

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Wednesday, August 17, 2005, at 6:30 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 West Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin. Absent and excused: Comm. Arsenault and Comm. Struck.

A Salute to the Flag was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the County Board of Commissioners Regular meeting held on August 2, 2005 be approved.

**PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND AWARDS**

Chairperson Corkin read the following resolution honoring Laura Louise Kelly on her retirement from the Juvenile Division of Probate Court:

*MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION  
HONORING LAURA LOUISE KELLY  
ON HER RETIREMENT*

*WHEREAS, Government has an obligation to provide its citizens with services of the highest quality; and*

*WHEREAS, quality services can only be provided by employees of the highest caliber; and*

*WHEREAS, Laura L. Kelly was hired on July 27, 1981 as a Community Care Coordinator in the Juvenile Division of Probate Court, while serving in this position she was awarded the U.P. Social Worker of the Year by the U.P. Foster Parent’s Association in 1984; and*

*WHEREAS, in 1985 accepted the position of Juvenile Probation Officer; and in 1988 was transferred to the position of Foster Care Coordinator; and*

*WHEREAS, in 1989 Laura was reassigned as Juvenile Probation Officer and served under that capacity until retirement, during that time she also served as a member of the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Team;*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners gratefully expresses its appreciation to Laura L. Kelly for her 24 years of excellent service; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, on behalf of all County Citizens, the Marquette County Board wishes Laura and her husband Kim a long, healthy, and happy retirement.*

*Proclaimed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2005  
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners*



It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Agenda be approved as presented.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following informational items be accepted and placed on file:

- a. Program Announcement from Marquette General Hospital Emergency Department and Express Care Walk-in Clinic Open House.
- b. Response from Congressman Bart Stupak regarding the President's Proposed Elimination of the Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) Program.
- c. Response from Jamie Dolan, Regional Coordinator, Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning, regarding the Speed Limit in Champion Township.
- d. Communication from Jonathan Cherry, P.E., Project Manager, Kennecott Minerals, regarding Yellow Dog Plains Hydrogeologic Studies.

Comm. Pellow requested a copy of 9c) Response from Jamie Dolan, Regional Coordinator, Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning, regarding the Speed Limit in Champion Township, be sent to Champion Township.

**ACTION ITEMS**

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Items 10a, 10b, 10c, 10d, and 10e, be approved as follows:

10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to adopt the following Resolution of Support to Maintain the Existing Number of Judgeships in Marquette County, request SCAO to reclassify the County of Marquette as a Cluster 2 County for the 2005 Secondary Analysis as well as future bi-annual judicial needs assessments based on the criteria set in the Michigan Trial Court Assessment Commission Report of 1998, and further, that County Staff be directed to assist the judiciary in any way gathering information and data.

**RESOLUTION**

ADOPTED THIS 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2005

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners, having been informed that the courts of Marquette have been selected for a secondary analysis of judicial need by the State Court Administrator's Office;

And the Board of Commissioners further finding and concluding the SCAO's analysis of judicial need is based on Marquette County being classified as a Cluster 3 County by the 1998 Michigan Trial Court Assessment Commission, on the assumption Marquette County courts have a larger support staff than they in fact have;

And the Commissioners further finding that additional court staff that may be required by the reduction in the number of judges may have to be funded by the Marquette County General Fund; and that the people of Marquette County may have their cases heard by non-elected referees or magistrates, rather than elected judges, and that reductions in judgeships may lead to backlogs and delays in having cases heard;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners supports maintaining the existing number of judgeships in the County of Marquette, and further requests the State Court Administrator’s Office to reclassify the County of Marquette as a Cluster 2 County for the 2005 Secondary Analysis as well as future bi-annual judicial needs assessments, based on the criteria set out in the Michigan Trial Court Assessment Commission Report of 1998.

Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to accept the Office on Violence Against Women Grant for Police Enforcement and Community Effort (PEACE) Project and authorize signature by the County Administrator.

