

The **regular meeting** of the Alcona County Board of Commissioners was held in the County Building in the City of Harrisville, Michigan on Wednesday, **December 20, 2017** at 10:00 a.m.

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

Invocation given by Pastor Ted Jolls.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Commissioners present: Craig Johnston, Carolyn Brummund, Adam Brege and Gary Wnuk. Also present: Patricia Truman, County Clerk and Cheryl Franks, Treasurer. Absent: Kathleen Vichunas

Motion by Brege, seconded by Brummund, to approve the minutes from the December 6, 2017 regular meeting. **MOTION CARRIED**

Chairman Johnston reported that he received a letter of resignation from Commissioner Vichunas effective December 14, 2017.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Allen Fisher requested he be reappointed to the Northeast Michigan Mental Health Board when his term expires on March 31, 2018.

Kevin Boyat requested he be reappointed as the county's representative on the Oscoda- Wurtsmith Airport Authority Board.

Patty Thomas requested she be reappointed to the Department of Health and Human Services Board.

Dan O'Connor, Superintendent of Alcona Schools, reported that they are undertaking a major review of their strategic plan and are seeking individuals to service on a Planning Task Force. O'Connor also reported that they are exploring an interest in the Sprinkler Lake facility.

Sheriff Atchison addressed the Board on behalf of the Security Committee and requested funding from the Building Preservation fund for interior door locks and 2-story escape ladders. The cost for 4 ladders is \$520.00 and the interior door locks are \$1,800.00.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mischelle Wagner, MSUE District Coordinator, presented the 2018 Agreement for Extension Services. The agreement includes a 2.5% increase.

PUBLIC HEARING – TRUTH IN TAXATION

Chairman Johnston opened the public hearing at 10:20 a.m.

No one addressed the Board on the matter.

Chairman Johnston declared the public hearing closed at 10:22 a.m.

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to adopt the following Truth and Taxation Statement:

The Taxing Jurisdiction of Alcona County has complied with the requirements of MCL 211.24e in order to levy an operating rate which exceeds the Base Tax Rate. Our Unit has complied with Section 16 of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act and addressed the issue at the Annual Budget hearing held on December 20, 2017.

Dated: December 20, 2017

/s/ Patricia Truman, Clerk

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Brege, to approve the EMS Operating Engineers' Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign. **MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Brege, seconded by Wnuk, to adopt the 2018 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$5,121,900.00 with the following anticipated revenues and expenditures:

<u>REVENUE</u>	
Total Taxes	3,245,816.00
Licenses & permits	3,400.00
Federal Grants	135,000.00
State Grants	548,534.00
Charges for Service	479,350.00
Unclassified	6,600.00
Fines & Forfeits	10,600.00
Interest & Rents	11,600.00
Other Revenue	681,000.00
<u>Total Revenue and Other Sources</u>	<u>5,121,900.00</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>	
101 Governing Body	180,084.00
130 Trial Court	761,959.00
167 Jury Commission	1,270.00
215 Clerk	256,498.00
253 Treasurer	176,966.00
257 Assessor/Equalization	187,712.00
259 Central Data Proces/Repr	174,156.00
262 Elections	30,200.00
265 Building & Grounds	180,451.00
267 Prosecuting Attny.	197,308.00
268 Register of Deeds	130,331.00
301 Police/Sheriff	1,294,188.00
331 Marine Law Enf.	13,680.00
333 Secondary Rd. Patrol	57,244.00
335 ORV Services	6,780.00
351 Corrections/Jail	785,372.00
426 Emergency Svcs.	111,728.00
430 Animal Shelter	8,400.00
648 Medical Examiner	15,460.00
682 Veterans Affairs	27,115.00
850 Employer Cost & Fringe	82,800.00
851 Insurance & bonds	80,500.00
890 Contingency-Transfer	1,000.00
901 Capital Outlay	100.00
968 Appropriations/outside Svcs.	212,723.00
969 Appropriations/Other Co. Funds	147,875.00
<u>Total Expenditures & Other Uses</u>	<u>5,121,900.00</u>

Roll call: Yes- Brege, Wnuk and Johnston. No- Brummund

MOTION CARRIED 3 – 1

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to adopt the 2018 Special Revenue and Enterprise budgets in the following amounts:

