

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 14, 2015**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2015, in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Courthouse, City of Houghton.

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

Approval of minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Pintar, to approve the June 9, 2015 Regular Meeting as presented.

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

Approval of Agenda/Additions:

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

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

Public Hearing-PACE Financing District

1. Open Hearing

Kyle Peczynski from Levin Energy Partners addressed the Board regarding the PACE financing district. Matt Cook and Dave Camps addressed the board requesting the approval of the plan.

2. Discussion and comments

The Board discussed concerns regarding the Houghton County Prosecutor reviewing the Resolution.

3. Close Hearing

Vice-Chairman Palosaari closed the public hearing.

Public Comments:

Frank Pentti, Duncan Township Supervisor, addressed the Board regarding Payments in Lieu of Taxes (or PILT). He informed the Board that Houghton County would receive \$271,095 in allocations for the 2015 year. He stated they are in need of a township office/fire hall, and the Kenton cemetery is in need of an addition.

This matter was passed onto the Finance Committee.

Paul Hietala, Adam Rajala and Roger Hill addressed the Board requesting the Board consider extending the hours at the marina for the purchase of gasoline for the boats.

The Board agreed to extend the hours to 7:00 pm on Sunday through Thursday, and stay open until 8:00 pm on Friday and Saturday for this summer.

Paul Putnam from the MSU Extension Office addressed the board and welcomed their new employee Christina Mayworm, 4-H Specialist. Christina Mayworm addressed the Board and stated she would like more volunteers and there are currently 6 clubs in 4-H.

Approval of Bills:

A motion was made by Commissioner Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Ala, to approve paying bills of \$ 132,936.77 and late bills of \$ 74,859.63.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Correspondence:

Discussion regarding North Care.

Reports Standing Committee:

Commissioner Pintar reported to the Board on the following:

Western Upper Peninsula Health Department, and the Houghton-Keweenaw Conservation District where he is only an observer.

Commissioner Ala had nothing to report to the Board.

Commissioner Londo had nothing to report to the Board.

Commissioner Palosaari reported to the Board on the following:

Houghton County Fair. He stated they are in need of volunteers.

County Officers:

Dennis Hext, Airport Manager, reported that the boarding percentages are up, and he is requesting the public write comments regarding the essential air service grant at the airport and ads will be in the gazette and available online on their web page soon. He also is asking the public to write to their Senators and ask them to get the weather equipment at the airport certified by the FAA.

Jack Dueweke, Emergency Director, reported to the Board that the rafting exercise by the National Guard was very successful during Bridgefest weekend.

New Business:

1. PACE Financing District

A motion was made by Commissioner Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Londo to adopt the PACE Resolution contingent on the Houghton County Prosecutor's approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

2. Marriage license fees

Jennifer Lorenz, Houghton County Clerk, answered questions to the Board explaining that there is no current procedure or cost in place at the County Clerk's Office for a 3 day waiver for marriage licenses.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar to approve a 3 Day Waiver fee for marriage licenses and a \$20.00 fee. The Motion died for lack of support.

3. Copper Country Mental Health Board Member Appointment

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to appoint Dyann Edgerton to the Mental Health Service Board.

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

4. Twin Lakes lake level resolution

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Twin Lakes Lake Level Resolution.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None.

5. Resolution to sign MDOT Contract

A motion was made by Commissioner Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Londo to approve the Resolution to sign the MDOT Contract.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None.

6. Houghton County CDBG Program Guidelines

A motion was made by Commissioner Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to adopt the Houghton County CDBG Program Guidelines.

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

7. Houghton County Land Bank Request

Kathleen Beattie, Houghton County Treasurer advised the Board that all three (3) parcels were going to be purchased by neighbors of each of the three (3) parcels.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Houghton County Land Bank Request.

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

8. Houghton County 911 request for purchase approval

Brian McLean, Houghton County Sheriff, addressed the Board regarding the purchasing of new radios through Elcom. He stated he has the money in the fund to cover this purchase.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pintar, seconded by Commissioner Koskela to approve the Houghton County 911 request for purchase approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NO: None.

9. Houghton/Keweenaw Recreation Authority request for appointment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Londo to appoint Chris Bushong to the Houghton/Keweenaw Recreation Authority Board.

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

10. Friend of Court request for grant approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to approve the Friend of Court request for grant approval.

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

11. Appropriations

a. MAC Dues-\$5,343.64

A motion was made by Commissioner Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Pintar to pay the MAC Dues \$5,343.64.

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

12. Travel Request

- a. Dan Giachino-Houghton County Friend of the Court
- b. Brenda Cadwell-Houghton County Friend of the Court
- c. Kathleen Beattie-Houghton County Treasurer
- d. Janet Rozich-Houghton County Medical Examiner
- e. John Partanen-Equalization Director

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Koskela 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 Koskela, seconded by Commissioner Londo to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 pm. The motion carried by voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Albert Koskela, Chairman

Jennifer Lorenz, County Clerk