the MDOT building and the A/C is not working properly. The unit is 26 years old. Spicer Group and Control Solutions were both contacted regarding the issue and Commissioner Britton will reach back out to Control Solutions.

- Parks Camper – The price of the Parks Commission’s camper that is located at the fairgrounds has been reduced to \$6,500. There is a potential buyer that will be contacted after the meeting.

IT DEPARTMENT – PROJECT OVERVIEW UPDATES & CAMERAS

IT Director Logan Kemp reported cameras will be installed July 28th through the 30th. Discussion was made on placement of the camera at the fairgrounds to monitor who goes in and out of the restroom.

The new recycling building will be utilizing a new door code system and depending on which one they choose and if it’s easy for them, the county could utilize the same type of system. Instead of having to physically go to each door for Bluetooth to sync with the lock, it can be done on a webpage. Logan will look into pricing and contact Frank’s Key & Lock for more information.

The County has two uninterruptible power supplies (UPS) one located at the courthouse in the data center and the other in dispatch. The are both 20-25 years old and will need to be replaced in the future due to parts becoming unavailable. The cost for a battery is approximately \$500 apiece and the actual unit itself is between \$30,000 to \$40,000. Discussion was made on pricing for a small generator to be used in the case the power goes out and the generator fails. Any longer than 30 minutes the entire data center would be lost.

INFORMATION ITEM: Chair Konarzewski presented the Recycling Monthly Reports to receive and file. Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Britton to receive and file the monthly recycling reports as presented. Motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEM: Chair Konarzewski presented the Fairground Manager’s monthly reports to receive and file. Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Britton to receive and file the monthly Fairground Manager’s reports at presented. Motion carried.

***Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room**

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Travis Konarzewski, Chair

kvm