

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 22, 2005

1:00 p.m.

The Alpena County Board of Commissioners met in the Howard Male Conference Room in the County Annex building in the City of Alpena on November 22, 2005 at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Howard Male who called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRAYER

Prayer was offered by Commissioner Wegmeyer.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called, the following Commissioners present: Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Zolnierrek, Wegmeyer, Estlack, and Howard Male. ABSENT: None.

AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Wegmeyer and supported by Commissioner Tom Male to adopt the agenda with additions of County Coordinator

reports - Older Persons, Resolution, and Landfill Correspondence and Commissioner Mullaney regarding opening a retirement window. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carlene Przykucki, Chair of the Alpena County Human Services Coordinating Council, spoke on behalf of the Second Assistant Prosecutor's contractual position.

Dr. Lori Vorraro asked if the issue on mercury was to remain tabled or would be brought back up. She was advised that it would remain tabled until the board chose to take a position on this issue.

CONSENT CALENDAR

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A) Approval of the Official Proceedings of the Alpena County Board of Commissioners
 - Regular Session - October 25, 2005
 - Workshop Session - November 1, 2005
 - Workshop Session - November 9, 2005
- B) Finance/Building Maintenance and Recreation Committee
 - Finance - November 18, 2005
 - General Fund: \$121,979.00
 - Per Diems: \$ 1,050.00**

ACTION ITEM #1: **The Committee recommends we take the MERS unfunded liability of the cooks division 4010110 and roll it over into the elected non-union division 4010111.**

ACTION ITEM #2: **The Committee recommends we adopt the Policy as presented for approving bills.**

ACTION ITEM #3: **The Committee recommends we adopt the Social Security Policy as presented.**

ACTION ITEM #4: **The Committee recommends that we settle the K-Mart Bankruptcy claim for \$65,946.89 and waive the administration fee of \$1,831.86 and statutory fee of \$15.00.**

ACTION ITEM #5: **The Committee recommends that we pay the ambulance bill for a 2005 Ford Ambulance in the amount of \$112,538, monies are budgeted in the ambulance fund with the stipulation that the old ambulance be returned to the County for distribution to the First Responders in the Townships.**

ACTION ITEM #6: **The Committee recommends that we**

approve the Blended Funding Agreements for the Child Care Fund.

ACTION ITEM #7: The Committee recommends we approve the Medical Examiner agreement between the County, the Medical Examiner and Alpena General Hospital effective January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2010.

ACTION ITEM #8: The Committee recommends that we eliminate the mileage reimbursement for employees (anyone on payroll - this includes boards and commissions) reporting to their place of work. This will be effective November 22, 2005. (Not approved in the consent calendar.)

ACTION ITEM #9: The Committee recommends we approve the contract with Samson Resources Company for the Hubbard Lake Property pending review of legal counsel. (Not approved in the consent calendar.)

ACTION ITEM #10: The Committee recommends that we approve the Letter of Understanding with United Steelworkers

**Local 211 for up to 5 voluntary unpaid days off
with the addition that it does not affect benefits.
(Not approved in the consent calendar.)**

ACTION ITEM #11: The Committee recommends that we offer non-union personnel up to 5 voluntary unpaid days off for the calendar year 2006 with the following stipulations:

E) That these days will only be available at the discretion of the department head as not to cause a hardship for the department.

F) When taking an unpaid day, this must be reflected on the timesheet and cannot later be compensated.

G) This does not affect benefits.

(Not approved in the consent calendar.)

ACTION ITEM #12: The Committee recommends that we authorize hiring and filling of vacancies as necessary in the Equalization Department up to the fourth person plus the department head.

(Not approved in the consent calendar.)

- ACTION ITEM #13: The Committee recommends we transfer \$5,000 from line item 101-958-702 to 101-958-931.001 for a maintenance bill for software and hardware on the AS-400.
- ACTION ITEM #14: The Committee recommends that we approve the request from the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to place a cannon on the courthouse lawn as was previously approved in 2002.
- ACTION ITEM #15: The Committee recommends we accept the grant for the Challenge Award from the Office of Highway Safety Planning in the amount of \$5,000.
- ACTION ITEM #17: The Committee recommends that the 2006 budget/policy be put on display in the Treasurer's Office, Clerk's Office and the Commissioner's Office.
(Not approved in the consent calendar.)
- ACTION ITEM #18: The Committee recommends that the 2006 budget include a 2.9% raise for non-union personnel and elected officials (union personnel have already been budgeted their increases).

