

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2015**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Courthouse, City of Houghton.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Albert Koskela at 5:00 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the following commissioners responded to roll call: Albert Koskela, District 2; Anton Pintar, District 3; Scott Ala, District 4 and Timothy Palosaari, District 5. Absent: Eugene Londo, District 1.

Approval of minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala, to approve the July 14, 2015 Regular Meeting minutes as presented.

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

Approval of Agenda/Additions:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar, to approve the agenda as presented with one (1) addition under #8 for the grant agreement and resolution for the airport.

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

Public Hearing-Houghton County Revolving Loan Fund Loan

1. Open Hearing

Jeff Ratcliffe, Executive Director for KEDA addressed the Board regarding the proposed loan from the Houghton County Revolving Loan Fund to Quincy Woodrights.

2. Discussion and comments

The Board had no discussion.

3. Close Hearing

Commissioner Palosaari made a Motion, seconded by Commissioner Ala to close the public hearing.

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

Public Comments:

Energy Manager, Melissa Davis, addressed the Board regarding the Houghton Energy Efficiency Team (HEET). Todd Laroux volunteered to join the HEET leadership team, and if he is unable to do so, Commissioner Palosaari volunteered.

Approval of Bills:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar, to approve paying bills of \$979,714.33 and late bills of \$57,331.50 for a total of \$1,037,045.83.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Pintar, Koskela, Palosaari 4.

NO: None 0.

Correspondence:

The Board discussed a letter regarding a building/warehouse in Lake Linden.

Eric Forsberg, Administrator, discussed with the Board a correspondence that Senator Stabenow wrote regarding the Great Lakes water and where the meetings are held. Eric Forsberg will contact the Senator and inform her Lake Superior is one of the Great Lakes and a meeting should be scheduled in the Upper Peninsula.

Reports Standing Committee:

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following:

Western Upper Peninsula Health Department.

Eric Forsberg, Administrator, will contact the Western Upper Peninsula Health Department regarding the reimbursement of Commissioners for attending Western Upper Peninsula Health Board meetings.

Commissioner Ala had nothing to report to the Board.

Commissioner Palosaari had nothing to report to the Board.

Commissioner Koskela had nothing to report to the Board.

County Officers:

Dennis Hext, Airport Manager, reported on the weather machine at the airport and stated they now have four (4) observers.

New Business:

1. Houghton County Revolving Loan Fund-Request for loan approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the loan for \$21,910.00

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Pintar, Koskela, Palosaari 4.

NO: None.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to adopt the development plan.

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

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

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Palosaari, Koskela, Pintar 4.

NO: None.

2. Otter Lake Dam-Resolution regarding expenditure of funds.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the Resolution as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Ala, Koskela, Pintar 4.
NO: None.

3. Marriage License Fees.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve a \$25.00 fee in the County Clerk's Office for a 3 day Waiver Fee for a Marriage License and approved a \$25.00 fee for the County Clerk to perform marriages.

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

4. Upward Talent Council Interlocal Agreement

Cherilynn Lampinen from MI Works addressed the Board regarding the 15 Counties for the Michigan Works Talent Council.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to sign the Resolution for the Upward Talent Council.

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

5. Northcare Network Funding Request.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the plan as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Ala, Koskela, Pintar 4.
NO: None.

6. Appropriations

a. Western U.P. Health Department-\$62,527.50

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to pay the fourth quarter amount of \$62,527.50 to the Western U.P. Health Department.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Pintar, Koskela, Palosaari 4.
NO: None.

7. Travel Request

- a. George Newman-Friend of Court Mediator
- b. Staci Kochan-Prosecutor's Office
- c. MAC Conference
- d. Sheryl Ala-District Court Administrator/Magistrate

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to approve the above mentioned travel requests, and approved up to two (2) Commissioners to attend the MAC Conference.

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

8. Grant Agreement and Resolution for Houghton County Memorial Airport.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve grant #3-26-0041-4015.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to sign the Resolution and allow the Chairman to sign the grant.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Pintar, Koskela, Palosaari 4.

NO: None.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the MDOT contract pending review.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Airport Chairman to sign the Resolution for the MDOT Contract.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Pintar, Koskela, Palosaari 4.

NO: None.

Public Comments:

None.

Announcements:

None.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 pm. The motion carried by voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

Albert Koskela, Chairman

Jennifer Lorenz, County Clerk