

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 12, 2016**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, July 12, 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; Scott Ala, District 4; Tim Palosaari, District 5.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting/Public Hearing dated June 14, 2016 as presented.

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

Approval of Agenda:

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

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

Public Comments:

Sam Buschell addressed the Board and provided a letter to the Board regarding Kevin Codere's property in Schoolcraft Township.

Approval of Bills:

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve paying the bills submitted of \$1,142,845.06 as presented. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

NO: None. 0

Correspondence:

The Board discussed the UPCAP letter regarding the U.P. Area Agency on Aging's 2017-2019 Multi-Year Plan for services to Upper Peninsula Older Adults.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Resolution and have Chairman Koskela sign the Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote.

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

Reports:

Standing Committee:

Commissioner Londo reported to the Board on the Houghton County Planning Commission.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region, Houghton-Keweenaw Conservation District, and the Otter Lake Dam.

Commissioner Ala discussed the letter from last month's Board meeting from the City of Houghton.

Commissioner Palosaari had nothing to report to the Board.

Chairman Koskela reported to the Board on the Houghton County Jail project.

New Business:

1. Jen Tucker-Michigan DEQ Brownfield Coordinator

Jen Tucker, Brownfield Coordinator, addressed the Board and gave a brief presentation to the Board.

2. Excessive Force Resolution

Jeff Ratcliffe, Executive Director for KEDA, addressed the Board and explained the certification and the Resolution.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Londo to accept the Resolution as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

3. Fair Housing Certification

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Ala to comply with the certification for housing as presented.

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

4. WUPPDR Update – Jerald Wuorenmaa

The Board moved on without discussing this as Jerald Wuorenmaa was not present during the Board meeting.

5. Land Bank Request

Kathleen Beattie, Houghton County Treasurer, addressed the Board regarding the six (6) vacant parcels and requested the Board approve a right of purchase and transfer it to the Land Bank. All vacant properties would be purchased at the minimum bid amount.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to approve the request for the Houghton County Land Bank for sales.

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

6. Houghton County Road Commission request for resolution

Kevin Harju from the Houghton County Road Commission addressed the Board about paving the gravel cemetery road in Schoolcraft Township hopefully this summer.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Resolution as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Ala, Pintar, Londo, Palosaari 4.

NO: None 0

ABSTAINED: Koskela 1.

7. Transport van – Request to purchase

Brian McLean, Houghton County Sheriff, addressed the Board and explained the purchase of this minivan would save on the wear and tear on the patrol cars for transporting inmates and individuals in need of transporting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Londo to approve the purchase of the minivan for \$11,715.00.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None 0.

8. Appropriations

- a. Western U.P. District Health Department - \$53,195.50

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

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None 0.

10. Travel Requests

- a. Stacy Kochan – Houghton County Prosecutor’s Office

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 5, Nays 0.

Public Comments:

Sam Buschell addressed the Board.

Announcements:

None.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to adjourn at 5:52 pm. 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