ACTION ITEM #19: The Committee recommends that the mileage rate for 2006 be set at 40 cents per mile. (Not approved in the consent calendar.)

ACTION ITEM #20: The Committee recommends that the dental/optical/medical reimbursement for non-union personnel and elected officials be increased from \$425 to \$750 for dental effective January 1, 2006.

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner Tom Male to approve the Consent Calendar which includes actions as listed above and filing of all reports. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Zolnierek, Wegmeyer, Estlack, and Howard Male. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

Moved by Commissioner Zolnierek and supported by Commissioner Mullaney that Commissioners receive mileage with taxes to be taken out. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, and Zolnierek. NAYS: Nunneley, Donakowski, Howard Male, and Estlack. Motion failed.

ELIMINATE MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner

Tom Male that we eliminate the mileage reimbursement for employees (anyone on payroll - this includes boards and commissions) reporting to their place of work. This will be effective November 22, 2005. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Tom Male, and Howard Male. NAYS: Commissioners Mullaney, Wegmeyer, Estlack, and Zolnierek. Motion failed.

HUBBARD LAKE PROPERTY

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner Zolnierek to approve the contract with Samson Resources Company for the Hubbard Lake property pending review of legal counsel. Roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierek, and Howard Male. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL 211

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner Donakowski that we approve the Letter of Understanding with United Steelworkers Local 211 for up to 5 voluntary unpaid days off with the addition that it does not affect benefits. Roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierek, and Howard Male. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

NON-UNION VOLUNTARY DAYS OFF

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner Wegmeyer that we offer non-union personnel up to 5 voluntary unpaid days off for the calendar year 2006 with the following stipulations:

- (a) That these days will only be available at the discretion of the department head as not to cause a hardship for the department.
- (b) When taking an unpaid day, this must be reflected on the timesheet and cannot later be compensated.
- (c) This does not affect benefits.

Roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierrek, and Howard Male. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

EQUALIZATION DEPARTMENT

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner Tom Male to authorize hiring and filling of vacancies as necessary in the Equalization Department up to the fourth person plus the department head.

Moved by Commissioner Estlack and supported by Commissioner Nunneley to amend the motion by adding "the job description lists that the new hiree has to be GIS trained be referred to Personnel Committee for consideration." Roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom

Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierek, and Howard Male. NAYS:
None. Amendment carried.

Roll call vote was taken on the motion as amended: AYES:
Commissioners Nunneley, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack,
Zolnierek, and Howard Male. NAYS: Commissioner Donakowski.
Motion carried.

2006 BUDGET/POLICY

Moved by Commissioner Tom Male and supported by
Commissioner Zolnierek that the 2006 budget/policy be put on
display in the Treasurer's Office, Clerk's Office and the
Commissioner's Office. This motion was withdrawn.

MILEAGE RATE

Moved by Commissioner Zolnierek and supported by
Commissioner Tom Male that mileage rate for 2006 be set at 40
cents per mile. Roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners
Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, and Zolnierek.
NAYS: Nunneley, Estlack, and Howard Male. Motion carried.

SLIDING SCALE FOR MILEAGE

Moved by Commissioner Zolnierek and supported by
Commissioner Nunneley to refer to the Finance Committee to set
up a sliding scale for mileage for 2006. Roll call vote:
AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Tom Male, Estlack, Zolnierek,
and Howard Male. NAYS: Donakowski, Mullaney, and Wegmeyer.
Motion carried.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CUT

The Board discussed considering decreasing the Health Department's appropriation for 2006 by 25%.

Jay Heilman spoke on this issue. Treasurer McCallum spoke regarding their budget.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner Tom Male that we maintain the Health Department's appropriation for 2006 the same as for 2005. Roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierrek, and Howard Male. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

PAY CITY OF ALPENA

FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPER POSITION ADVERTISING

Moved by Commissioner Zolnierrek and supported by Commissioner Nunneley that we pay the bill to the City of Alpena in the amount of \$8,031 which is ½ of the advertising for the Economic Developer position. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, and Zolnierrek. NAYS: Commissioners Donakowski, Mullaney, and Howard Male. Motion carried.

