

Regular Meeting
May 15, 2007

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 15, 2007, 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 Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the minutes of the April 10 and April 26 meetings. The motion was carried by a voice vote. Aye 5, Nays 0.

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

Public Comment None

A motion was made by Commissioner Jenich, seconded by Commissioner Barrette to approve paying the bills of vouchers #103551 through #103660 along with the late bills presented for a total of \$155,114.37.

The motion was carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

Correspondence

Eric Forsberg, Houghton County Controller, addressed a letter from the Michigan Department of Treasury which deals with Houghton County's level of financial distress. The State uses 9 fiscal distress indicators. Of the 9 indicators they have evaluated Houghton County scores on 5 of them.

Reports Standing Committees

Commissioner Barrette reported to the Board on the following: Torch Lake Public Action Council, Torch Lake Sewage Authority, Board of Public Works, and the Houghton County Airport Committee.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: Houghton County Planning Commission, Houghton Keweenaw Soil Conservation District, Michigan Works, Western Upper Peninsula District Health Department, and MSU Extension Workshop.

Commissioner Ala reported to the Board on the following: B-H-K Headstart, Houghton County Revolving Loan Fund, and the Houghton County Fair Board.

Commissioner Jenich reported to the Board on the following: Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region, Department of Human Services / Medical Care Facility, Main Street Calumet, Keweenaw National Historic Park, Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance, and the Commission on Aging.

Commissioner Luoma reported to the Board on the following: Houghton County Road Commission, U.P. Substance Abuse, U.P. R C & D and the U.P. Commissioners Meeting.

County Officers

Eric Forsberg stated that Stanton Township has now turned over their Building Permit process to the County. Houghton County now handles all but the City of Houghton and

Calumet Village. The County has hired a deputy Building Inspector, Donald Mleko. The position has been filled in the Equalization Department, but are still taking applications for the Director Position. Eric said it was discussed at the last meeting that do to the State cuts it may come to asking for millage, asking the people what do you want to save and what do you want to cut. Eric expressed his displeasure regarding the Copper Country Speaks article asked the question. "Houghton County wants to raise its millage to increase its savings, do you agree or disagree" That is not the case and he wanted to make it very clear that Houghton County has no intention on raising millage to increase its savings. The last announcement is the Marina is now open.

New Business

Houghton County Audit Report – Mike Greutz, Anderson Tackman & Co – Mike Greutz gave the September 30, 2006 Audit Report. Mike state the County again received an unqualified opinion, which means there are no major problems or issues. Mike went over the report and used graphs to illustrate General Fund – Fund Balance, Cash By Fund Type, General Fund Revenues and General Fund Expenditures. When finished, he answered any questions asked. A motion to adopt the 2006 Audit Report was made by Commissioner Jenich and seconded by Commissioner Ala. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Resolution approving Health Department Intergovernmental Agreement – Commissioner Barrette made a motion to adopt the Resolution Approving Health Department Intergovernmental Agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by the following vote:
YES: Barrette, Pintar, Jenich, Ala, Luoma 5.
NO: None 0.

Houghton County Planning Commission – Report on UPPCO Prickett Dam project
Commissioner Pintar made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Planning Commission relative to the Upper Peninsula Power Company Shoreline Management Plan and a copy be sent to UPPCO. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jenich. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Commissioner Barrette made a motion to adopt the Resolution Shoreline Management Plan: Prickett Hydroelectric Project as presented with the review comment attached from the Planning Commission. Commissioner Jenich seconded the motion
The motion carried by the following vote:
YES: Barrette, Jenich, Pintar, Ala, Luoma 5.
NO: None 0.

Commissioner Barrette made a motion to adopt the Resolution In Support Of E-911 Funding As Proposed By the ETSC And Introduced In SB 410 And SB 411.
Commissioner Ala seconded the motion.
The motion carried by the following vote:
YES: Barrette, Ala, Jenich, Pintar, Luoma5.
NO: None 0.

Commissioner Barrette made a motion to adopt the Resolution regarding transfer of sewage system to Torch Lake Area Sewage Authority with the amendments as stated by Attorney James Tercha. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar.
The motion carried by the following vote:
YES: Barrette, Pintar, Jenich, Ala, Luoma 5
NO: None 0

Commissioner Jenich made a motion to approve the partner agreement as presented for Houghton County to partner with Copper Country Intermediate School District in their efforts of request grant funding through the US Department of Education for Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS). The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Commissioner Jenich made a motion to approve the list of names as submitted for the 2007-2008 Houghton County Housing Rehabilitation Program and adopt the resolution as presented Regarding Houghton County Housing Rehabilitation Program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrette.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None 0.

Commissioner Ala made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented Regarding P.A. 2 (Liquor Tax) Funds. Commissioner Jenich seconded the motion.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None 0.

Commissioner Barrette made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented Imposing 2007 Summer Property Tax Levy Pursuant To Public Act 357 of 2004, And Notice Of Certification Of County Allocated Tax Levy. Commissioner Ala seconded the motion.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None 0.

Commissioner Jenich made a motion to approve the budgeted appropriations to the following: U.P. RC&C Council of \$300, Western U.P. District Health Department of \$8,291.17, and Commission on Aging of \$2,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ala. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Commissioner Barrette made a motion to approve the travel requests for Sue Kump, Friend of Court and sue Gassittie, Probate Court. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Public Comments None

Announcements None

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

Paul Luoma, Chairman

Mary Schoos, Clerk