

The **regular meeting** of the Alcona County Board of Commissioners was held in the County Building in the City of Harrisville, Michigan on Wednesday, **July 5, 2018** at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Craig Johnston, Chairman.

Invocation given by Commissioner Wnuk.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Commissioners present: Craig Johnston, Chairman, Carolyn Brummund, Gary Wnuk, Dan Gauthier and Adam Brege. Also present: Stephany Eller, Deputy Clerk and Cheryl Franks, Treasurer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Wnuk, seconded by Brege, to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2018 regular meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Marlena MacNeill, MSUE Advisory Council board member, addressed the Board as to the programs offered through MSU.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Gauthier, seconded by Brummund, to approve pre-authorized claims and open claims presented for payment between 6/20/2018 to 7/03/2018 for check numbers 134212 to 134352 and E-check numbers 844 to 852 for a grand total of \$337,033.59.

Roll Call: Yes – Brege, Brummund, Wnuk, Gauthier and Johnston No - None

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Gauthier, to amend the 268 Law Enforcement Fund #2 as follows:	Increase 268-000-699.000	Transfers in Fund Balance	\$5,000.00
	Increase 268.267.955.001	Misc. Sheriff OUIL Costs	\$5,000.00

Roll Call: Yes – Brummund, Wnuk, Gauthier, Brege and Johnston No - None

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Gauthier, to respond to the Department of Treasury with a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) as requested and approve the Chairman to sign upon presentment.

MOTION CARRIED

In addition, the "Improvement of Deficiencies" spreadsheet shall be included.

Tony Atkinson, Veterans Affairs Counselor, was recognized by the Board for his service to area Veterans.

Motion by Wnuk, seconded by Brummund, to approve Resolution #2018-11 Resolution in Opposition of House Bill 6049 and Senate Bill 1025 as follows:

RESOLUTION #2018-11

**Alcona County, Michigan
A Resolution in Opposition of House Bill 6049 and Senate Bill 1025**

WHEREAS: House Bill 6049 and Senate Bill 1025 seeks to completely restructure the tax assessing qualifications, processes and boundaries of local assessing units in Michigan; and

WHEREAS: House Bill 6049 will impose a financial burden on Alcona County as well as other local units of governments because of mandated full time staffing requirements based upon IAAO (International Association of Assessing Officers) standards (Which do not exist); and

WHEREAS: The proposed 1% administration fee levied upon taxes is woefully inadequate to pay for increased full time staffing and administration costs; and

WHEREAS: The State of Michigan currently does not fully fund its statutory revenue payments to counties, townships, villages and cities; and

WHEREAS: The Legislature for the State of Michigan has eroded local property tax revenues from local units of government by enacting Disabled Veterans Exemptions, and increased Personal Property exemptions; and

WHEREAS: Alcona County Board of Commissioners does believe the vague references in House Bill 6049 to increased funds for assessment administration or training will ever materialize in significant amounts; and

WHEREAS: Elected township supervisors have been assessors since the earliest beginnings of the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS: Local township assessors and supervisors have been able to understand unique local conditions within their community and apply and explain State Tax Commission policies fairly to the residents and taxpayers of their communities; and

WHEREAS: House Bill 6049 has been drafted with very little input from actual assessors or local elected officials by individuals with seemingly little understanding of the assessing profession (adopting IAAO (International Association of Assessing Officers) standards that do not exist, creating specialized Boards of Review for commercial and industrial properties which appeal directly to the MTT (Michigan Tax Tribunal) and do not have to appeal to the local Board of Review); and

WHEREAS: The State of Michigan has done away with the State Assessors Board which handled assessor training and certification and instituted the State Tax Commission as the agency responsible for training and licensing; and

WHEREAS: The State Tax Commission has continually revamped and changed the educational training and certification programs which has contributed to the shortage of qualified advanced level assessors available in the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS: There are no guarantees that quality education will be available locally or even regionally to allow for the increased certification levels imposed under House Bill 6049; and

WHEREAS: House Bill 6049 and Senate Bill 1025 proposes sweeping changes to the assessing laws without having time to evaluate whether the sweeping educational changes, increased AMAR (Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements) reviews and CAMA (Computer-Assisted Mass Appraisal) Standards already adopted and implemented have begun to improve the overall assessing within the State of Michigan

WHEREAS: Very few of the members of the State Tax Commission or their staff have ever actually worked in the assessment field and legislators have very little understanding of property tax laws or how proposed changes affect local government agencies.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Alcona County Board of Commissioners believes the State of Michigan Legislature should reinstate the State Assessors Board to regulate assessor licensing and provide assessor education throughout the State of Michigan instead of all classes being held in the metropolitan Lansing area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Alcona County Board of Commissioners hereby opposes House Bill 6049 and Senate Bill 1025 and asks that it be withdrawn from consideration until the effectiveness of the current training and AMAR (Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements) review programs have been properly evaluated and the funding issues related to this proposed legislation is addressed within the actual bill being sponsored. This resolution will be forwarded to all counties in Michigan, Senator Jim Stamas who picked up Senate Bill 1025 and House Representative Susan Allor.

Signed this 5th day of July 2018 _____

Chairman Craig Johnston

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Craig Johnston

Vice-Chairman Adam Brege

Dan Gauthier

Carolyn Brummund

Gary R. Wnuk

Roll Call: Yes – Brege, Gauthier, Wnuk, Brummund and Johnston

No - None

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to move forward with the PILT Class Action lawsuit and the Chairman to appoint a contact person.

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion held in regard to future PILT disbursements to the townships.

Motion by Wnuk, seconded by Brege, to continue the budgeted PILT allocation as previously set.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Brege, to approve the Chairman select the incumbent for this year's MML Board of Trustees.

MOTION CARRIED

At this time Cheryl Franks presented the Treasurer's report.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Maner Costerisan, CPA, annual accounting for Alcona County 9-1-1 service district.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Board gave brief reports on the committee meetings that they recently attended.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Fiaklkowski, Hawes Township resident, addressed the Board with his concern of the misuse of the Hawes Township ORV ordinance and enforcement from the Sheriff's Department.

Meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m. until the next regular scheduled meeting on July 18, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Clerk

Chairman