RETIREMENT WINDOW

Commissioner Mullaney suggested we offer a retirement window to non-union employees.

Moved by Commissioner Mullaney and supported by Commissioner Estlack that we investigate opening a retirement window for non-union employees with the Coordinator to report back on how many this may affect and costs associated. Roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierrek, and Howard Male. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

RECESS

Chairman Howard Male declared a recess at 2:45 p.m. The meeting was called back to order at 2:52 p.m. Roll call vote was taken with the following Commissioners present: Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Howard Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, and Zolnierrek. ABSENT: None.

RETAIN CONTRACTUAL PROSECUTOR POSITION

Moved by Commissioner Wegmeyer and supported by Commissioner Mullaney to retain the contractual position for Tom LaCross and look elsewhere for the funding. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Howard Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, and Zolnierrek. NAYS: Commissioner Nunneley. Motion carried.

RETAIN CONTRACTUAL POSITION

Moved by Commissioner Wegmeyer and supported by Commissioner Mullaney to retain the contractual position for second assistant prosecutor.

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner Wegmeyer to amend the motion by adding that the money come from the fund balance in the amount of \$11,500. Roll call vote was taken on the amendment: AYES: Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, and Wegmeyer. NAYS: Nunneley, Howard Male, Estlack, Zolnierek. Amendment failed.

Roll call vote was taken on the motion to retain the contractual position for second assistant prosecutor. AYES: Commissioners Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierek, and Howard Male. NAYS: Commissioner Nunneley. Motion carried.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Lt. Michael Tilley, Michigan State Police District #7 Emergency Services Coordinator, reported that Alpena County has received \$419,000 since 2001 from Homeland Security Grants with no match monies required. Terri Chester was funded at 100% to support Bruce Wozniak, Emergency Services Coordinator.

He encouraged the board to support Bruce in his work by funding and showing up for disaster drills. There will be a change in 2006 and the block grants will be given on regional need and will go to first responders, hospital, etc. on projects together.

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

Dennis Grenkowicz, Prosecutor, reported that the School

System is willing to donate \$5,000 towards the expense of the contractual second assistant prosecutor position.

Resolution #05-24

A RESOLUTION OF CONCURRENCE WITH
THE 2005/2006 NORTHEAST MICHIGAN
COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY (CEDs)

WHEREAS, Alpena County desires to improve the county economy,
and

WHEREAS, The Alpena County Board of Commissioners actively supports and currently participates in the economic development district activities of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG), and

WHEREAS, The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments' Regional Economic Development Advisory Committee (REDAC) has reviewed and adopted the 2005/2006 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs),
and

WHEREAS, Concurrence with the CEDs by each county in the Region - Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego and Presque Isle - does not preclude any of developing their own CEDs and allows them to retain eligibility for U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) funds,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That Alpena County hereby adopts the 2005/2006 CEDS, because it does reflect the economic interests and concerns of the county, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Alpena County requests continued designation by the Economic Development Administration as a Redevelopment Area eligible for EDA grants, loans and other programs under the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended.

Moved by Commissioner Wegmeyer and supported by Commissioner Mullaney to adopt the above resolution with the addition of adding Northern Lights Arena at \$1,000,000. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierrek, and Howard Male. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #05-25

BALANCED BUDGET

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan is required and mandated to adopt a balanced budget each year, and

WHEREAS, as part of complying with balanced budget rules and regulation, the state is bound to adhere to sound accounting and financial practices including the timely payment of bills and invoices, and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has chronically violated generally accepted accounting practices by withholding authorized reimbursements to county governments for several months covering child care, transportation, payments in lieu of taxes, remonumentation, and several other program areas, and

WHEREAS, these continued tardy payments by the state have placed an undue hardship and burden on county governments in Michigan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alpena County Board of

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hereby strongly recommends that state legislation be adopted requiring that the State of Michigan pay all of its approved invoices and obligations in a timely manner according to sound financial practices, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be

forwarded to Governor Jennifer Granholm,
Senator Tony Stamas, Representative Matthew Gillard
and the Michigan Association of Counties.

