

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 10, 2016**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, May 10, 2016, in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Courthouse, City of Houghton.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Tim Palosaari at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chairman Palosaari.

Roll call:

The following commissioners responded to roll call:

Eugene Londo, District 1; Albert Koskela, District 2; Anton Pintar, District 4; Tim Palosaari, District 5.

Absent: District 3; Scott Ala.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Koskela to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting dated April 12, 2016 as presented.

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

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Commissioner Londo, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Agenda as presented.

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

Public Comments:

None.

Approval of Bills:

A motion was made by Commissioner Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve paying the bills submitted of \$692,899.11 as presented. The motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Koskela, Pintar, Londo, Palosaari 4.

NO: None. 0

Reports:

Standing Committee:

Commissioner Koskela had nothing to report to the Board.

Commissioner Londo reported to the Board on the Houghton County Planning Commission, and the Western Upper Peninsula Alliance Board. Eric Forsberg, Administrator, and the Board discussed the written annual report that the Houghton County Board will receive from the Houghton County Planning Commission.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: U.P. Economic Development Alliance, Houghton-Keweenaw Conservation District, and the Western Upper Peninsula Health Department.

Commissioner Palosaari stated he would address his report later in the agenda.

County Officers:

Dennis Hext, Airport Manager, updated the Board on the construction project with the apron on the terminal at the airport.

Jennifer Lorenz, Houghton County Clerk/Register of Deeds, addressed the Board and informed the Board of the new Property Fraud Alert Program that was put into effect for Houghton County residents effective April 29, 2016. There is no cost to the residents of Houghton County and no cost to Houghton County for this program. Jennifer informed the Board of her hope that all Houghton County residents will sign up for this free program for their protection against possible scams and fraud.

New Business:

1. Deficit Elimination Plans

Eric Forsberg, Administrator, addressed the Board and explained the plans.

A motion was made by Commissioner Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Resolutions and plans as presented. The motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Koskela, Pintar, Londo, Palosaari 4.

NO: None. 0

2. Ballot language for Renewal and Allocation of Operating Millage

The Board briefly discussed this millage.

A motion was made by Commissioner Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to accept the ballot language for Renewal and Allocation of Operating Millage for the August 2, 2016 ballot as presented.

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

3. Jail kitchen bids

The Board discussed the four (4) bids that were received.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Londo to accept the low bid from LJJ Construction of \$314,000 with the understanding of that bid being decreased by an amount near \$20,000.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Koskela, Londo, Pintar, Palosaari 4.

NO: None 0.

4. Northcare Network

The Board discussed the problems with Northcare Network.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Koskela to pay \$114,000 to Northcare and \$44,000 to the Coordinating Agency.

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

5. Request for appointment to the Department of Veterans Affairs Board

A motion was made by Commissioner Londo, seconded by Commissioner Koskela to appoint Joseph C. Snow to the Veterans Affairs Board.

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

6. Houghton County Arena bids

Todd LaRoux, Building Inspector, addressed the Board that Commissioner Ala had contacted him late in the day regarding the bids. There are no RFQ to compare to. It is Todd LaRoux's recommendation to table the matter.

The Board agreed to table this matter until the bids can be reviewed.

7. Travel Requests

- a. Paula Olson – Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- b. U.P. Association of County Commissioners Spring Conference

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Londo to approve the above-mentioned Travel Requests with approving up to three (3) Commissioners for the Spring Conference.

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

Public Comments:

None.

Announcements:

None.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Koskela and seconded by Commissioner Londo to adjourn at 5:33 pm. The motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

Albert Koskela, Chairman

Jennifer Lorenz, County Clerk