

**Regular Meeting
February 5, 2008**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 5, 2008, in the 5th 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.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2008 meeting. The motion was carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

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

Pubic Comment None

A motion was made by Commissioner Jenich and seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve paying the bills of vouchers #106862 thru #106926 along with the late bills submitted for a total of \$132,279.72. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

Correspondence

Commissioner Luoma said the Board received a letter from Pat Coleman stating he is resigning from the Planning Commission effective March 1, 2008. Commissioner Luoma asked that a letter be sent to Mr. Coleman thanking him for serving on the Planning Commission and to advertise for a replacement.

Commissioner Luoma stated the Board received a letter from Lawrence Harrington, Vice Chair and State ORV Board Member, asking for a letter of support in favor of HB4323. HB4323 would allow local units of government the authority to open county road shoulders to ORV traffic. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Ala to send a letter of support regarding HB4323. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Reports Standing Committee

Commissioner Barrette reported to the Board on the following: U.P. 911 Negaunee meeting, and the airport meeting.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: Western U.P. District Health Board Meeting.

Commissioner Ala reported to the Board on the following: B-H-K Headstart, Michigan Works, and Portage Lake Multi Rec.

Commissioner Jenich reported to the Board on the following: WUPPDR, Houghton County Medical Care Facility, Keweenaw National Historical Park and he gave a brief Houghton County finance report.

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

County Officers

Eric Forsberg, Houghton County Controller, said negotiations are ongoing with the four unions.

New Business

1. Houghton County Road Commission commissioner's compensation package. Commissioner Luoma suggested the Board hold off approving the package due to possible changes that could come shortly. A motion was made by Commissioner Jenich to table taking any action until the March meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrette. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

2. Request for new contract for Revolving Loan Fund administration. A motion was made by Commissioner Jenich to table any action until next month. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrette. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

3. Portage Lake Water & Sewage Authority easement. Commissioner Barrette made a motion to approve the easement as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by the following vote.
YES: Barrette, Pintar, Jenich, Ala, Luoma 5.
NO: None 0.

4. Request for appropriation.

- a. UPCAP \$1,100
- b. WUPPDR \$2,459

Commissioner Jenich made a motion to approve the budgeted appropriations as listed UPCAP for \$1,100 and WUPPDR for \$2,459. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ala. The motion carried by the following vote.
YES: Jenich, Ala, Barrette, Pintar, Luoma 5.
NO: None 0.

5. Western U.P. District Health Department request for resolution. Commissioner Jenich made a motion to approve the IGT Authorizing Resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrette. The motion carried by the following vote.
YES: Jenich, Barrette, Pintar, Ala, Luoma 5.
NO: None 0.

6. Travel requests

- a. Karen Karinen-Magistrate's Office

Commissioner Pintar made a motion to approve the travel request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ala. The motion carried by the following vote.
YES: Pintar, Ala, Jenich, Barrette, Luoma 5.
NO: None 0.

Public Comments

Phil Musser, on behalf of the Michigan Tech Enterprise Smart Zone, extended an invitation to the commissioners and staff to tour the Power House.

Commissioner Ala made a motion to adjourn. There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned.

Paul Luoma, Chairman

Mary Schoos, Clerk