

**Organizational / Regular Meeting
January 11, 2011**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held an Organizational / Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 11, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Courthouse, City of Houghton.

The meeting was called to order by the County Clerk, Mary Schoos. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the following commissioners responded to roll call: Edward Jenich, District 1; Dennis Barrette, District 2; Anton Pintar, District 3; Scott Ala, District 4; and Timothy Palosaari, District 5.

The Clerk announced the first order of business was to elect a Chairman. The floor was opened for nominations. Commissioner Barrette nominated Commissioner Jenich. The Clerk called for additional nominations. Hearing no further nominations, Commissioner Barrette made a motion to close nominations and the clerk cast 1 unanimous vote to elect Commissioner Jenich Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Barrette, Pintar, Jenich, Ala, Palosaari 5.

NO: None 0.

Election of Vice Chairman. Commissioner Jenich made a motion to nominate Commissioner Barrette. Commissioner Jenich called for further nominations. There being no further nominations, Commissioner Jenich moved that nominations be closed and the clerk cast one unanimous vote for Commissioner Barrette as Vice Chairman of the Board of Commissioner. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2010 Regular Meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar and seconded by Commissioner Barrette to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Public Comment None

Commissioner Jenich asked Commissioner Barrette to present the bills for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette to approve vouchers # 124901 thru #124979 for a total of \$124,894.75, along with the late bills submitted of \$35,530.48 for a grand total of \$160,425.23. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Barrette, Pintar, Ala, Palosaari, Jenich 5.

NO: None 0.

Reports Standing Committee

Commissioner Ala reported to the Board on the following: Michigan Works, and Head Start.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: The Houghton – Keweenaw Soil Conservation District meetings will be held on the same Tuesdays following the Houghton County Board meetings. He will report on them the following month.

Commissioner Barrette reported to the Board on the following: Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting, Portage Lake Lift Bridge Planning Group, and the Houghton County Memorial Airport.

Commissioner Jenich reported to the Board on the following: He will attend a KEDA meeting on Wednesday, Department of Human Services, U.P.P.R.I.D.E. (Poverty Summit) and he welcomed new Commissioner Palosaari.

County Officers

Gerald Juntunen, Houghton County Building Inspector, gave a brief report on the number of permits issued and new construction for the year 2010.

New Business

1. Meeting Dates/Times: Commissioner Barrette made a motion to approve the schedule of Board meeting dates and times with one change to the November meeting. The November meeting would be changed from November 15 to November 8. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ala. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

2. Rules of Order: Commissioner Ala made a motion to adopt the Rules of Order. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. There was a short discussion and Commissioner Pintar made a motion to amend rule 42. The amendment would state: All applications for appointment by the County Board shall be submitted to the Controllers Office, not the Clerk's Office as stated in rule 42. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Palosaari. The motion carried by a voice vote. The amended Rules of Order were adopted with the motion previously made by Commissioner Ala and seconded by Commission Pintar. The motion carried by the following vote.
YES: Ala, Pintar, Barrette, Palosaari, Jenich 5.
NO: None 0.

3. Commissioner Committee Appointments:
a. Mental Health
b. District Heath
c. Others

Commissioner Jenich stated Commissioner Barrette has served on the Mental Health Board. Commissioner Pintar made a motion that Commissioner Barrette be appointed to the Mental Health Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ala. The motion carried by the following vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Commissioner Jenich stated that the commissioners that have served on the District Health Board were himself, Commissioner Pintar and Commissioner Barrette. Commissioner Barrette made a motion to approve Commissioner Jenich, Commissioner Pintar and Commissioner Barrette to serve on the District Health Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Palosaari. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

4. Houghton County Land Bank appointments – 2 members: A motion was made by Commissioner Ala and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to reappoint James Hainault as the member of a local unit of government and Dennis Barrette as the member of resident of Houghton County to the Houghton County Land Bank. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Commissioner Jenich set a schedule for meeting with the commissioners for committee appointments as follows. Thursday, January 13. 8:00 a.m. Commissioner Ala, 8:30 a.m. Commissioner Pintar, 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Barrette, and 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Palosaari.

5. Travel Requests
a. John Pekkala – Houghton County Drain Commissioner
b. Kathleen Beattie – Houghton County Treasurer

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the travel requests as listed. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Public Comment

John Haeussler, a member of the Houghton County Land Bank thanked the Board for reappointing James Hainault and Commissioner Barrette to the Land Bank Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala and seconded by Commissioner Barrette to adjourn. There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned.