

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Full Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, June 27, 2023 – 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 Bill Peterson in the County Annex Building, Howard Male Conference Room, Alpena, Michigan and via Zoom on Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

**PRAYER**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Bill Peterson 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; Jesse Osmer, District #2; Robin Lalonde, District #3; Brenda Fournier, District #5; Burt Francisco, District #6; Travis Konarzewski, District #7; John Kozlowski, District #8; and Bill Peterson, District #4.

**AGENDA**

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Lalonde to adopt the agenda with the addition: 1) Commissioner Fournier – Lappan Insurance. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Michael Centala from Alpena shared his concerns of the current Animal Control Shelter and the funding they need.

Julie Rebay of Alpena requested to defer to Michael Centala and Mike Centala continued reading his letter of concern to the board.

LuAnn Benac of Alpena shared her concerns of the Animal Control Survey and recommended that Animal Control Officer Michelle Reid remain in this position and not to source out to another person or company for Animal Control Services.

Amy Matuzek of Herron read a letter of concerns to the board of the Beaver Lake Road condition and shared the unhappiness with the Road Commission.

Chairman Peterson recommended that people attend the Alpena County Road Commission Board Meeting the first Tuesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at the Road Commission building.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

- A) **Finance Ways & Means Committee Meeting Minutes – June 13, 2023 (\*Minutes only)**
- B) **Courts & Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2023**

ACTION ITEM #CPSC-1: The Committee recommends approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between AMA ESD (Pied Piper School) and DHD#4 for use of the facility in the event of a school emergency and authorize the Chairman of the Board and/or the County Administrator to sign all pertaining documents as presented.

- C) **Facilities, Capital, & Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – June 21, 2023**

ACTION ITEM #FCSPC-1: The Committee recommends approval of Home Improvement Project #EM 21-09 with a project cost of \$19,130 for Floor/Sub-Floor/Floor Covering/Bi-Fold Doors/Toilets with funding to come from program income and HPG funds combined as presented.

ACTION ITEM #FCSPC-2: The Committee recommends approval of the Northern Lights Arena Surcharge Collection & Use Policy as presented.

**Not Approved on Consent Calendar**

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

**Parks Commission Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2023**

Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Francisco to approve the Consent Calendar which includes actions as listed above and filing of all reports. Action Item #FCSPC-2 was pulled for further discussion. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

### **FCSPC-2: NLA SURCHARGE COLLECTION & USE POLICY**

Commissioner Kozlowski pulled Action Item #FCSPC-2 off the Consent Calendar for further discussion on the NLA Surcharge Collection & Use Policy. Discussion on items approved in committee meeting minutes be added onto consent calendar for board to either approve or pull for further discussion. Discussion and recommendation to pull the amendment in the policy to purchase equipment using the surcharge fund.

Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Konarzewski to approve the below updated action item. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #FCSPC-2: The Committee recommends to approve the Northern Lights Arena Surcharge Collection & Use Policy with the removal of the language for purchasing equipment with the surcharge fund.**

### **BILLS TO PAY**

Clerk Keri Bertrand presented the bills to be paid.

	SUBMITTED:	APPROVED:
General Fund & Other Funds	\$ 40,680.41	\$ 40,680.41

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

### **DHD #4 ANNUAL REPORT**

Denise Bryan, DHD #4, presented the District Health Department #4 Annual Report for 2022 reporting that Dr. Meyerson was unable to attend. Denise reported that this is a 4 County Wide District and they work with Prevention, Promotion, and Protection for the counties. Also presenting were Kevin Prevost, Nathan Scott, Cathy Goike, and Andrea Krueger all from the Health Department giving a report update and their background experience to the board.

### **RECYCLING SURCHARGE**

County Treasurer Kim Ludlow presented the request to disburse the Recycling Surcharge collected on the Alpena County property tax bills to Northeast Michigan Materials Management Authority (NMMMA) for approval.

Moved by Commissioner Francisco and supported by Commissioner Lalonde to approve the below action item. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #4: Recommendation to authorize the County Treasurer to disburse the Recycling request from Northeast Michigan Management Authority (NMMMA), as Northeast Michigan Council Management Authority (NMMMA) starting with the winter 2023 property tax billing. Per the attached Surcharge collected on the Alpena County property tax bills to Northeast Michigan Materials of Governments (NEMCOG) is no longer the fiduciary.**

### **DRAFT SOIL EROSION ORDINANCE & RESOLUTION #23-13**

County Administrator Mary Catherine Hannah presented the draft Soil Erosion Ordinance and Resolution #23-13 Intergovernmental Agreement to create a Land Bank Authority for approval.

