

**Organizational / Regular Meeting  
January 15, 2008**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held an Organizational / Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 15, 2008, in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room of the Courthouse, City of Houghton.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Paul Luoma, at 5:00 p.m. 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 Paul Luoma, District 5.

Commissioner Luoma announced that the first item on the agenda was to elect a Vice Chairman. Commissioner Luoma called for nominations. Commissioner Pintar nominated Commissioner Scott Ala. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Jenich. Commissioner Luoma called for additional nominations. There being no further nominations, Commissioner Luoma asked for a roll call vote. The nomination of Commissioner Ala as Vice Chair was carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2007, Regular Meeting. The motion was carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

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

Public Comment None

A motion was made by Commissioner Jenich and seconded by Commissioner Barrette to approve paying the bills of vouchers # 106585 thru # 106686 along with the late bills presented for a total of \$149,338.42. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

Correspondence None

Reports Standing Committee

Commissioner Barrette reported to the Board on the following: Copper Country Mental Health, The Houghton County Airport Committee, and Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region Meeting (WUPPDR),

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: Houghton Keweenaw Soil Conservation District, Western U.P. Michigan Works Administrative Board, and Houghton County Planning Commission.

Commissioner Ala reported to the Board on the following: Michigan Works, Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw Headstart, and Houghton / Keweenaw County Medical Authority Control Board.

Commissioner Jenich reported to the Board on the following: WUPPDR, Commission on Aging. Commissioner Jenich made a motion to send Marie Gagnon a letter in appreciation for her years of service to the board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Commissioner Jenich continued his report of the Houghton County Medical Care Facility / FIA, Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance, Keweenaw National Park Advisory Board, UPCAP, and Houghton County's 1<sup>st</sup> quarter finance report.

Commissioner Luoma reported to the Board on the following: Houghton County Road Commission.

## County Officers

Mike Schira, MSU Extension Director, said there is an ongoing project with Advisor Animal Health and the down state labs to develop a method to wipe out BVD in dairy and beef cattle. They are looking at our area because of isolation and will be contacting local cattle owners to voluntarily work with them to eliminate BVD.

## New Business

1. Meeting Dates/Times. Commissioner Barrette made a motion to have the Regular Meeting each month on the second Tuesday following the first Monday at 5:00 p.m. The only month that will be different will be February which will be held on February 5. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jenich. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

2. Rules of Order. A motion was made by Commissioner Jenich and seconded by Commissioner Ala to adopt the Rules of Order for Houghton County as presented. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

3. Commissioner Committee Appointments.

A. Mental Health: A motion by Commissioner Pintar to have Commissioner Barrette assigned to the Mental Health Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ala. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

B. District Health: A motion by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Luoma to have Commissioners Jenich, Pintar, and Barrette assigned to the District Health Board. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

C. UPCAP /Others Commissioner Luoma announced that all other committee appointments will remain the same as was in 2007.

4. Request for Resolution & Agreement with Osceola Township regarding flood insurance. Commissioner Barrette made a motion to approve the agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jenich. The motion carried by the following vote.  
YES: Barrette, Jenich, Pintar, Ala, Luoma 5.  
NO: None 0.

5. Request for easement through Houghton County Marina from Portage Lake Water and Sewage Authority. Jim Tercha, representing Portage Lake Water and Sewage and a representative of U.P. Engineers were present to request an easement for Franklin Township's sewage project. There was a discussion that followed regarding the trees along the easement site. Commissioner Luoma motioned to table the request until the February 5 meeting. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

6. Resolution to Amend Houghton County Final 911 Service Plan. Commissioner Ala made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by the following vote.  
YES: Ala, Pintar, Jenich, Barrette, Luoma 5.  
NO: None 0.

7. Resolution to Adopt Monthly 911 Surcharge Within Houghton County. A motion by Commissioner Barrette, seconded by Commissioner Jenich to adopt the resolution as presented. The motion carried by the following vote.  
YES: Barrette, Jenich, Pintar, Ala, Luoma 5.  
NO: None 0.

8. Request for Resolution regarding Prickett Shoreline Management Plan. A motion by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the resolution as presented. The motion carried by the following vote.  
YES: Pintar, Ala, Jenich, Barrette, Luoma 5.  
NO: None 0.

9. Keweenaw Memorial request for letter of support. Commissioner Jenich made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ala to send a letter of support of Keweenaw Memorial applying for Federal aid through the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program. The purpose of the aid is to obtain funding for the purchase of a new ambulance and required operating equipment. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

10. Appropriations:

a. Western U.P. District Health Department Cigarette Tax - \$12,268.94 Commissioner Jenich made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve payment of the WUPDH Cigarette Tax appropriation of \$12,268.94.. Carried by the following vote. YES: Jenich, Pintar, Barrette, Ala, Luoma 5.  
NO: None 0.

b. Western U.P. District Health Department - \$10,671.50

c. U.P. Association of County Commissioners - \$174.

Commissioner Jenich made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve paying the budgeted appropriations of \$10,671.50 to the WUPDH and \$174.00 to the U.P.

Association of County Commissioners. The motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Jenich, Ala, Barrette, Pintar, Luoma 5

NO: None 0.

11. Travel Request

a. MAC Conference

b. Houghton County Treasurer's Office – Kathleen Beattie

c. Houghton County Drain Commissioner – Ray Niemi

d. Friend of Court – Brenda Cadwell

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

Public Comments – None

Announcements Commissioner Pintar stated that Congressman Stupak will be speaking at the MAC Conference.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jenich to adjourn. There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned.

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Paul Luoma, Chairman

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Mary Schoos, Clerk