

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 14, 2017**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, in the 5th 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 Pintar to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting dated February 14, 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 Comments:

Paul Lehto addressed the Board regarding the Houghton County Arena.

Dave Hermanson addressed the Board regarding the Houghton County Arena.

Doug Hembroff addressed the Board regarding the Houghton County Arena.

Approval of Bills:

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to approve paying the bills submitted of \$1,316,586.81 as presented. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

Correspondence:

None.

Reports:

Standing Committee:

Commissioner Tikkanen reported to the Board on the following: Main Street Calumet Board of Directors community meeting on March 16th at 7:00 pm at the Heritage Center at St. Ann's in Calumet, Solid Waste Committee/Recycling initiative. Carol Ekstrom also addressed the Board on the presentation they will be giving at the Governor's Recycling Summit.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: Houghton-Keweenaw Conservation District, UP Economic Development Alliance.

Commissioner Ala had nothing to report to the Board.

Commissioner Palosaari reported to the Board on the Houghton County Airport.

Chairman Koskela had nothing to report to the Board.

County Officers:

Dennis Hext, Airport Manager, addressed the Board regarding the next Sun Country Flight, and a grant for the May training at the airport.

Brian McLean, Sheriff, updated the Board regarding the jail's inmate capacity.

Eric Forsberg, Administrator, advised that the jail is over budget in five (5) months because of medical.

New Business:

1. Houghton County Arena bids

John Paul Pietila, Traverse Engineering Services, addressed the Board regarding Contract #1 for roof replacement and wall reconstruction. There were three (3) bids. The Low bid was for \$224,500.00 by Lake State Roofing.

Contract #2-There was one (1) bid for the sandblasting, painting interior steel structure and insulation by MJO.

John Paul Pietila recommended to the Board that a Committee of Commissioner Palosaari, Eric Forsberg, Todd LaRoux, and himself begin to look at an alternate paint contractor for Contract #2.

Two (2) Motions were made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to accept the Contract #1 bid from Lake State Roofing, and accept an amount for Contract #2 for the sand blasting/painting as long as it does not exceed the budget amount of \$518,500.00.

The Motions carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None 0.

Commissioner Ala thanked the Board.

2. Houghton County Arena DNR Grant

Eric Forsberg addressed the Board and explained Houghton County Prosecuting Attorney's response regarding the Grant.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Houghton County Arena DNR Grant as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None 0.

3. DNR Request for Letter of Support

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to send a letter of support to the DNR.

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

4. Brownfield application

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen, seconded by Commissioner Ala to appoint Randy D. McClellan to the Brownfield Commission.

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

5. Remonumentation Contracts

Eric Forsberg explained the four (4) Contracts to the Board. The Contracts are for Hein Surveying, Crampton Surveying, Traverse Engineering Services, and UP Engineers & Architects, Inc.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the four (4) Remonumentation Contracts as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None.

6. Appropriations

- a. Copper Country Community Mental Health - \$41,123.73
- b. UPCAP - \$1,100.00
- c. Northwoods Rail Commission - \$100.00

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the above-mentioned Appropriations.

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

10. Travel Requests

- a. Brenda Cadwell – Houghton County Friend of Court
- b. Eric Forsberg - Administrator

A Motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Ala 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 Palosaari and seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to adjourn at 5:45 pm. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Albert Koskela, Chairman

Jennifer Lorenz, County Clerk