

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Full Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 26, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.
Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room**

CALL TO ORDER

The Alpena County Board of Commissioners met, and the meeting was called to order by Chairman John Kozlowski in the County Annex Building, Howard Male Conference Room, Alpena, Michigan and via Zoom on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

PRAYER

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

ROLL CALL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Bray to adopt the agenda with the following changes: 1) Move the District Court Budget Presentation prior to SpyGlass Presentation; 2) Remove Pam Susan's Tribute (will be presented at a future meeting); 3) Correction on Poll Vote #2 (the second reference to Northern Lights Arena should read Alpena Rink Management) and note that Commissioners LaHaie and Konarzewski reported yes votes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BILLS TO PAY

Chairman Kozlowski presented the bills to be paid. Two invoices for Ambulance Services were pulled.

SUBMITTED:

APPROVED:

General Fund & Other Funds

\$132,116.47

\$130,767.54

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

Chairman Kozlowski presented the Consent Calendar with minutes for approval.

A) Finance Ways & Means Committee Meeting Minutes – August 12, 2025

B) Courts & Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes – August 18, 2025

ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval of the tuition reimbursement request up to \$1,650.00/per student to any Alpena County First Responder agency upon successful completion of the course and licensure as a certified Michigan EMT as presented.

**Pulled from Consent Calendar and moved to September's Courts & Public Safety Committee meeting for further discussion.*

ACTION ITEM #2: The Committee recommends approval to accept the transfer of ownership of the trailer from the Region 7 Healthcare Coalition to Alpena County as presented.

C) Facilities, Capital & Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – August 20, 2025

ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval to accept ownership of the seized F-350, approve acquisition of the vehicle into the Grounds and Maintenance vehicle inventory, and approve purchase of a decal to place on the truck that shows it was seized as presented.

INFORMATIONAL

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2025

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes – July 9, 2025

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

DISTRICT COURT BUDGET PRESENTATION

Judge Alan Curtis presented District Court's preliminary budget for 2026 showing a current savings of \$7,754.00. Phones are being switched over to the IT budget at an estimated cost of \$1,400.00 which

brings the true savings down to \$6,300.00. Judge Curtis noted the jury expenses, jury fees, and jury mileage were put in at the full amount but are reimbursed by the state one half of the expected amount. Postage costs were increased and interpreter costs were decreased.

SPYGLASS PRESENTATION

Director of Key Accounts Chandler Gabbey reported SpyGlass is an expense management organization that helps municipalities look at their technology billing line items with a goal to get refunds back and help reduce current costs moving forward without changing services. SpyGlass has been in business for over 20 years and has worked with over 14,500 clients nationwide with an average of 20% cost reduction. There is no upfront cost to run an analysis on invoices to see if there are savings to be made. SpyGlass is paid a portion of the savings they find. Chandler will send a copy of the slide show presentation which includes videos for the commissioners to view for more information.

MSU EXTENSION BUDGET PRESENTATION

District 14 Director Adam Koivisto presented a budget request for the Alpena County MSU Extension office in the amount of \$78,516. This exact amount was requested through the 2026 Youth and Recreation Millage fund application process due to Alpena County cutting MSU Extension from the budget in 2025. MSU Extension will not know how much they will receive from Youth & Rec until they announce their funding. If they do not get fully funded from Youth & Rec, Adam is requesting the county to pick of the difference.

Adam gave a brief update on the past year. MSU Extension had 249 programs accessed by residents with a social media reach of 20,896, programming reach of 3,406, and indirect programming reach of 5,800. There are about 230 4-Hers, not including all the volunteers, that make 4-H run. Not everything 4-H does is livestock related. They do archery, ice fishing, and many more events. MSU Extension is involved in other behind the scenes items like helping people apply for disaster aid from the ice storm.

DDA UPDATE

DDA Executive Director Anne Gentry provided updates on the Downtown Development Authority and the progress that has been made downtown. Since the boundary expansion was approved at the end of 2023, North 2nd Avenue was completely redone by the city with water, sewer, curb, widening sidewalks, planting trees and adding matching lampposts. Since then, nearly every business on that stretch has had a new owner, received a Façade Grant, or has plans to be under renovation.

Over the last year, DDA has been part of the Walkability Action Institute. The goal is to submit a grant application through MDOT's Transportation Alternatives Program to improve Chisholm Street from the marina to the hospital to make it more walkable, bikeable, and accessible. This will be a multi-year project.

The DDA is leasing the former Alpena Power Company site and has purchased 6 tiny shops for businesses to rent to tryout downtown. Three businesses indicated they want to find a brick-and-mortar shop downtown based on this summer's result. The shops will stay open through Christmas, close in the winter months, and reopen next summer.

Anne updated the board on façade renovations, murals, beautifications, and businesses that have opened or expanded downtown. The DDA appreciates the county's support on the expansion and the efforts to improve downtown.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

1) 911 Budget Adjustment – Director of Emergency Management and E911 Services Kim Elkie reported that a member of their team is retiring, and she will need to transfer money within the budget to cover overtime. They are having a challenge with recruiting plus there is a 16-week average training process and there are not sufficient funds in the overtime budget.

Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner Bray to approve the 911 budget adjustment as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Britton, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, Fournier, and Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #3: Recommendation to approve the Director of Emergency Management and E911 Services' budget adjustment request to transfer \$20,000 from line item #261-325-970.000 E-911 Improvements to line item #261-325-708.000 Dispatcher Overtime for additional dispatch overtime due to a retirement and a new employee not hired yet, requiring overtime shifts while the yet-to-be-hired employee completes on-the-job training as presented.

SHERIFF RADIO REQUEST

County Administrator Jesse Osmer reported radios for the Sheriff's Office have been budgeted for the last couple of years but not yet purchased as they were only half-funded in the previous budgets and there were no extra funds. There are a few line items this year that have come in a little higher than anticipated so we now could get the radios and have a savings in the budget for next year of the placeholding amount of \$100,000.00. Per the auditor, there would need to be a standalone motion to reallocate funds in the Patrol Vehicle Reserve line item for things other than what it's listed as. Formerly, when vehicles were seized or sold, the funds would go to this line item to purchase new patrol vehicles, but we now have contracts with Enterprise for leasing vehicles. The radios are projected to cost approximately \$220,000.00.

Moved by Commissioner Ludlow and supported by Commissioner Britton to approve the budget adjustments and transfers for the purpose of purchasing radios for the Sheriff's Office as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Britton, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioners Peterson, Fournier, and Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #4: Recommendation to approve the County Administrator, working with the Treasurer, to make the necessary budget transfers and adjustments for the purpose of purchasing radios for the Sheriff's Office, for an amount not to exceed \$220,000.00, using the line items listed in the memo, along with any additional changes or required documents, so long as the Chairman of the Board or Chairman of Finance, Ways & Means signs off as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Britton and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to approve reallocating the purpose of funds for Patrol Vehicle Reserves as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Britton, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioners Peterson, Fournier, and Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #5: Recommendation to approve reallocating the purpose of funds in line item 402-000-380.001 for Patrol Vehicle Reserves to be used for purposes other than that which is listed as presented.

RESOLUTION #25-14

AUTHORIZING ENTRY OF PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS IN PARTIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION OPIATE LITIGATION AND ENTRY OF STATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTRASTATE AGREEMENT CONCERNING ALLOCATION OF SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS

WHEREAS, the County of Alpena filed a lawsuit to address the public nuisance that is the Opioid Epidemic, which named, among others, Purdue Pharma L.P. (Purdue) and several members of the Sackler family (Sackler Family Defendants);

AND WHEREAS Purdue has presented a proposed Bankruptcy Plan, and the Sackler Family Defendants have entered into a Governmental Entity & Shareholder Direct Settlement Agreement (together, the "Purdue/Sackler Settlement") with the State Attorneys General and a Plaintiff Executive Committee-designated negotiating committee that represents approximately 4,000 local governments that have brought lawsuits similar to Alpena County's lawsuit;

AND WHEREAS the Purdue/Sackler Settlement will provide significant equitable and monetary relief, including an agreement that (a) the Sackler Family Defendants will pay \$6.5 billion over the next 15 years in exchange for a release of claims against them and (b) the Purdue estate will contribute an amount of approximately \$900 million. The bulk of these payments will be dedicated to funding abatement and prevention strategies associated with the opioids public nuisance;

AND WHEREAS Alpena County previously executed Participation Agreements for the Distributor and Janssen Settlements, as well as the Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walmart, and Walgreens Settlements, which have conferred and continue to confer valuable benefits;

AND WHEREAS Alpena County desires to enter into an allocation method which allocates settlement funds on a 50/50 basis to:

1. Participating Local Governments who have elected to participate in the Purdue/Sackler Settlement; and
2. the State of Michigan.

NOW THEREFORE, Alpena County authorizes the execution of a Participation Agreement for the Purdue/Sackler Settlement, which is available at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/>. A specimen copy of the material terms of the participation agreement is attached as Exhibit A to this resolution.

Alpena County also authorizes the execution of a new Michigan State-Subdivision Agreement for Allocation of Opioid Settlement Agreements substantially similar to the proposed agreement attached as Exhibit B to this resolution.

Alpena County also authorizes the Weitz & Luxenberg law firm to vote on Alpena County's behalf in favor of the Bankruptcy Plan for Purdue.

