
The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, January 4, 2005, at 7:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 West Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.

Chairperson Pro Tem Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin. Absent: None.

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

Connie Branam, County Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Commissioners and congratulated them on being successful in the election.

County Clerk Connie Branam opened the meeting for nominations for Chairperson. Comm. Wallace nominated Comm. Corkin. Comm. Cihak nominated Comm. Bergdahl. A roll call ballot was recorded and Gerald O. Corkin was elected Chairperson of the County Board.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for nominations for Vice-Chair. Comm. Cihak nominated Comm. Bergdahl. Comm. Arsenault nominated Comm. Wallace.

A roll call vote was recorded and Comm. Bergdahl was elected Vice-Chair of the County Board.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the County Board of Commissioners regular meeting held on December 21, 2004 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

James Gallant, Skandia, addressed the County Board regarding issues he has with the Friend of the Court Citizens Advisory Committee.

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period December 17, 2004 through December 29, 2004 in the amount of \$647,159.08 and bi-weekly payroll for the period ending December 18, 2004 in the amount of \$546,410.46 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Pellow and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with late addition Item 11a) Discussion of the Ishpeming TIF District.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

- a. MAC 2005 Legislative Conference Information.
- b. Health Insurance Update.

Chairperson Corkin announced that anyone interested in the MAC 2005 Legislative Conference (Item 9a) contact Mary Yelle, Commission Aide.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the memo regarding Health Insurance presented by John Greenberg, Human Resources and Risk Manager, be endorsed by the Marquette County Board of Commissioners.

ACTION ITEMS

10a) The County Board considered the Proposed County Board Regular and Committee Meeting Schedule for 2005. Comm. Arsenault requested Commissioners to consider reducing the number of meetings in 2005.

Comm. Cihak suggested approving the Proposed Meeting Schedule as is but direct Staff to look at the pros and cons of a reduced meeting schedule and the potential cost savings.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the following County Board Regular and Committee Meeting Schedule for 2005, but direct Staff to recommend possible pros and cons regarding a reduced meeting schedule for a future meeting.

**MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
2005 REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE**

(All meetings on Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Courthouse Annex, Marquette, Michigan, unless otherwise noted)

January 4, 2005 (Organizational Meeting)	July 5, 2005
January 18, 2005	July 20, 2005 *Wednesday
February 1, 2005	August 2, 2005
February 15, 2005	August 17, 2005 *Wednesday
March 2, 2005 *Wednesday	September 6, 2005
March 15, 2005	September 20, 2005
April 5, 2005	October 4, 2005
April 12, 2005 (Equalization Meeting)	October 11, 2005 (Annual Meeting)
April 19, 2005	October 18, 2005
May 3, 2005	November 1, 2005
May 17, 2005	November 15, 2005
June 7, 2005	December 6, 2005
June 21, 2005	December 20, 2005

**MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
2005 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING SCHEDULE**

(All meetings on Tuesday at 6:00 P.M. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Courthouse Annex, Marquette, Michigan, unless otherwise noted)

January 11, 2005	July 12, 2005
January 25, 2005	July 26, 2005
February 9, 2005 *Wednesday	August 9, 2005
February 22, 2005	August 23, 2005
March 8, 2005	September 13, 2005
March 22, 2005	September 27, 2005
April 12, 2005 (Also Equalization Meeting)	October 11, 2005 (Also Annual Meeting)
April 26, 2005	October 25, 2005
May 10, 2005	November 8, 2005
May 24, 2005	November 22, 2005
June 14, 2005	December 13, 2005
June 28, 2005	December 27, 2005

10b) The County Board reviewed the Marquette County Board of Commissioners Rules of Order.

Harley Andrews, Chief Civil Counsel, was asked to review the Rules of Order. He has met with Comm. Cihak and Comm. Wallace. A Draft of the suggested revisions will be prepared for the January 11, 2005 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the Board of Commissioner Rules of Order as presented with possible revision at a later date.

(A complete copy of the Rules of Order is available for inspection in the County Clerk's Office)

10c) The County Board considered Sheriff's Department Vehicle Bid Award. The vehicle will replace a 1999 Tahoe that has high mileage and maintenance costs. The vehicle will be used by the Sheriff and other Department personnel. The vehicle is sized for transporting equipment and towing.

