

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 16, 2021**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Special meeting on Monday, August 16, 2021, in the fifth Floor Conference room of the Courthouse, City of Houghton. The public was attending in person.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Albert Koskela at 12:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Koskela.

Roll call:

The following Commissioners responded to a roll call done by Renee Cunningham, Deputy County Clerk:

Tom Tikkanen, District 1; Albert Koskela, District 2; Glenn Anderson, District 3; Gretchen Janssen, District 4; Roy Britz, District 5.

Approval of Agenda/ Additions:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Anderson seconded by Commissioner Janssen to approve the Agenda as presented.

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

Public Comments-Agenda Items Only (5 minutes per participant):

None.

Public Hearing-Rural Development Patrol Car Grant Applications (2)

a. Open hearing

A Motion was made by Commissioner Tikkanen and seconded by Commissioner Britz to open the Public Hearing.

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

b. Discussion and Public Comment

Administrator Ben addressed the board on the purpose of the meeting and talked about the 10-day waiting period on the Patrol Car Grant. Ben asked the Commissioners to approve paying the counties obligation of 45% on the Patrol cars in the next fiscal year, as Ben let the board know that due to vehicle availability the SUV's should be available for delivery in November.

c. Close Hearing

A Motion was made by Commissioner Britz and supported by Commissioner Janssen to close the Public Hearing.

The Motion carried by a roll call vote:

YES: Koskela, Anderson, Janssen, Tikkanen, Britz 5.

NO: 0

New Business

1. Approval of Grant Funds from USDA Rural Development, and Obligation of Funds for Fiscal 2021-22 Budget. The County will be contributing 45% of the two purchases, totaling \$57,7796 (\$28,898 x 2) for the cars. Payment if approved will be made in November 2021. USDA Rural Development will be granting 55%, and a total of \$70,600 (\$35,300 x 2) for the cars.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Anderson and supported by Commissioner Britz to purchase the two new Patrol SUV's.

The Motion carried by a roll call vote:

YES: Koskela, Anderson, Janssen, Tikkanen, Britz 5.

NO: 0

2. Interim Sheriff Wages

Interim Sheriff Kevin Coppo to receive the Sheriff's wage of a MP11, 3-year rate that will be retroactive from 7/18/2021, until appointment of the new Sheriff.

Ben to research starting wage of the appointed Sheriff.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Anderson and supported by Commissioner Tikkanen to approve the retro wage for Under Sheriff Coppo until the appointed Sheriff takes office.

The Motion carried by a roll call vote:

Yes: Koskela, Anderson, Janssen, Tikkanen, Britz 5.

No: 0.

Public Comment:

None.

Announcements:

Commissioner Koskela let the board know that he will not be traveling for business at this time.

Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Koskela and seconded by Commissioner Janssen to adjourn at 12:15 pm.

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

Albert Koskela, Chairman

Jennifer Kelly, County Clerk