## **ALPENA COUNTY**

Resolution No. 23-13

### **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SOIL EROSION and SEDIMENTATION ORDINANCE**

WHEREAS, the Alpena County Board of Commissioners wishes to provide for the management of soil erosion and sedimentation control in the County of Alpena pursuant to the provisions Part 91, Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Part 91), being 324.9101 *et seq.* of the Michigan Compiled Laws and the Administrative Rules promulgated by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.; and

WHEREAS, the Alpena County Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance is intended to protect the health, safety and welfare of the County residents and the public health, safety and

welfare of the community by regulating earth change activities, which can harm the environment through erosion and the unnatural accumulation of sediment; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance shall take effect upon approval by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE) and when notice of its adoption is published in a newspaper of general circulation in the County. All active permits issued prior to adoption of said Ordinance and bonds shall remain in effect and shall be subject to provisions of this Ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Alpena approves the proposed Alpena County Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Ordinance attached hereto as Exhibit A, subject, if necessary, to technical, typographical or non-substantial modifications approved by EGLE before the effective date of the Ordinance. The provisions of this resolution shall be effective upon its' approval.

Moved by Commissioner Osmer and supported by Commissioner Francisco to approve the above Resolution #23-13 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Francisco, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: Commissioner Fournier. Motion carried.

**BID FOR APLEX POOL CONCEPTUAL DESIGN**

County Administrator Hannah presented the bid recommendation from the Plaza Pool Work Group for the APlex Pool Conceptual Design for approval.

Moved by Commissioner Osmer and supported by Commissioner Kozlowski to table Action Item #5 Bid for APlex Pool Conceptual Design until the next board meeting to further review other bids. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #23-12 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT**

County Administrator Hannah presented Resolution #23-12 Intergovernmental Agreement to create a Land Bank Authority for approval.

**ALPENA COUNTY**

Resolution No. 23-12

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT  
ESTABLISHING THE ALPENA COUNTY LAND BANK AUTHORITY.**

WHEREAS, the Michigan Land Bank Fast Track Authority N/K/A State Land Bank Authority ("Authority") was created as a public body corporate and politic under the Land Bank Fast Track Act, 2003 PA 258, MCL 124.751 to 124.774, and is authorized to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with a county foreclosing governmental unit providing for the creation of a county authority to exercise the powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of an authority under that act; and

WHEREAS, the County of Alpena, Michigan is a foreclosing governmental unit under the Land Bank Fast Track Act, 2003 PA 258, MCL 124.751 to 124.774 and Section 78 of the General property Tax Act, 18 3 PA 206, MCL 211.78; and

WHEREAS, the Authority and the Treasurer and the Board of Commissioners of the County of Alpena, Michigan seek to establish a county authority for Alpena County as a separate legal entity and as a public body corporate to exercise within Alpena County, Michigan the powers, duties, functions and responsibilities of a county authority under the Land Bank Fast Tract Act, 2003 PA 258, MCL 124.751 to 124.774.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Alpena approves the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A between the Authority and the Treasurer of the County of Alpena, Michigan creating the Alpena County Land Bank Authority, subject, if necessary, to technical, typographical or non-substantial modifications approved by the Executive Director of, or legal counsel for, the Authority before the effective date of the Intergovernmental Agreement. The provisions of this resolution shall be effective upon its' approval.

Moved by Commissioner Konarzewski and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to approve above Resolution #23-12 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**REPORTS OF REGULAR COMMITTEES**

**Courts & Public Safety Committee Update** – Chair Kozlowski reported that the committee met and most of the discussion items are in the meeting minutes for review. Commissioner Kozlowski wanted to stress that the Animal Control Shelter is not getting shut down as the feedback is that he is receiving that the AC Shelter was being closed, when it is not. Commissioner Kozlowski reported that policies will need to be in place for Animal Control moving forward and will meet with the Animal Control Adhoc Committee and the Sheriff to work on procedures and policies for Animal Control Shelters in place and how to fit with Alpena.

**Personnel Committee Update** – Chair Osmer reported some items were addressed at the meeting with change in insurance agent for a cost savings and efficiency and there have been negotiations and discussion with rest of discussion in the meeting minutes for review.

**Economic Development Committee Update** – Chair Peterson reported that Lenny Avery of Target, and Administrator Hannah are working on information for a Land Bank Authority and that Finance Chair Francisco will be following up on a workshop today.