Bids were received from six dealerships. The bid from Riverside did not meet the seating specifications, a major specification because of the need for room to install equipment and location

near the driver. Frei Chevrolet is the lowest responsive bidder. The recommended bid award includes \$202 for a fiberglass topper. The 2005 Public Improvement Fund has \$25,000 budgeted for this purchase.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Sheriff's Department Vehicle Bid be awarded to Frei Chevrolet for \$23,645.

10d) The County Board considered an agreement with the American Indian Coordinating Council. The Board of Commissioners has included the American Indian Coordinating Council in past 2% requests. When funds are received the County and Council enter into an agreement that specifies the use of the funds. Board of Commissioners may appropriate funds that advance a historical interest of the County. The Council will use the funds for arts and crafts demonstrations and classes for the public, community groups, and schools in Marquette County. The classes and demonstrations will be on the topics of Native American Culture and History.

The Board of Commissioners may choose to accept 2% revenues for services, programs, and purposes that Counties are legally able to fund. In 2002, Civil Counsel reviewed the American Indian Coordinating Council's proposed use and prepared an Agreement that allows the Board to pass through the funds.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians has requested that \$5,000 in 2% gaming funds be provided to the American Indian Coordinating Council. There is no impact on the County budget. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe is under no obligation to provide 2% funds to local governments in Marquette County.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board authorize the Agreement with the American Indian Coordinating Council for \$5,000.

10e) The County Board discussed the Telkite Agreement. On December 21, 2004 the County Board delayed the discussion of the Telkite request until January 4, 2005. Harley Andrews, Chief Civil Counsel, explained that the current agreement between the County and Telkite provides that by December 30, 2004 Telkite must make a second payment of \$1 million to the County, and must provide a Letter of Credit or other form of security acceptable to the County guaranteeing the two remaining \$1 million payments for the EDC Building. Also on December 30 the County and Telkite are to enter into a lease arrangement covering the ALP Properties. The detailed terms of that lease were to be negotiated and agreed upon by the County and Telkite by December 30th, so that it could be signed at the time of the \$1 million payment.

The County Board has been advised that County Staff has for the last couple of months been involved in negotiations with Telkite regarding the possible modification of the existing agreement which would substitute an exclusive marketing arrangement for the ALP Properties instead of the lease arrangement. Staff discussions on the details of an exclusive marketing agreement are continuing and definite progress is being made, but are not yet to the point where there is a consensus on a sufficiently detailed proposal to submit to the County Board for consideration.

Mr. Andrews further explained that this circumstance is not the fault of either Telkite or the County, but rather is the result of efforts of both parties to consider modifications to the original agreement that will be in the best interest of both parties. Mr. Andrews recommends the County Board waive the December 30, 2004 date and continue discussion and negotiations with Telkite.

Commissioners and Staff engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding waiving the December 30th date. Commissioner consensus was that this issue needs to be resolved. They suggested the issue be put on the January 11th Committee of the Whole agenda.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board authorize continued discussions and negotiations with Telkite regarding a possible Exclusive Marketing Agreement for the ALP Properties; and further, authorize a waiver of the December 30, 2004 date by which both the County and Telkite were to have performed certain obligations as specified in the Agreement. This issue will again be considered at the January 11, 2005 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

LATE ADDITIONS

11a) The County Board discussed the Ishpeming TIF District. Comm. Heikkila questioned the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority's proposed amendment to the Tax Increment Finance and Development Plan. He is concerned that extending the TIF District to December 31, 2034 would have consequences regarding revenue to Marquette County. The estimated financial impact to the County would be \$44,000 in the first year of the amended plan.

Comm. Arsenault explained that extending the TIF District to 2034 is more beneficial to Ishpeming City than the financial impact to Marquette County.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Ishpeming Tax Increment Financing Plan be accepted and placed on file.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

James Gallant, Skandia, addressed the County Board once again regarding the Friend of the Court Advisory Committee.

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

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Pellow announced she has received calls regarding the appointment of Mary Wallace to the Central Dispatch Policy Board, Citizen-at-Large Category, questioning whether it was a conflict of interest due to Comm. Wallace.

Comm. Heikkila thanked all the voters of Commissioner District 3 for their support. He is looking forward to working with all Commissioners and County Staff.

Comm. Wallace congratulated Comm. Corkin and Comm. Bergdahl on their appointments as Chair and Vice-Chair..

Comm. Struck thanked the voters in District 8. He announced he is the first Republican to be on the County Board in 20 years, but will represent all citizens of Marquette County.

Chairperson Corkin thanked Commissioners for electing him Chair, and looks forward to the challenges and responsibilities..

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk