

**Regular Meeting
June 9, 2009**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, 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, Paul Luoma. 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 Barrette made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2009 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jenich. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

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

Public Comment None

Commissioner Luoma announced the Public Hearing for the USDA Rural Development Grant Application was open. Eric Forsberg stated the application for the Rural Development Grant will be on behalf of the ambulance service to purchase a new ambulance. The Mercy EMS Inc. is jointly owned by Portage Health and Aspirus Hospitals. The match required will be paid by the hospitals. Eric stated it will not cost the County anything. There being no further questions, Commissioner Luoma announced that the Public Hearing was closed.

Commissioner Jenich made a motion to approve paying the bills submitted of vouchers #112580 through #112657 for a total of \$62,055.28 along with the late bills of \$32,373.96 for a total of \$94,429.24. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by the following vote.
YES: Jenich, Pintar, Barrette, Ala, Luoma 5.
NO: None 0.

Correspondence None

Reports Standing Committee

Commissioner Barrette reported to the Board on the following: Copper Country Mental Health, Houghton County Memorial Airport, reported on sessions attended at the U.P. Association of County Commissioners Spring Conference and the Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region meeting.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: Houghton – Keweenaw Conservation District, attended the U.P. Association of County Commissioner Spring Conference and reported on the sessions he attended, the Houghton County Planning Commission, Michigan Works, and Copper Country Trail Committee.

Commissioner Ala reported to the Board on the following: Portage Lake Multi Rec, Houghton County Fair Board, and the Great Start Walk A Thon.

Commissioner Jenich reported to the Board on the following: Health Department, Department of Human Services, Keweenaw National Historic Park, and Law Enforcement Committee.

Commissioner Jenich stated the Department of Corrections did an annual inspection of the jail and they need to purchase 2 cameras and recorders for the cell area. The door must be closed between the administrative area and the cell block area. Commissioner Jenich made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to purchase the necessary

cameras and recorders at the cost of \$2,997. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Commissioner Jenich continued his report stating budget meetings with Department Heads are scheduled for July 7 and 8.

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

Commissioner Jenich made a motion to send a letter to the Governor endorsing keeping the Camp Kitwen Facility open. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ala. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

County Officers

John Partanen, Houghton County Equalization Director, stated that the County millage reduction fraction calculated to be 1.005, resulting in no reduction in millage for 2009. The Allocated Millage of 6.3 was passed on August 5, 2008. John said there was no reduction in the Road or Medical Care Millage for 2009.

Kathy Beattie, Houghton County Treasurer, stated the Houghton County Land Bank Authority has been approved. A five member board will have to be formed. The Board is made up of the County Treasurer, one township representative and 3 at large members.

Roy Britz, Houghton County Undersheriff, stated that the deficiencies that were noted at the jail inspection will be taken back to the inspector's superior and then they are given to the Attorney General. This will force Houghton County to be more compliant.

New Business

1. Amended Inter-local Agreement to establish an Upper Peninsula State Fair Authority. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Jenich to approve the amended Inter-local Agreement to establish an Upper Peninsula State Fair Authority as presented. Included in the motion was to appoint Jim Gail to represent Houghton County. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

2. Request to replace Houghton County Arena roof with offer to pay for half. Dave Wiitanen made an offer to pay for half of the cost of replacing the roof on the arena if the roof is replaced with a Duro-Last Roofing System. He requested a bid from Lake State Roofing Inc... The bid was for \$15,000. A motion was made by Commissioner Ala and seconded by Commissioner Jenich to waive the County's policy of bidding out any job over \$5,000, and take Dave Wiitanen's offer of paying for half of the cost of the new roof, awarding the job to Lake State Roofing Inc... The motion also included a ceiling of \$10,000 of County total expense if the job went over bid. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

3. Request to purchase advertising in Houghton County Plat Book. Commissioner Pintar made a motion to purchase an advertisement in the Houghton Count Plat Book at the cost of \$700. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ala. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

4. Morley Review Committee – results and recommendations. Commissioner Barrette explained how the review committee did the study for the appointed and elected salary classifications. A discussion followed with a motion made by Commissioner Barrette to accept the recommendations of the study and approve the proposed raises listed to take effect October 1, 2009. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jenich. The motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Barrette, Jenich, Pintar, Luoma 4.

NO: Ala 1.

5. Resolution regarding sale of Airpark Lot #21. Commissioner Barrette made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the resolution as recommended by the Airport Committee and authorize the sale of Lot 21 of the Houghton County Airpark. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

6. Approval of agreement for drug screening services. A motion was made by Commissioner Jenich and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the agreement of Drug Screens Plus to be Houghton County's third party administrator. The motion carried by the following vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

7. Request for authority to award FIA building roofing bid. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette to form a committee of Commissioners Luoma and Ala and Houghton County's Building Inspector to review the bids received for the FIA building roof and to award the bid to the lowest bidder. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pintar. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

8. Appropriations

a. Western U.P. Substance Abuse Services Coordinating Agency - \$29,242 (1/2 of liquor tax)

b. Michigan Township Association dues \$336.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrette and seconded by Commissioner Jenich to approve the appropriations as listed. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

9. Travel Requests

a. MAC Summer Conference

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar and seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the travel request for the MAC Summer Conference. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Public Comment

Dave Mattila questioned if the wage study included the Commissioners.

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

Paul Luoma, Chairman

Mary Schoos, Clerk