

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 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. Arsenault, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin. Absent and excused: Comm. Bergdahl and Comm. Pellow.

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

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 May 3, 2005 be approved.

**PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND AWARDS**

Chairperson Corkin read the following proclamations: Older American's Month – May 2005 and Emergency Medical Services Week – May 15-21, 2005.

**OLDER AMERICANS MONTH  
MAY 2005  
PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS, Marquette County is home to more than 11,000 citizens aged 60 years or older; and*

*WHEREAS, the older Americans of Marquette County are a vital part of our nation's demographic makeup; and*

*WHEREAS, older citizens are members of our community entitled to dignified, independent lives free from fears, myths, and misconceptions about aging; and*

*WHEREAS, each community in America must strive to recognize the contributions of our older citizens, understand and address their evolving needs, and support their caregivers; and*

*WHEREAS, our society is dependent upon intergenerational cooperation and support, and benefits from our collective efforts to serve older Americans and the people who love them; and*

*WHEREAS, this marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the Older Americans Act by the United States Congress;*

*NOW, THEREFORE WE, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2005 as Older Americans Month; and*

*ACKNOWLEDGE the Marquette County Commission on Aging, Senior Centers, and AMCAB Senior Nutrition Program for their high quality of services.*

*Adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2005*

*Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners*

***PROCLAMATION TO DESIGNATE THE WEEK OF MAY 15-21, 2005 AS***

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK**

*WHEREAS, emergency medical services are a vital public service; and*

*WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and*

*WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and*

*WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of medical first responders, emergency medical technicians, specialists and paramedics, emergency physicians, emergency nurses, 9-1-1 dispatchers, firefighters, educators, administrators, and others; and*

*WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and*

*WHEREAS, Marquette County is served by 17 Michigan-licensed EMS organizations which respond annually to over 5200 emergencies, 280 dedicated EMS personnel, two hospital emergency departments, a county and regional emergency dispatch center and UP-EMS, the regional EMS coordinating agency; and*

*WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week,*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gerald O. Corkin, in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 15-21, 2005 as*

***EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK IN MARQUETTE COUNTY***

*Adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2005*

*Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson*

*Marquette County Board of Commissioners*

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Gary Gustafson, MGH EMS, thanked the County Board for proclaiming the week of May 15-21, 2005 as Emergency Medical Services Week. He stated there are no finer people serving the medical needs for the citizens of Marquette County.

Bill Pesola, SLP Development, requested the addition of 11a) SLP Development, LLC, Request for Change in Letter of Credit.

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

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Struck, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period May 6, 2005 through May 12, 2005 in the amount of \$228,771.34 and bi-weekly payroll for the period ending May 7, 2005 in the amount of \$585,869.11 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Agenda be approved with the following additions: 11a) SLP Development, LLC, Request for Change in Letter of Credit, and 11b) RFP for 96<sup>th</sup> District Court.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

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

- a. Michigan Public Service Commission Notice of Hearing.
- b. Public Notice of Non-Metallic Mineral Sand and Gravel Leasing Nomination.
- c. Communication from United States Department of Agriculture regarding Error in the Proposed Forest Plan – Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines.

**ACTION ITEMS**

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Item 10b be approved as follows:

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to send a letter of support for the Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development Council in their time of severe federal funding cuts with copies to U.S. Senator Carl Levin, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Congressman Bart Stupak, and State Senator Mike Prusi asking for reinstatement of full funding for the RC&D Program in 2006.

**ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED**

10a) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to support the Task Force and request Code Officials to submit a plan to reduce the number of on-site re-inspections by at least 50%.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Joseph and carried by voice vote 6 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Wallace) that the County Board support the Task Force and request Code Officials to submit a plan to reduce the number of on-site re-inspections by at least 50%

10c) The County Board considered a Road Commission Antenna Lease Agreement. The Road Commission's Sawyer Operations have installed a new antenna on the water tower located in the commercial district at Sawyer. The Road Commission also installed the antenna's base station in the generator room of the control building for the water tower. The water tower is part of the Sawyer water system currently owned and operated by the County of Marquette. For the County Road Commission to continue to occupy this space the County has prepared the Lease Agreement. The Lease Agreement has been reviewed and approved by the Road Commission.

The Lease requires that the Road Commission pay the County one dollar, that they comply with FCC regulations, be responsible for any utilities, and provide liability insurance. This Lease is for an original period of one year, but can be renewed with a sixty (60) day notice of intent to continue.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the Road Commission Antenna Lease Agreement and authorize the Board Chair to sign.

**LATE ADDITIONS**

11a) The County Board considered a memo from Harley Andrews, Chief Civil Counsel, regarding SLP Development, LLC, request for change in Letter of Credit. SLP Development, LLC, purchased the remaining Sawyer housing for a total price of \$2,500,000, the payment of that purchase price was to be spread out over a period of several years. Those payments were guaranteed by an irrevocable declining balance letter of credit in the original amount of \$2,250,000, issued by the Wisconsin Business Bank of DePere, Wisconsin. SLP Development, LLC, now wishes to replace the Wisconsin Business Bank Letter of Credit with a Letter of Credit to be issued by the River Valley State Bank of Marquette, MI, which would be in the original amount of \$1,750,000. Mr. Andrews has reviewed the draft of a proposed LOC submitted by River Valley State Bank, and have requested several changes to that draft. He explained that it is essential that any replacement LOC provide the same protection to the County as the original LOC that is now in place.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the proposed replacement of the current Letter of Credit, on the condition that Staff is first satisfied that the replacement LOC will provide the same protections for the County as the original LOC.

11b) Comm. Heikkila requested discussion on the Draft RFP for the 96<sup>th</sup> District Court. Comm. Heikkila is requesting the RFP prepared by Staff to be put out for bids. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that the RFP is still in draft form and there are two items that the Judges had requested be added. He will have the changes requested to the RFP for the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

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

Comm. Arsenault requested status on the Telkite documents. He also requested a clarification on rent monies paid to Telkite. Harley Andrews, Chief Civil Counsel, updated Commissioners.

Comm. Joseph requested a status on the Delphi Agreement. Scott Erbisch, Sawyer Operations Manager, updated Commissioners.

Comm. Struck requested a status of the transfer of the West Branch Recreational Facility from Telkite. He explained that West Branch is in jeopardy of losing the grant opportunity if they don't acquire possession of that building.

Comm. Corkin announced he attended the ground breaking at the Iron Industry Museum on Sunday. They are adding a new addition for permanent displays. The Yankee, which is an 1868 Ore Hauler that used to be in the Cleveland Location of Ishpeming, will be refurbished in the new gallery.

Comm. Cihak announced that the Michigan Department of Corrections made a presentation to the MAC Judiciary Committee regarding sentencing guidelines proposal. These guidelines will put less people in prison and more felons in County Jails. He explained that MAC rejected the proposal and is sending detailed reasons why it was rejected to the Prosecuting Attorney's Association, Michigan Sheriff's Association, the Department of Corrections, and eventually to the MAC Board.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and carried on a roll call vote 7 Ayes (Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin) to 0 Nays that the County Board go into Closed Session for Strategy and Negotiation Sessions connected with negotiations of a collective bargaining agreement pursuant to MCL 15.268(c).

Chairperson Corkin declared a five-minute recess to clear Commission Chambers.

The County Board went into Closed Session at 7:10 P.M.

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

The County Board came back into open session at 8:10 P.M. No action was forthcoming as a result of the Closed Session.

There being no further business to become before the County Board the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie M. Branam  
Marquette County Clerk