

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 13, 2017**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, 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:

Tom Tikkanen, District 1; Albert Koskela, District 2; Anton Pintar, District 3; Scott Ala, District 4; Tim Palosaari, District 5.

Approval of Minutes:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting dated May 9, 2017 as presented.

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

Approval of Agenda:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the Agenda as presented.

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

Public Hearing – Truth in Taxation

Open hearing:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari and seconded by Commissioner Pintar to open the public hearing.

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

Discussion and Public Comment:

John Partanen, Equalization Director, discussed Truth in Taxation along with the calculations resulting in the 2017 County operating millage being 6.2911 mils.

Close Hearing:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ala and seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to close the public hearing.

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

Public Comments:

None.

Approval of Bills:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve paying the bills submitted of \$3,974,081.29 as presented. The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Pintar, Tikkanen, Koskela, Ala 5.

NO: None 0.

Correspondence:

None.

Reports:

Standing Committee:

Commissioner Tikkanen reported to the Board on the following: MI Works UP Talent, and Mental Health.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District, Houghton County Planning Commission, Western UP Health Board, and the U.P. Economic Development Alliance.

The Board discussed the Health Department Board members and Allocations.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari for Eric Forsberg to write a letter of thanks to Orin Balley for his years of service.

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

Commissioner Ala reported to the Board on the following: NorthCare Network.

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

Chairman Koskela had nothing to report to the Board.

County Officers:

None.

New Business:

1. Resolution authorizing 2017 County millage rate

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the Resolution authorizing the 2017 County millage rate as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Ala, Tikkanen, Koskela, Pintar 5.

NO: None 0.

2. Resolution authorizing collection of County's taxes

A Motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Ala to adopt the Resolution authorizing the collection of the County's taxes as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Pintar, Ala, Palosaari, Tikkanen Koskela 5.  
NO: None 0.

### 3. Marina Grant Resolution and Grant Agreement

Eric Forsberg, Administrator, explained the Resolution and Grant Agreement to the Board for the Marina and recommended to include the Harbor Master.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the Marina Grant Resolution and Grant Agreement and include the Harbor Master as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Ala, Tikkanen, Koskela, Pintar 5.  
NO: None 0.

### 4. MTEC Smart Zone Resolution

Jeff Ratcliffe, Executive Director with KEDA, explained the Grant and Resolution for the MTEC Smart Zone to the Board.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to accept the MTEC Smart Zone Resolution as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Tikkanen, Koskela, Pintar, Palosaari 5.  
NO: None 0.

### 5. 97<sup>th</sup> District Court request for additional part-time help

Eric Forsberg explained to the Board the request for part-time help for training in District Court.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the part-time help in District Court for training.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Tikkanen, Pintar, Koskela, Ala, Palosaari 5.  
NO: None.

### 6. UPACC Resolutions

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to support the MI Choice Program Resolution as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Tikkanen, Palosaari, Koskela, Pintar, Ala 5.  
NO: None 0.

A Motion was made by Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to adopt the Resolution to Preserve the Public Mental Health System as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Pintar, Palosaari, Tikkanen, Koskela, Ala 5.  
NO: None 0.

7. Appropriations

- a. Michigan Townships Association Dues - \$385.00

A Motion was made by Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to pay the Michigan Township Association Dues.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Ala, Tikkanen, Koskela, Pintar 5.  
NO: None 0.

8. Travel Requests

- a. Toni Cleary – Friend of the Court Office
- b. Staci Kochan – Prosecutor’s Office

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the above-mentioned Travel Requests.

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 Palosaari 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 Lorenz, County Clerk