10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Sugarloaf Mountain Enhancement Project Agreements and designate Jim Kippola, Manager of Planning, as the County’s representative with the day to day authority for the Project; authorize the Board Chair to complete and sign the signature page as indicated on both original copies of the Project Agreement; and approve the following Resolution and authorize the Board Chair as signatory:

**RESOLUTION**

“RESOLVED, that the County of Marquette, Michigan, does hereby accept the terms of the Agreement as received from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and that the County of Marquette does hereby specifically agree, but not by way of limitation, as follows:

1. To appropriate all funds necessary to complete the project during the project period and to provide Twenty Thousand, Eight Hundred (\$20,800) dollars to match the grant authorized by the DEPARTMENT.
2. To maintain satisfactory financial accounts, documents, and records to make them available to the DEPARTMENT for auditing at reasonable times.
3. To construct the project and provide such funds, services, and materials, as may be necessary to satisfy the terms of said Agreement.
4. To regulate the use of the facility constructed and reserved under this Agreement to assure the use thereof by the public on equal and reasonable terms.
5. To comply with any and all terms of said Agreement including all terms not specifically set forth in the foregoing portions of this Resolution.”

Adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2005  
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Rescue Safety Vehicle Purchase to Crown Chevrolet of Negaunee in the amount of \$20,950.66 for a Four Wheel Drive, ¾ Ton, Crew Cab Pickup Truck.

10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to accept the 2004 Marquette County Audit Report for filing as corrected.

**ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED**

10f) The County Board considered a Notice of Bid Award for Hangar 665 Improvements – Insulation and Electrical Revisions.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained FAA Grant No: 3-26-0153-1705 identified FAA, MDOT, and Marquette County funds for total of approximately \$1,105, 263 to be used for interior electrical and insulation improvements for large aircraft hangars 661, 664, 665, and 667, with an addendum for additional work for the remaining three hangars 662, 663, and 666.

A great deal of interest was received in the pre-bid conference held on June 7, 2005. Bids were opened on June 22, 2005 and only one bid was received on time. However, upon opening the bid, Staff discovered that the one bid received far exceeded the amount of funding available.

The successful bid was from Gundlach Champion, Inc. of Houghton, Michigan. Gundlach Champion was the general contractor assigned to the construction of Sawyer’s Passenger Terminal in 1998-99.

For the base bid work to cover Hangars 661, 664, 665, and 667, the bid received from Gundlach Champion, Inc. was \$1,847,850. The bid for the addendum to cover the remaining three Hangars 662, 663, and 666 came in at \$1,355,300 for a total of \$3,203,150.

Since the lone bid far exceeded available funding, Airport Staff submitted a request to the FAA to switch projects from FY 2006 to FY 2005, as the 2006 Project were within allowable funding limits.

Bill Malinowski, with URS Greiner, and currently Sawyer’s Engineering Consulting Firm, negotiated with Gundlach Champion to proceed with hangar improvements to Hangar 665 with the amount of funding available for this scope of work (approximately \$400,000).

Funding for this project is under AIP Grant No: 3-26-0153-1705. This project is a Military Airports Program (MAP) funded project, with the local sponsor match derived from the use of the former Marquette County/Negaunee Airport sale proceeds.

Comm. Joseph questioned the bid process/negotiations. He explained that he doesn’t believe negotiating with Gundlach Champion to proceed with hangar improvements rather than following the bidding process was done properly.

Keith Kaspari, Sawyer International Airport Manager, was present to answer questions and provided an explanation. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the Notice of Award for the Interior Electrical and Insulation Improvements to Hangar 665 at Sawyer International Airport to Gundlach Champion, Inc. of Houghton, Michigan.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Cynthia Prior, Big Bay, addressed the County Board regarding a USGS Study. She showed Volume 1 of data collected by the DEQ.

There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Joseph and carried on a roll call vote 7 Ayes (Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin) to 0 Nays that the County Board go into Closed Session to discuss confidential attorney/client communication regarding pending litigation.

Chairperson Corkin declared a 5 minute recess to clear Commission Chambers.

.....CLOSED SESSION.....

The County Board came back into open session. There was no action as a result of the Closed Session.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairperson Corkin updated Commissioners with highlights from the MAC Conference at Mackinac Island.

Comm. Cihak also discussed highlights from the MAC Conference.

Chairperson Corkin announced that SCAO is working with all 83 Counties to increase Circuit Court collections.

Comm. Pellow questioned the budget process.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, and County Commissioners scheduled Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 P.M. for Departmental Budget Hearings.

Comm. Joseph announced that the County Road Commission has met regarding the Humane Society land transfer.

Comm. Bergdahl updated Commissioners regarding an AMR Eagle meeting he attended.

There being no further business to become before the County Board the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie M. Branam  
Marquette County Clerk