

**HOUGHTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 10, 2015**

The Houghton County Board of Commissioners held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 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: Eugene Londo, District 1; Albert Koskela, District 2; Scott Ala, District 4; Timothy Palosaari, District 5. Anton Pintar, District 3 was absent.

Approval of minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala, to approve the February 10, 2015 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 Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by a voice vote: Ayes 4, Nays 0.

Public Comments:

Evan McDonald, Chairman of the Houghton County Planning Commission advised the board regarding a guest speaker, Brad Newman from the Michigan State University Extension Office, will be speaking on Tuesday, March 17, 2015.

Approval of Bills:

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Londo, to approve paying \$95,396.68 plus late bills of \$2,217.57 for a total of \$97,614.25.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Londo, Koskela, Ala 4.

NO: None 0.

Correspondence:

None.

Reports Standing Committee:

Commission Londo reported to the Board on the following:

Houghton County Planning Commission was addressed by Evan McDonald.

Eric Forsberg, Controller, regarding the Houghton County Planning Commission reported the grant application deadline regarding the recycling will be April 1, 2015 and must be approved by this board.

Commissioner Ala reported to the Board on the following:

Would report to the board under New Business.

Commissioner Palosaari reported to the Board on the following:

Nothing to report.

Dennis Hext, Airport Manager, reported to the board that the recent flight to Laughlin was full within three (3) days.

Jack Dueweke, Emergency Director, reported on the Lift Bridge Planning Committee. He stated there would be a rafting exercise on June 19-20, 2015.

Commissioner Koskela reported to the Board on the following:

The Coast Guard may bring in a 210 foot cutter into our area during Bridge Fest.

New Business:

1. Request for extension of terms of land contract.

Jeff Ratcliffe, KEDA Executive Director, represented DA Glass and explained the purchasing agreement based on job creation, and the airport committee recommended this.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to extend the land contract with Iowa Illinois Warehouse Services, Inc. (DA Glass) for one (1) additional year.

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

2. Remonumentation contract approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to approve the contract for the 2015 Remonumentation Program.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Ala, Londo, Koskela, 4.
NO: None 0.

3. Request for appointment to Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to nominate Eugene Londo to a four (4) year term on the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Board. Eugene Londo accepted the nomination.

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

4. Houghton County Revolving Loan Fund-Request for extension.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palosaari, seconded by Commissioner Ala to extend the loan to REL for two (2) years.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Palosaari, Ala, Londo, Koskela, 4.
NO: None 0.

5. Request for approval to sign Airport Apron rehabilitation plans.

Dennis Hext, Airport Manager, explained the plans to rehabilitate the apron at the airport.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to sign the airport rehabilitation plans.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Palosaari, Londo, Koskela, 4.

NO: None 0.

6. Houghton County 911 request for resolution.

Brian McLean, Houghton County Sheriff, explained the resolution to the board regarding an enhanced 911 service.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Londo to approve the 911 request for resolution.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Londo, Koskela, Palosaari, 4.

NO: None 0.

7. MSHDA mortgage document-request for approval.

Eric Forsberg, Controller, gave an explanation to the board as to the MSHDA mortgage document.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to adopt the MSHDA mortgage document.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Palosaari, Londo, Koskela, 4.

NO: None 0.

8. Travel Requests:

a. Jennifer Lorenz-Houghton County Clerk

b. Todd Laroux, Harry Hermann, Ron Olson-Houghton County Building Dept.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Londo to approve travel request items a & b.

The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Ala, Londo, Koskela, Palosaari, 4.

NO: None 0.

Public Comments:

None.

Announcements:

None.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ala, seconded by Commissioner Palosaari to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 pm. The motion carried by voice vote. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

Albert Koskela, Chairman

Jennifer Lorenz, County Clerk