

Houghton County Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes

5th Floor Conference room, Courthouse

Tuesday July 16th, 2024 4:00 PM

1. Call to Order at 4:00
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll call: Present: Steve Aho-chair, Timothy Sears – secretary, Ben Larson – county administrator, Joel Keranen – county commissioner, Mike Erickson – vice chair, Allan Aho, Mark Larson, E Kiilunen
Absent: J Larson
4. Agenda: Motion A Aho, second by T Sears. All approved
5. Public Comments – none
6. Approval of minutes meeting May 2024 . Motion by A Aho, second by E Kiilunen. All approved.
7. Correspondence –none
8. Commissioners Reports. Discussed future reports to be open to each member to discuss items pertaining to their area of interest/representation. Motion by E Kiilunen, second B Larson. All approved.
 - a. Commissioners meeting report: J. Keranen -
 - b. Torch Lake - No PAC meeting. E Kiilunen shared video and Sea planes taking off over his lakeshore property
 - c. Solid waste/Recycling: June Recycling volumes increased from 2 tons to 11 tons
 - d. Recreation and Tourism – nothing new
9. Old Business: Public Act 233 Renewable Energy, Compatible Renewable Energy Ordinances (CREO) – Citizens for Local Choice ballot initiative has failed. Public Act 233 will become law in November. Proposed a 1 agenda meeting for August with local representatives from area Townships and municipalities to discuss options under the new Act.
10. New Business
 - a. Waterway Grant in Aid Marina Development Grant approved for Marina facility upgrades.
 - b. County Recreation Plan, Survey results presented. Approved. Motion E Kiilunen, second A Aho. All approved
 - c. National Heritage Area. Reviewed meeting with DNR, several planning commission members attended. Letter writing campaign recommended.
 - d. Michigan dairy farms and poultry operations - report given by A Aho summarizing this next step in further incursion upon private property rights and its connection to agenda 21 and 2030.
11. Public Comments: None
12. Next Meeting: August 20th, 2024.
13. Adjournment: Motion by J Keanen, second M Erickson. All Approved

Respectfully submitted: Timothy T Sears -Secretary