

**Regular Meeting
April 12, 2011**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 5:00 pm in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Courthouse, City of Houghton.

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 March 15, 2011. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

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

Public Comments None

A Motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve vouchers number 126113 to 126175 for a total of \$62,653 along with the late bills in the amount of \$24,233 for a grand total of \$86,886. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None 0

Correspondence

A request for a resolution regarding Child Abuse Prevention Month was received. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to pass the submitted resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None 0

A letter was received from RSVP regarding their electronics recycling program to be held on June 4th. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve payment of \$550.00 to Western UP Health Department for the electronics recycling program. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None 0

The Michigan Department of Treasury report of Fiscal Indicator Scores was received with Houghton County receiving a score of 1. Zero is the best score and 10 the worst score.

Standing Committees

Commissioner Barrette reported to the Board on the following: the Bridge Committee, MAC Conference, Local Emergency Planning, Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region, Townships meeting, and the Houghton County Memorial Airport.

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

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: Michigan Works, UP Link, Houghton-Keweenaw Conservation District, MTU Forestry, Brockway Mountain Land Acquisition, Rip It Up, Western UP Health Board.

Commissioner Ala reported to the Board on the following: Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region, Portage Lake Multi-Rec, Superior AmeriCorps, Fair Board, and MAC.

Commissioner Jenich reported to the Board on the following: Department of Human Services, Medical Care Facility, Commission on Aging, National Park History Smack Down and UPCAP.

County Officers

Sheriff McLean reported to the Board that the Copper Country Law Enforcement Chiefs and Administrators selected Adam Rajala the Police Officer of the Year for 2010.

Kathleen Beattie, Houghton County Treasurer, reported to the Board that final foreclosure occurred at the end of March on 28 parcels.

New Business

The MTU Senior Engineering Team presentation was done by Alexander Borton and Brandt Homik on the Criminal Justice Facility. The problems of the current facility and possible solutions were presented to the Board. A discussion with questions and answers followed the presentation with participation by the public and Board.

Debbie Bradford gave a presentation on the audit for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2010. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the audit as presented. The motion carried by a voice vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Eric discussed the Deficit Elimination Plan. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to adopt the resolution as presented for the Houghton County Veteran's Trust Fund Deficit Elimination Plan. The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Barrette, Pintar, Ala, Palosaari, Jenich 5
NO: None 0

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala and seconded by Commissioner Barrette to adopt the resolution as presented for the Passenger Facility Charge Deficit Elimination Plan. The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Barrette, Pintar, Palosaari, Jenich 5
NO: None 0

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to adopt the resolution as presented for the EECBG Fund Deficit Elimination Plan. The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Pintar, Barrette, Palosaari, Jenich 5
NO: None 0

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari and seconded by Commissioner Barrette to adopt the resolution as presented for the Houghton County Region 8 Special Revenue Fund Deficit Elimination Plan. The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Barrette, Pintar, Ala, Jenich 5
NO: None 0

Commissioner Ala addressed the request for a county flag for the state fair. Commissioner Ala will talk to the fair board about this.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala and seconded by Commissioner Barrette to move ahead with the application for the Conservation Easement of the Pilgrim River and Commissioner Palosaari be the representative for Houghton County on the task force. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to accept the concept of a three year contract with Superior Economic Development. The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Pintar, Barrette, Palosaari, Jenich 5
NO: None 0

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar and seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to approve budgeted travel requests. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0

The Equalization Special Meeting presentation will be held Friday, April 29th at Noon.

The Jail Special Meeting will be held Thursday, April 21st at 9:00 am.

Public Comments

Phil Musser asked the Commissioners to support Michigan Works program.

A motion was made to adjourn and there being no objections the meeting adjourned.

Edward Jenich, Chairman

Patricia Janke, Deputy Clerk