

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 14, 2020**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room of the Courthouse, City of Houghton.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Albert Koskela at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Koskela.

Roll call:

The following commissioners responded to roll call done by Jennifer Kelly, County Clerk:

Tom Tikkanen, District 1; Albert Koskela, District 2; Glenn Anderson, District 3; Gretchen Janssen, District 4; Roy Britz, District 5.

Approval of Minutes:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen and seconded by Commissioner Britz to approve the two (2) sets of minutes for the June 9, 2020 meetings as presented.

The Motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Approval of Agenda/Additions:

Commissioner Janssen added #4 for future Zoom meetings.

Chairman Koskela added #5 for changing the September meeting to September 8<sup>th</sup>.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen, seconded by Commissioner Britz to approve the Agenda with the two (2) additions as presented.

The Motion carried by a voice vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Public Comments:

Dan Holcomb addressed the Board.

Approval of Bills:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Janssen to approve paying the bills submitted of \$ 576,846.90 as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Anderson, Janssen, Tikkanen, Koskela, Britz 5.

NO: None 0.

Correspondence:

None.

Reports:

Standing Committee:

Commissioner Janssen reported to the Board on the following: Health Department.

Commissioner Anderson reported to the Board on the following: Houghton County Fair, Marina, and the 2020 Census.

Commissioner Britz had nothing to report.

Commissioner Tikkanen reported to the Board on the following: Solid Waste Committee. The Board will contact Attorney Zappa regarding a sale or lease on the Houghton County Transfer Station.

Commissioner Koskela had nothing to report.

County Officers:

Dennis Hext, Airport Manager discussed the flights for June and July.

Old Business:

1. Houghton County Jail

Commissioner Britz stated the Committee will wait for a while to recommend anything to the Board. They did meet again with Mr. Mattson.

Commissioner Janssen stated it would cost \$300-\$400 to evaluate the land.

New Business:

1. Brownfield Committee Applications

Eric Forsberg, Administrator, recommended appointing Lisa Mattila and Ben Larson to the Brownfield Committee with Ben Larson's appointment effective September 1, 2020.

Keith Meyers was the only applicant.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to appoint Keith Meyers, Lisa Mattila and Ben Larson (effective 9/1/20) to the Brownfield Committee.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Anderson, Tikkanen, Koskela, Janssen, Britz 5.

NO: None 0.

2. Houghton County Land Bank Authority.

Commissioner Tikkanen discussed the \$10,000 letter for financial support.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen, seconded by Commissioner Janssen to refer this matter to the Budget Committee.

The Motion carried by a voice vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

3. Appropriations

- a. MTA Dues - \$385.00

- b. Western U.P. Health Department - \$66,680.75
- c. MAC dues - \$5,343.64

A Motion was made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Britz to approve the above-mentioned appropriations as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Anderson, Britz, Tikkanen, Koskela, Janssen 5.

NO: None 0.

#### 4. Zoom meetings

Commissioner Janssen discussed future zoom meetings. She requested zoom be available for the public when the Board meets in the Conference room. Eric Forsberg will ask Tom Ressler of what options are available and then advise the Board. Zoom would have no interaction with the public.

#### 5. September 15, 2020 Board meeting

Chairman Koskela requested a date change of the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting be changed to September 8<sup>th</sup>.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Janssen to change September's meeting date to September 8, 2020.

The Motion carried by a voice vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Public Comments:

None.

Announcements:

None.

Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to adjourn.

The Motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

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Albert Koskela, Chairman

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Jennifer Kelly, County Clerk