

**Regular Meeting
March 15, 2011**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 15, 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 Chairman, Edward Jenich. 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.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2011 Regular Meeting. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Commissioner Barrette asked that there be an addition to the agenda. #9 MSU Memorandum of Agreement. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette to approve the agenda with the addition. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Public Comment

There was a student in attendance representing the Michigan Technological University Senior Design Students. He wanted the Board to know that they are holding another informational meeting on March 22 at the Houghton High School Multi Purpose Room at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Pinter to approve paying the bills of vouchers #125770 thru #125851 for a total of \$48,311.25, along with the late bills submitted of \$152,215.03 for a grand total of \$200,526.28. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

Correspondence

Eric Forsberg stated that the Board received a letter from the Houghton – Portage Township School Superintendent, commending Jack Dueweke for his organization and overseeing of the lockdown presentation at the school.

Reports Standing Committee

Commissioner Barrette reported to the Board on the following: Houghton County Memorial Airport, WUPPDR Executive Meeting, The Bridge Committee, a Justice Center Meeting, and The Finance Committee.

Commissioner Palosaari reported to the Board on the following: Houghton County Road Commission, and a WUPPDR Meeting.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: Houghton County Planning Commission, Houghton – Keweenaw Trails Task Force, attended a workshop regarding Building a More Active Community, Copper Country Trail National Byway Committee, Houghton – Keweenaw Soil Conservation District, and UPRC&D Meeting.

Commissioner Ala reported to the Board on the following: Houghton County Fair Board, Portage Lake Multi Rec., Western UP Michigan Works, Head Start, and KEDA.

Commissioner Jenich reported to the Board on the following: Commission on Aging, Houghton County Medical Care, Keweenaw National Park, and he also attended a Justice Center Meeting.

New Business

1. Houghton County Road Commission – Commissioner’s Compensation Package. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and Seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to approve the compensation package as presented. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

2. Request for approval of Remonumentation Program Contracts. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the 2011 Houghton County Remonumentation Individual Contracts as presented. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

3. Appointment of County Board Chairman as Remonumentation Program Administrator. A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar and seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to appoint the County Board Chairman, Edward Jenich to be Houghton County’s Remonumentation Program Administrator, retroactive as of January 1, 2011. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

4. Resolution for an option to purchase land for the Houghton County Airport. Commissioner Barrette made a motion to approve the resolution of option to purchase the Makkonen property for the Houghton County Airport as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Palosaari. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

5. Appointment of Houghton County Recreation Committee. A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to appoint the Board as a whole for the Houghton County Recreation Committee. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

6. Request for approval of Airport Grant Agreement. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to approve the Grant Agreement between the Houghton County Memorial Airport and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as submitted. The grant, Title 49 U.S.C., is for phase 2 of construction to modify the access road, with the maximum amount of \$415,238.00. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

7. Travel Requests

a. Gerald Juntunen – Houghton County Building Inspector. A motion was made by Commissioner Ala and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the travel requests as listed. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

8. Appropriations

a. Copper Country Community Mental Health - \$41,123.73.
Commissioner Barrette made a motion to approve the appropriations as listed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

9. MSU Memorandum of Agreement. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Baraga County, Keweenaw County, Houghton County and Michigan State University, for the funding for a Michigan State University Extension 4-H Program Instructor position. The motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Barrette, Pintar, Ala, Palosaari 4.

NO: Jenich 1.

Public Comment None

Announcements None

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

Edward Jenich, Chairman

Mary Schoos, Clerk