

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Full Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 24, 2026 – 5:30 p.m.
Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room**

CALL TO ORDER

The Alpena County Board of Commissioners met, and the meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Brenda Fournier in the County Annex Building, Howard Male Conference Room, Alpena, Michigan and via Zoom on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Fournier called for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called with the following Commissioners present: Bill LaHaie, District #1; Dan Ludlow, District #2; Lucille Bray, District #3; Bill Peterson, District #4; Brenda Fournier, District #5; Todd Britton, District #6; and Travis Konarzewski, District #7. Commissioner John Kozlowski, District #8, excused.

AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to adopt the agenda with the addition of two invoices from Straley Lamp & Kraenzlein to be paid and change discussion of the MDOT Aero Contract and Resolution from Airport Manager Mick Higgins to County Administrator Jesse Osmer. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

KIM ELKIE-PRESENTATIONS

Central Dispatch Director Kim Elkie presented the 911 dispatchers each with a special tribute from the State of Michigan in recognition of their extraordinary contributions during the ice storm of 2025. The honors reflect not only official gratitude, but the appreciation of every resident whose calls were answered.

Lead Dispatcher Rory Sherwood, Sheriff Erik Smith, Administrator Osmer, Kat Tomaszewski, and Board Chairman John Kozlowski and were each presented with a presidential award for the outstanding support they provided during the 2025 ice storm.

BILLS TO PAY

Vice Chairman Fournier presented the bills to be paid. The Straley, Lamp & Kraenzlein have been included in the total.

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|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | SUBMITTED: | APPROVED: |
| General Fund & Other Funds | \$249,051.07 | \$249,051.07 |

Moved by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Peterson to pay all bills as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Britton, Konarzewski, and Fournier. NAYS: None. Commissioner Kozlowski, excused. Motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice Chair Fournier presented the Consent Calendar with minutes for approval.

A) **Finance Ways & Means Committee Meeting Minutes** – March 10, 2026

B) **Grants & Contracts Committee Meeting Minutes** – March 12, 2026

ACTION ITEM #GC-1: The Committee recommends approval of the 2025-26 Emergency Management Performance Grant renewal application in the amount of \$3,536.00 with an in-kind county match of \$1,768.00 with revenue posting to line item 101-426-548.000 as presented.

ACTION ITEM #GC-2: The Committee recommends approval of the MSP Emergency Management & Homeland Security Divisions 2025-26 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant application in the amount of \$1,500.00 with a \$300 in-kind contribution (20%) and authorize the Local Emergency Planning Committee Chair to sign all pertaining documents as presented.

ACTION ITEM #GC-3: The Committee recommends approval for the Treasurer to create an expense line item number for Grant Match Funds in the Emergency Management budget as presented.

ACTION ITEM #GC-4: The Committee recommends approval of the five (5) year service agreement with Peninsula Fiber Network as presented.

C) **Special Full Board Meeting Minutes** – March 19, 2026

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Bray to approve the Consent Calendar which includes actions as listed above and filing of all reports. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Britton, Konarzewski, and Fournier. NAYS: None. Commissioner Kozlowski, excused. Motion carried.

MDOT AERO CONTRACT AND RESOLUTION

Administrator Osmer presented the MDOT Aero contract and Resolution #26-06 for review and approval. The airport manager and airport consultants RS&H have reviewed the contract. This is a general agreement that releases funding in the amount of \$2,482,481.00 for the T hangar project.

ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LOCAL RESOLUTION #26-06

The Alpena County Regional Airport enters into contracts, grants, and certifications through Federal and State programs,

And the Board Chairman, County Administrator, and/or Airport Manager at the board's directive have the authority to execute airport sponsor contracts between Alpena County Regional Airport and the State of Michigan Department of Transportation, Office of Aeronautics,

If the Designated Signer(s) has changed, the Alpena County Regional Airport will contact the State of Michigan Department of Transportation, Office of Aeronautics with the changes.

Be it resolved that the Board Chairman, County Administrator and/or Airport Manager, of the Alpena County Regional Airport, be authorized and directed to execute airport sponsor contracts with the State of Michigan Department of Transportation, Office of Aeronautics on behalf of the Alpena County Regional Airport.

Commissioner Britton asked to be abstained from voting. Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Konarzewski to approve Commissioner Britton be abstained from voting. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Konarzewski, and Fournier. NAYS: None. Commissioner Kozlowski, excused. Commissioner Britton, abstained. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Konarzewski to approve the MDOT Aero contract and Resolution #26-06 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Konarzewski, and Fournier. NAYS: None. Commissioner Kozlowski, excused. Commissioner Britton, abstained. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #1: Recommendation to approve the MDOT Aero Contract and adopt Resolution #26-06 as presented.

ICE STORM UPDATE

Emergency Management Director Nic Modrzynski presented and update on the recent ice storm. As of Sunday, March 22nd all power has been restored other than those with damages from the power connections to their homes. The Alpena County Road Commission is continuing to assess the back roads and clear out trees as needed. Nic thanked all partners and everyone who volunteered and donated. The recovery process is ongoing.

COURTHOUSE TREE REMOVAL

With all the downed trees at the courthouse Administrator Osmer is requesting permission to have the project put out for bids to down all the damaged trees and to come back in the spring and grind down the stumps. Grounds & Maintenance will take care of the trees once they are down. Funds can be used from the Contingency line item.

Moved by Commissioner Konarzewski and supported by Commissioner Britton to approve bidding out the courthouse tree project as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Britton, Konarzewski, and Fournier. NAYS: None. Commissioner Kozlowski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #2: Recommendation to approve putting the damaged courthouse tree project out for bids with funding to come from the Contingency line item as presented.

EAGLE SCULPTURE SIDEWALK

Administrator Osmer is requesting to waive the bidding process for the sidewalk for the eagle sculpture project. A company has already been hired by the group that is putting the sculpture in to build the base. Since they will be doing the base, it would be best to have them also create the sidewalk at the same time rather than have someone else come in to create a sidewalk around the base if their price is within market price.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to approve waiving the bidding process for the eagle sculpture sidewalk as presented. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners LaHaie, Ludlow, Bray, Peterson, Britton, Konarzewski and Fournier. NAYS: None. Commissioner Kozlowski, excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM #5: Recommendation to approve waiving the bidding process for the eagle sculpture sidewalk and proceed with the company already hired to place the statue as presented.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL OR AD HOC COMMITTEES

Facilities, Capital & Strategic Planning Committee Update – No meeting due to ice storm.

Courts & Public Safety Committee Update – No meeting due to ice storm.

Grants and Contracts Committee Update – Chair Ludlow reported the committee met on March 12th and discussed the vehicle leases with Enterprise. Administrator Osmer will be bringing back other options that may be more economical. An update was also provided on the Sunken Lake Sparks Grant.

Personnel Committee Update –Chair Fournier reported approval was made to hire another Grounds and Maintenance employee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

The board went into closed session for discussion on a contractual agreement at 6:02 p.m. and opened session at 7:23 p.m. Roll call was taken. All members were present except Commissioner Kozlowski, excused.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner Peterson and supported by Commissioner Ludlow to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

John Kozlowski, Chairman of the Board

Keri Bertrand, County Clerk

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