

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 13, 2018**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 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; 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 February 13, 2018 as presented.

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

Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Palosaari requested adding the Northcare funding regarding the Treatment Court to #3 b.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to approve the Agenda with the addition of #3 b as presented.

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

Public Comments:

Linda Belote addressed the Board regarding the Houghton County Jail addition.

Janine Stevenson addressed the Board regarding the Houghton County Jail addition.

Approval of Bills:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to approve paying the bills submitted of \$1,388,540.02 as presented. The Motion carried by the following vote.

YES: Pintar, Palosaari, Tikkanen, Koskela 4.

NO: None 0.

Correspondence:

None.

Reports:

Standing Committee:

Commissioner Tikkanen had nothing to report to the Board.

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following: Houghton County Planning Commission.

Commissioner Palosaari had nothing to report to the Board.

Chairman Koskela had nothing to report to the Board.

County Officers:

Brian McLean, Sheriff, updated the Board regarding the jail's full/over inmate capacity. He provided a monthly handout to the Board.

Chris Van Arsdale, Emergency Director, advised the Board of RAVE, a new Mass Notification System for Houghton County residents to sign up to receive alerts regarding weather, warnings, alerts. Residents can sign up to opt in on the [houghtoncounty.net](http://houghtoncounty.net) website under Emergency Measurers for the Mass Notification System.

Eric Forsberg, Administrator, informed the Board that Homeland Security money has paid for this new program.

Commissioner Palosaari wished to congratulate the Chassell girls' basketball team on winning their first Regional Title and wished them good luck in tonight's game.

Old Business:

1. Opioid Litigation

Eric Forsberg, Administrator, and the Board had a discussion regarding last month's Board meeting.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to adopt the Resolution to join the opioid litigation.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Tikkanen, Pintar, Koskela, Palosaari 4.

NO: None 0.

2. Jail update

Karin Cooper with UPEA updated the Board and the public present on the jail addition. She stated there is a concept, and she is waiting on an estimate.

The Board had a discussion.

Karin Cooper informed the Board that a public meeting(s) would possibly be scheduled the week after the April Board of Commissioners meeting. There would be an interior connection for District Court.

New Business:

1. Houghton County Airport land purchase

Dennis Hext, Airport Manager, addressed the Board regarding the purchase of the 10 acre parcel for \$155,665.00

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to purchase the 10 acre parcel of land at the airport.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Tikkanen, Koskela, Pintar 4.

NO: None 0.

## 2. Remonumentation contracts

Eric Forsberg, Administrator, addressed the Board and explained that the Houghton County Remonumentation contracts for this program comes from fees generated by the Register of Deeds Office.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Chairman to sign the Remonumentation Contracts as presented.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Pintar, Tikkanen, Koskela 4.

NO: None 0.

## 3. Appropriations

- a. C.C. Community Mental Health
- b. NorthCare Funding-District Court Treatment program

A Motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to approve the C.C. Community Mental health payment of \$41,123.00.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Pintar, Palosaari, Tikkanen, Koskela 4.

NO: None 0.

Commissioner Palosaari informed the Board that Judge Wisti is concerned that NorthCare has not paid the next six (6) months for the drug treatment court. No representative attending the meetings at this time.

The Board had a discussion.

The Board agreed that Commissioner Palosaari would attend the next NorthCare meeting, and for Eric Forsberg notify to NorthCare and provide Commissioner Palosaari with a packet.

## 10. Travel Requests

- a. Dan Giachino

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

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

## Public Comments:

Barry Fink addressed the Board regarding three (3) upcoming public forums regarding the Houghton County Jail addition are scheduled for the week March 26<sup>th</sup> (date TBD) at Laird Township Hall at 5:30 pm, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm at Hancock Central High School, and April 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at Calumet High School.

Sharon Stoll addressed the Board regarding the Appropriations.

Announcements:

None.

Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari and seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to adjourn at 5:30 pm. 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