Moved by Commissioner Mullaney and supported by
Commissioner Tom Male to adopt the above resolution. Roll
call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Donakowski,
Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierrek, and Howard
Male. NAYS: Commissioner Nunneley. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #05-26

**A Resolution Supporting Regional Collaboration Efforts in the
Development of A Fiber Optic Network and Consortium, and the
Submission of a Funding Proposal to the State under the Centers for
Regional Excellence to Assist Their Development**

**WHEREAS, the County of Alpena recognizes that service to our
citizens is our number one priority and that these services are
important to the fabric of our community and its economic well
being; and**

**WHEREAS, regional collaboration may enhance the County's ability
to maintain and expand existing services; and,**

**WHEREAS, regional collaboration can provide flexibility in budgeting
for specific services and reduce their overall cost, while
maintaining or even increasing their effectiveness and**

efficiency; and

WHEREAS, the County of Alpena, City of Alpena and Alpena Community College, NOAA and MERIT Networks, Inc. have begun the process of working collaboratively on the development of a fiber optic network to increase communication capabilities between the parties and the exchange of electronic information; and

WHEREAS, such a fiber optic network could expand to include other governmental units, public institutions and non-profit agencies, thereby further enhancing the exchange of data and general communication among participants at reduced cost for all; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan is making available funding in the amount of \$25,000 over two years to support unique and creative regional collaborative efforts through its "Centers for Regional Excellence" Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alpena has agreed to be the lead entity for submittal of a collaborative proposal to the State;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alpena County Board of Commissioners supports the City of Alpena's submission of a "Centers for Regional Excellence" proposal and agrees to participate in the

program and the development of a fiber optic network and consortium.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Alpena County will continue its participation in this collaborative effort through the involvement of appropriate staff.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the citizens of Alpena County will be kept fully informed and provided opportunities for input through appropriate avenues.

Moved by Commissioner Tom Male and supported by Commissioner Mullaney to adopt the above resolution. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierek, and Howard Male. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

OLDER PERSONS COMMISSION BYLAWS

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner Tom Male to approve the Older Persons Commission bylaws. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, and Howard Male. NAYS: Commissioner Zolnierek. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM LANDFILL

The Board reviewed correspondence from the Montmorency-Oscoda-Alpena Landfill asking for dissolution of the Northeast Michigan Recycling

Alliance Authority.

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner Tom Male to dissolve the Northeast Michigan Recycling Alliance Authority effective January 1, 2006. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierek, and Howard Male. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

\$2,500 OUT OF FUND BALANCE/SALARY SET AT \$17,500

Moved by Commissioner Tom Male and supported by Commissioner Zolnierek to take \$2,500 out of fund balance and that the contractual second assistant prosecutor's salary be set at \$17,500.

Moved by Commissioner Wegmeyer and supported by Commissioner Tom Male to amend the motion by adding that the board revisit the position in six months. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierek, and Howard Male. NAYS: Nunneley. Amendment carried.

Roll call vote was taken on the motion as amended: AYES: Commissioners Tom Male, Zolnierek, and Howard Male. NAYS: Nunneley, Donakowski, Mullaney, Wegmeyer, and Estlack. Motion failed.

\$5,000 FUND BALANCE/\$20,000 SALARY/REVISIT IN SIX MONTHS

Moved by Commissioner Nunneley and supported by Commissioner Tom Male to take \$5,000 from the fund balance, set the salary for the contractual second assistant prosecutor at \$20,000 and to revisit the issue in 6 months. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierек, and Howard Male. NAYS: Nunneley. Motion carried.

2006 BUDGET/POLICY

Moved by Commissioner Mullaney and supported by Tom Male that the 2006 budget and policy be put on display in the Treasurer's Office, Clerk's Office and the Commissioners' Office. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Donakowski, Mullaney, Tom Male, Wegmeyer, Estlack, Zolnierек, and Howard Male. NAYS: Nunneley. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner Wegmeyer and supported by Commissioner Tom Male to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Howard Male, Chairman of the Board

tsb

Bonnie Friedrichs, County Clerk