

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RE-SCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 15, 2016**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular meeting on Thursday, December 15, 2016, 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:

Eugene Londo, District 1; Albert Koskela, District 2; Anton Pintar, District 3; Tim Palosaari, District 5.

Absent: Scott Ala, District 4.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting dated November 8, 2016 as presented.

The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

Approval of Agenda with Additions:

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Agenda as presented with the additions #13 Medical Marijuana, and #14 Houghton County Road Commission Appointment.

The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

Public Comments:

None.

Approval of Bills:

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Londo to approve paying the bills submitted of \$1,825,470.69 as presented. The motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Pintar, Londo, Koskela, Palosaari 4.

NO: None. 0

Correspondence:

Eric Forsberg discussed a large packet that was received from David Mickelsen. The Board agreed to discuss this at the January Board meeting.

Reports:

Standing Committee:

Commissioner Londo reported to the Board on the Western Upper Peninsula Health Board.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the Western Upper Peninsula Health Board.

Commissioner Palosaari stated he would report later in the Agenda.

Chairman Koskela had nothing to report to the Board.

County Officers:

Todd LaRoux, Building Inspector, informed the Board that Dan Kilpela has been hired as the new Mechanical and Plumbing Inspector for Houghton County.

New Business:

1. Road Commissioners compensation

Eric Forsberg explained the compensation to the Board. There is no change.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to approve the Road Commissioners compensation as presented.

The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

2. Houghton County Planning Commission Openings

Eric Forsberg explained to the Board that there are two (2) openings, and there would be another ad in the Daily Mining Gazette.

3. Compliance with Michigan Act 270

Eric Forsberg explained Michigan Act 270 to the Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Londo, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to Opt Out of the Michigan Act 270 as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Londo, Pintar, Koskela, Palosaari 4.

NO: None 0.

4. Commissioner's meeting compensation

Eric Forsberg explained to the Board that there is no written policy for the Commissioners' meeting compensation. A draft policy was presented and the Board was asked for input. A final draft will be presented at the January Organizational Board meeting.

5. MSU Agreement for Extension of Services

The Board received handouts. Paul Putman, District Regional Coordinator for the MSU Office discussed the handouts with the Board. Commissioner Palosaari questioned the next year's agenda for the youth. Commissioner Palosaari requested the programming/agenda be reported to the Houghton County Commissioners Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to accept the MSU Agreement for Extension of Services of \$34,527.00 as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Pintar, Palosaari, Londo, Koskela 4.

NO: None 0.

#### 6. Remonumentation Grant

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Londo to accept the Remonumentation Grant application as presented.

The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

#### 7. NorthCare Network Request

Eric Forsberg explained a letter from the Vairo, Mechlin, and Tomasi Law Office addressed to NorthCare Network. The Board discussed this letter.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve sending the letter to NorthCare Network.

The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

#### 8. Canvassing Board Appointment

A Motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to appoint Joan Antila to the Houghton Canvassing Board with June Haataja Michaelson and Janet Metsa appointed as alternates for the Democratic Party.

The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

#### 9. U.P. 911 Board Appointment

A motion was made by Commissioner Londo, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to Appoint Kevin Coppo to the U.P. 911 Board.

The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

#### 10. Transfer Station Ordinance

Eric Forsberg explained to the Board that individuals are dumping their regular household garbage at the recycling bin. He requested permission to speak with the Prosecuting Attorney to obtain an Ordinance where a violator could be ticketed/charged.

The Board stated Eric Forsberg shall contact the Prosecuting Attorney to begin drafting an Ordinance with a fine that the Prosecuting Attorney felt was appropriate.

#### 11. Appropriations

- a. WUPPDR - \$2,866.50
- b. Western U.P. District Health Department - \$62,909.25

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the above-mentioned Appropriation as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Pintar, Londo, Koskela 4.

NO: None 0.

#### 12. Travel Requests

- a. Brenda Cadwell – Friend of the Court

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the above-mentioned Travel Request as presented.  
The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

13. Medical Marijuana

Anton Pintar and the Board discussed telephone calls they all received from a gentleman. The Board has no jurisdiction to address this matter.

14. Road Commission Board appointment

Chairman Koskela informed the Board this was a matter from the November Board meeting. There were two (2) candidates.

Eugene Londo asked for permission to abstain from voting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to appoint Eugene Londo to the Houghton County Road Commission Board.

The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 3, Nays 0.

Public Comments:

None.

Announcements:

Chairman Koskela commended Eric Forsberg for a great year.

Commissioner Londo stated it was a pleasure working with this Board.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Londo, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to adjourn.

The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

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Albert Koskela, Chairman

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Jennifer Lorenz, County Clerk