**Facilities, Capital & Strategic Planning Committee Update** – Chair Konarzewski reported that the committee met and that the 711 tenants signed a lease and will be moving in on July 1, 2023. Commissioner Konarzewski reported that the Fairboard will be putting up a fence, power bill has increased during the fair and will look at the demands and they will possibly rent a generator to offset that and waiting to hear back from Mike Arthur.

**OTHER BOARDS**

**Health Department** – Commissioner Lalonde reported the Health Department made a presentation today and do rabies, HIV testing at their facilities and working on a EM Preparedness flight, and the local health department is partnering with the local behavioral health for support.

**Fairboard** – Already reported under Facilities.

**MI Northern Counties Association** – Nothing to report.

**MOA Landfill Authority** – Commissioner Peterson gave an update reporting waiting on final work mid July.

**NEMI Consortium** – Commissioner Lalonde reported nothing to report at this time but will give an update in the fall after their meeting.

**NMMA** – Commissioner Francisco gave an update reporting that the Multi-Recycling Facility is on plan (2 year) and will have an engineering site plan for the project.

**NEMCOG** – Commissioner Francisco reported they met and discussed the Statewide Septic Tank concerns, they are working on a \$175,000 Rural Housing Preservation Grant for the housing project in Alpena.

**Parks** – Commissioner LaHaie gave an update reporting that the parks are up and running and going well and shared the financials with the board.

**Solid Waste Management** – Commissioner Peterson reported they plan in September to implement as they have 180 days to submit a MOU intend to plan and will look into more grant funds available and work with Montmorency County and Presque Isle County.

**Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary** – Commissioner Osmer reported he has not attended with a blizzard for the first meeting this year and the second meeting he was out of town but wanted to share with the board that the Robotics will be diving for shipwrecks, Rubber Duckie will be back for the Tall Ships Festival combined with another event on July 21-23, 2023.

**Thunder Bay Transportation** – Commissioner Konarzewski reported they have a couple new vans purchased last quarter.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS**

**Lappan Insurance Discussion** – Commissioner Fournier shared her concerns of not being aware of the switch of insurance with Lappan insurance to another vendor. The Personnel Committee discussed and approved and the action item was put on the Consent Calendar for the board to approve, which it did to go with a new vendor. Discussion on previous carrier and new carrier. Chair of Personnel Jesse Osmer reported and informed the board that they met on June 6<sup>th</sup> and discussed and made a recommendation.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

County Administrator Mary Catherine Hannah reported she received a letter from EGLE and will forward to the board.

## NEW BUSINESS

Facilities, Capital & Strategic Planning Committee Chair Konarzewski reported that the committee discussed guidelines to approve Home Improvement Projects that need quick action and approval sooner than waiting for board approval to spend money for emergency repairs with grant money the Home Improvement Program already has. Chair Peterson presented the recommendation from the Home Improvement Director for approval.

Moved by Commissioner Konarzewski and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to authorize the Facilities, Capital & Strategic Planning Committee to approve Home Improvement Project requests as they are presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Osmer, Lalonde, Fournier, Francisco, Konarzewski, Kozlowski, and Peterson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

## ROAD COMMISSION

The Board discussed the number of Road Commission Board Members and the issue presented with Beaver Lake Road with Ryan Brege, Manager of the Alpena County Road Commission. Ryan informed the board that the Road Commission is aware of the issue with Beaver Lake Road and are looking for a solution with one option being to put clay into the road to help bind better or to apply more chloride applications. Ryan reported that he recommends people to attend their Road Commission Board meetings and present any concerns or questions to them and they will be happy to discuss a solution.

## CLOSED SESSION

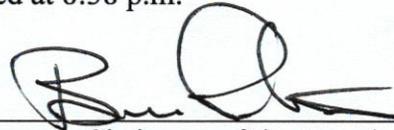
Moved by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Konarzewski to go into closed session for union grievance. Motion carried. Closed Session at 8:06 p.m. and Open Session at 8:32 p.m. Roll call: All Commissioners present. Motion carried.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

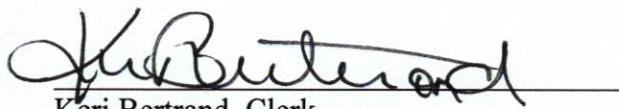
Gerald MacArthur, Vice Chairman of the Alpena County Road Commission, presented to the board his concerns of having only a 3-member board and recommends a 5 member board then they can discuss with each board member solutions, options, etc. of area concerns.

## ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner Osmer and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.



Bill Peterson, Chairman of the Board



Keri Bertrand, Clerk