<i>NON GENERAL FUNDS</i>	
201 County Road Fund	6,281,314.76
208 Park/Recreation Fund	91,474.40
210 Ambulance Fund	1,757,200.00
211 Alcona Recreation Area Fund	4,500.00
215 Friend of the Court	141,360.00
220 Remonumentation	53,387.00
227 DPW Land Fill	1,001.00
238 Discretionary Fund	8,060.00
240 MSUE Services	104,904.00
241 ACCOA Fund	371,399.00
242 Cedar Lake Project	1.00
244 Economic Development Fund	600.00
245 Harbor Marketplace	24,750.00
249 Building inspection Fund	167,976.00
252 Concealed Pistol Licensing	8,000.00
254 Delinquent tax Property Sales Fund	139,750.00
256 Register of Deeds Automation Fund	28,100.00
261 911 Service fund	547,699.00
263 Sheriff's Pay Phone Fund	8,005.00
265 Law Enforcement fund	2,410.00
267 Drug Forfeiture Fund	1,500.00
268 Law Enforcement Fund #2	17,020.00
265 Law Library Fund	2,500.00
271 Library fund	539,150.00
272 Library Memorial Fund	365.00
273 Reiker Memorial Fund	300.00
274 Drug/Sobriety Court	118,200.00
285 Local Correctional Officers Trng. Fd	2,435.00
286 Michigan Justice Trng. Fund	3,105.00
290 Social Welfare Fund	11,400.00
292 Child Care Fund	322,115.00
294 Veterans Relief Fund	0.00
297 Family counseling Fund	1,110.00
298 Probate Public Guardian Fund	28,550.00
470 Building Preservation Fund	10,000.00
516 100% Tax Collection Fund	225,000.00
535 Housing Commission Fund	36,300.00
536 MI SM CTY Housing Grant VI	53,320.00
561 County Fair Fund	46,975.00
564 Inmate Trust Fund	6,100.00
730 Employees Sick Pay Fund	100.00

Roll call: Yes- Brege, Brummund, Wnuk and Johnston. No- None

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Brege, to opt out of PA 152 for the 2018 medical benefit plan year.

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Brege, to adopt Resolution #2017- 13 as follows:

**RESOLUTION #2017 - 13
VOTING EQUIPMENT GRANT**

WHEREAS, Alcona County wishes to apply to the Secretary of State for a grant to purchase a new voting system, which includes precinct tabulator, accessible voting devices for use by individuals with disabilities, and related Election Management System (EMS) software.

WHEREAS, partial funding for the new voting system will be provided by the State and will include a combination of Federal Help America Vote Act and State-appropriated funds.

WHEREAS, Alcona County plans to begin implementation of the new voting system in 2018.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alcona County Clerk is authorized to submit this Grant Application on behalf of Alcona County.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Wnuk, seconded by Brummund, to adopt Resolution # 2017-14 and approve the Proclamation for Religious Freedom Day, 2018 (copy attached):

**RESOLUTION # 2017- 14
Alcona County, Michigan
RESOLUTION FOR UPLIFTING FAITH AND FREEDOM IN AMERICA**

WHEREAS, The Republic of the United States of America with its democratic system of representation is dependent upon the fundamental truths that all people are created equal and are endowed by the Creator with certain inalienable rights, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, Freedom of conscience has been highly valued in America since its earliest beginnings, not only by individuals seeking religious freedom in the American colonies but through colonial charters and laws such as the 1658 "Flushing Remonstrance," that guaranteed citizens the freedom "to have and enjoy the liberty of conscience, according to the manner and custom of Holland, without molestation or disturbance" or the 1677 West Jersey "Laws, Concessions and Agreements" that allowed for complete religious liberty stating: "That no men, nor number of men upon earth, hath power or authority to rule over men's consciences in religious matters;" and

WHEREAS, Even with such an inspired beginning, some colonies sought religious uniformity and persecuted dissenters, driving them out to more tolerant colonies, such as Rhode Island, and leading to new colonies such as Pennsylvania in 1681, created as a refuge for persecuted Quakers; and

WHEREAS, Knowing this volatile history, not only in colonial America but also in the Old World, Founders such as Patrick Henry and George Mason created the Virginia Declaration of Rights in

1776, to ensure "that all men should enjoy the fullest toleration in the exercise of religion, according to the dictates of Conscience, unpunished and unrestrained by the Magistrate....:" and

WHEREAS, Expanding on this effort, Thomas Jefferson penned his first draft of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom in 1777 to fully disestablish the Church of England, an effort that finally came to fruition on January 16, 1786 under the guidance of James Madison; and

WHEREAS, "Religion or the duty which we owe to our Creator" was recognized by the American Founders to exist prior to the civil bonds of men in government. As explained by James Madison, "This right is in its nature an unalienable right. . . . This duty is precedent, both in order of time and in degree of obligation, to the claims of Civil Society;" and

WHEREAS, Thomas Jefferson stated, "Almighty God hath created the mind free. All attempts to influence it by temporal punishments or burthens...are a departure from the plan of the holy Author of our religion..." and

WHEREAS, The Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom became the forerunner to the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, ratified to protect the unalienable right of individuals to peacefully speak and act on their religious beliefs and to ensure they would remain free from coercion to profess or act on a religious belief to which they do not adhere; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Jefferson said of the First Amendment that it "guard[s] in the same sentence, and under the same words, the freedom of religion, of speech, and of the press; insomuch as that whatever violates either throws down the sanctuary which covers the others;" and