Moved by Commissioner Britton and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to adopt Resolution #25-14 as presented. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #25-15

AUTHORIZING ENTRY OF PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS IN PARTIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION OPIATE LITIGATION AND ENTRY OF STATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTRASTATE AGREEMENT CONCERNING ALLOCATION OF SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS

WHEREAS, the County of Alpena filed a lawsuit to address the public nuisance that is the Opioid Epidemic; AND WHEREAS the following entities:

1. Alvogen Inc.
2. Amneal Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
3. Apotex Inc.
4. Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.
5. Indivior Inc.
6. Mylan Pharmaceuticals Inc.
7. Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc. and
8. Zydus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

("Settling Defendants") have negotiated proposed national settlement agreements ("Proposed Settlements") with the State Attorneys General, and a Plaintiff Executive Committee-designated negotiating committee that represents approximately 4,000 local governments that have brought lawsuits similar to Alpena County's lawsuit;

AND WHEREAS the Proposed Settlements contain significant equitable and monetary relief, including:

1. An agreement to pay (a) \$18,680,162 in a single year by Alvogen Inc.; (b) \$71,751,010 over ten years by Amneal Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; (c) \$63,682,369 in a single year by Apotex Inc.; (d) \$95,818,293 over one to four years by Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.; (e) \$38,022,450 over four years by Indivior Inc.; (f) \$284,447,916 over nine years by Mylan Pharmaceuticals Inc.; (g) \$30,992,087 over one to four years by Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc.; and (h) \$14,859,220 in a single year by Zydus Pharmaceuticals, Inc. The bulk of each of these payments will be dedicated to funding abatement and prevention strategies associated with the opioids public nuisance;
2. In addition to these abatement payments, several of the settlements allow states to receive free pharmaceutical products or cash in lieu of this product.

3. Additionally, seven of the companies (not including Indivior) are prohibited from promoting or marketing opioids and opioid products, making or selling any product that contains more than 40 mg of oxycodone per pill, and are required to put in place a monitoring and reporting system for suspicious orders.
4. Indivior has agreed to not manufacture or sell opioid products for the next 10 years, but it will be able to continue marketing and selling medications to treat opioid use disorder.

AND WHEREAS Alpena County previously executed Participation Agreements for the Distributor and Janssen Settlements, as well as the Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walmart, and Walgreens Settlements, which have conferred and continue to confer valuable benefits;

AND WHEREAS Alpena County desires to enter into an allocation method which allocates settlement funds from the Settling Defendants on a 50/50 basis to:

3. Local Governments who have elected to participate in the settlements with the Settling Defendants; and
4. the State of Michigan.

NOW THEREFORE, Alpena County authorizes the execution of Participation Agreements for the Master Settlement Agreements with: (1) Alvogen Inc.; (2) Amneal Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; (3) Apotex Inc.; (4) Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.; (5) Indivior Inc.; (6) Mylan Pharmaceuticals Inc.; (7) Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc.; and (8) Zydus Pharmaceuticals, Inc., each of which are listed and available to the public at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/additional-settlements/>. Specimen copies of the material terms of the participation agreements are attached in one combined PDF as Exhibit A to this resolution.

Alpena County also authorizes the execution of a new Michigan State-Subdivision Agreement for Allocation of Opioid Settlement Agreements substantially similar to the proposed agreement attached as Exhibit B to this resolution.

Moved by Commissioner Britton and supported by Commissioner LaHaie to adopt Resolution #25-15 as presented. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL OR AD HOC COMMITTEES

Facilities, Capital & Strategic Planning Committee Update – Commissioner Britton is working with Spicer regarding the HVAC issues at the MDOT building.

Airport Committee Update – Enplanements are up from last year and should come in over 10,000 at the end of the year. Through July there have been 98,103 gallons of fuel sales. Equipment seems to all be working well at this time and they are waiting for grant funding to start the T-hangars. They are hoping to have the two runway plows by the end of the year.

Courts & Public Safety Committee Update – The county will be taking over a supply trailer that is located out at the airport. City Fire is looking to get out of the Echo/Tango agreement they have with the townships and will be working with the Emergency Management and E911 Director on integrating CAD software for emergency reporting.

Personnel Committee Update – Administrator Osmer reported the committee approved a Pet Policy, Moonlighting Policy, an NDA, and the final round of Emergency Management interviews took place with decisions being made at their September meeting for recommendation to the full board.

POLL VOTE: AIRPORT FUEL SALES TAX

Chairman Kozlowski presented the following poll votes as informational:

POLL VOTE ACTION ITEM #1: Recommendation to pay the State of Michigan from line item #295-595-959.000 in the amount of \$7,709.72 for back taxes owed for fuel sales at the airport.

Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

POLL VOTE ACTION ITEM #2: Recommendation to approve the quote from Controlled Dehumidification in the amount of \$31,855.45 for the repair of the dehumidifier at Northern Lights Arena as presented. This amount will be paid from the surcharge fund with the understanding that Alpena Rink Management will reimburse the county \$4,500 before the end of 2025.

Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Fournier, Britton, Konarzewski, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioner Peterson, excused. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

The board went into closed session at 2:06 p.m. for lawsuit and contract discussions and opened session at 2:34 p.m. All members present.

Moved by Commissioner Bray and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to approve the Police Officers Labor Council contract as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Britton, and Kozlowski. NAYS: None. Commissioners Peterson, Fournier, and Konarzewski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #6: Recommendation to approve the Police Officer's Labor Council contract and authorize the Chairman and County Administrator to sign any pertaining documents as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35p.m.

John Kozlowski, Chairman of the Board

Keri Bertrand, County Clerk