WHEREAS, Those who have studied America's form of government, such as Alexis de Tocqueville, have noted that religion plays a central role in preserving the nation because religion provides the moral base that a free people require for self-government; and

WHEREAS, a long line of presidents, from President George Washington to our current day have recognized the unique and foundational role of religious freedom to the survival of America, such as President Franklin D. Roosevelt's statement that it "has been integral to the preservation and development of the United States" or the acknowledgment of President H. W. Bush that "the free exercise of religion goes hand in hand with the preservation of our other rights" or that "[f]reedom of religion is a fundamental human right that must be upheld by every nation and guaranteed by every government," as expressed by President William Clinton; and

WHEREAS, In *Town of Greece v. Galloway*, 134 S. Ct. 1811 (2014), the United States Supreme Court affirmed that "people of many faiths may be united in a community of tolerance and devotion;" and

WHEREAS, For countless people of the United States, faith is an integral part of every aspect of daily life and is not limited to their homes, houses of worship, or doctrinal creeds; and

WHEREAS, In America today, the growing ignorance of our rich religious heritage of freedom has been directly accompanied by increasing hatred and a coarsening of civil discourse in the body politic; and

WHEREAS, This ignorance and intolerance, if left unchecked, will quench the very essence of America, and her beacon of freedom will no longer serve as a light to the world;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, We must once again value religious liberty and its vital importance to all human rights and to individual dignity and return to the principle that President George Washington expressed in his Farewell Address, that the happiness of a nation is connected with its virtue, and its virtue is dependent upon religious principle; and

RESOLVED, We must protect the fabric of religious faith in God in this nation, for only by doing so will America be able to protect the fabric of freedom that has made this nation great; and

RESOLVED, We request constant and fervent prayers for our leaders so that those who know God will be strengthened to maintain their faith, and those who have no belief in God will, at a minimum, show civility and respect to those who do; and

RESOLVED, We seek laws and public policies at all levels of government that will honor the long, hard road that our Founders traveled from mere religious tolerance to true religious liberty for all American citizens; and

RESOLVED, We seek God's continued grace, protection, guidance, and favor in the hope that America can soon overcome her civil discord and her disunity, so that her heritage of faith and freedom can remain a light of freedom to the nations; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, We proudly look back in history to the passage of the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom on January 16, 1786, recognizing and affirming Religious Freedom Day to commemorate that great historical accomplishment that provided the heart of our First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Signed this 20th day of December 2017

/s/ Craig Johnston, Chairman

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to approve the Emergency Manager's contract for 2018 in the amount of \$25,280.00.

MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer Franks presented her report on investment accounts for October and November 2017.

Motion by Johnston, seconded by Brege, to approve the expenditure of \$2,300.00 from the Building Preservation Fund to purchase door locks and ladders.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to accept the resignation of Commissioner Vichunas and that payment be pro-rated.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to place an ad in the local paper for individuals interested in the District 1 Commissioner seat with letters of interest due by noon on January 5, 2018.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Johnston, to approve the reappointment of Patty Thomas to the Department of Health and Human Services Board for a three-year term expiring on October 31, 2020.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to re-affirm the appointment of Kevin Boyat as the representative for Alcona County on the Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport Authority Board.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Wnuk, seconded by Brege, to appoint Commissioner Carolyn Brummund as Vice-Chairman.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Wnuk, seconded by Johnston, to authorize the Finance Committee, with concurrence of either the County Clerk or County Treasurer, to make necessary transfers/modifications within and between funds and or activities as needed to properly conclude the 2017 financials.

Roll call: Yes- Brege, Brummund Wnuk and Johnston. No- None

MOTION CARRIED 4 – 0

The Board recessed at 10:58 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, that no action be taken regarding the communication from Smith & Johnson regarding Opioid Litigation.

MOTION CARRIED

Board members presented brief comments on the committee meetings they attended.

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to go into closed session to discuss union negotiation strategies.

Roll call: Yes- Brege, Brummund, Wnuk and Johnston. No- None

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Closed session held at 11:20 a.m.

Regular session resumed at 11:35 a.m. with all members present.

Motion by Brege, seconded by Brummund, to amend the motion setting the employee cost share for health insurance premium and amend the amount to \$25.00 for single, \$40.00 for two people and \$50.00 for a family.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to approve the one-year Teamster 214 Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign upon presentation.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Brege, to approve the tentative agreement with Alcona County Central Dispatch Assn. in regard to Health Insurance only.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Wnuk, to approve the tentative agreement with C.O.A.M. in regard to Health Insurance only.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brege, seconded by Wnuk, to approve the tentative agreement with P.O.A.M. in regard to Health Insurance only.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Brummund, seconded by Brege, to send a letter of support for NEMCOG’s grant application titled “Sunrise Coastal Trail Planning Process and Feasibility Study”.

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m. until the organizational meeting to be held on Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Clerk

Chairman