

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 3, 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. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin. Absent and excused: None.

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 Equalization Meeting held on April 12, 2005 and the Regular meeting held on April 19, 2005 be approved.

**PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND AWARDS**

Chairperson Corkin read the following resolution honoring Roger A. Peters on his retirement:

**MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION  
HONORING ROGER A. PETERS ON HIS 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, Roger A. Peters was hired on July 30, 1985 as a Data Processing Systems Programmer in the Internal Services Department which has since been reclassified as a Systems Analyst II in the Information Systems Department; and*

*WHEREAS, Roger A. Peters will retire on April 29, 2005 after dedicating 19 years 9 months of service to Marquette County,*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners gratefully expresses its appreciation to Roger A. Peters for his 19 years 9 months of excellent service; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, on behalf of all County Citizens, the Marquette County Board wishes Roger and his wife Helen a long, healthy, and happy retirement.*

*Proclaimed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2005  
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners*

Roger Peters thanked the County Board and stated that it has been a pleasure working for Marquette County.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Cynthia Prior, POB 236, Big Bay, Michigan, updated Commissioners on the final DEQ Work Group Meeting. She stated that the public will not know the outcome of the rules until the DEQ completes the final draft of the rules and it is submitted to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) and the Legislative Body for approval and a public hearing. She questioned the status of a group meeting to discuss Sulfide Mining.

Alan Thompson, Delphi, asked to speak to Item 10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the Delphi Automotive Lease Renewal.

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

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and carried by voice vote 8 Ayes to 1 Abstention (Comm. Joseph) that Claims and Accounts for the period April 22, 2005 through April 28, 2005 in the amount of \$413,208.18 (minus Check No. 62058 in the amount of \$193.87) made payable to Josephs, and Bi-weekly payroll for the period ending April 23, 2005 in the amount of \$563,283.84 be approved. Affidavit of Disclosure for Commissioner Joseph as follows:

AFFIDAVIT OF DISCLOSURE

PURSUANT TO MCL 15.323(2)(a)

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE )
)SS
STATE OF MICHIGAN )

Nick Joseph, a Marquette County Commissioner, being duly sworn, hereby submits this Affidavit pursuant to the provisions of MCL 15.323(2)(a):

- 1. The Final Disbursement List submitted for approval at this May 3, 2005, meeting of the County Board of Commissioners includes Check No. 062058, dated April 29, 2005, payable to Joseph's in the amount of \$193.87, in payment for a food for veterans (MVTF);
2. I hereby disclose that I have a personal financial interest in Joseph's Foodland, Inc., d/b/a Joseph's Super Valu, which is as follows:
Sole Shareholder
3. I hereby certify that any direct benefit I personally will receive from this payment to Joseph's will be less than \$250.00, and will be less than 5% of the total payment of \$193.87.

Dated this 3rd day of May, 2005.

/S/

Nick Joseph

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 3rd day of May, 2005.

/S/

Connie M. Branam
Notary Public
Marquette County, Michigan
My Commission Expires: 03/07/06

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

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

- a. Joint Township Meeting: Champion and Humboldt Townships – Accident Prevention and Driver’s Safety, Saturday, June 11, 2005.
- b. Communication from the Department of the Navy RE: Environmental Assessment on ELF Facilities Disposition, Republic, Michigan.

**ACTION ITEMS**

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

10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to adopt the following resolution supporting UPSET in their efforts to continue federal funding (Byrne Grant):

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT  
U.P.S.E.T  
(Upper Peninsula Substance Abuse Team)  
IN THEIR EFFORTS TO CONTINUE FEDERAL FUNDING**

WHEREAS, The Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team (UPSET) has been fighting the war on drugs in 12 of the Upper Peninsula’s counties since 1988, covering 13,200 square miles. The Byrne Grant is a federal funded program with five agencies participating under the grant (50/50 match). UPSET also has two federal agencies, ATF and DEA in-house with UPSET, due to the increased demand for drug and gun investigations.

WHEREAS, Over the past 17 years UPSET has taken millions of dollars worth of drugs off our streets, and arrested hundreds of felons for a variety of serious violations. UPSET has also assisted with investigations and arrests on other cases such as Armed Robbery, Homicide, Arson, Extortion, Bomb Threats, Weapons Violations, Explosives, Felons in Possession of Weapons, Alcohol, Tobacco, and other Firearms Violations.

WHEREAS, President Bush just announced the cutting of the Byrne Grant and the Senate approved this cut as well. With the cutting of the Byrne Grant most every Narcotics Team in Michigan and other states could shut down and the drug problem could increase. 70-85% of all violent crimes nation wide now are considered drug-related. Jail over crowding is being blamed on drug related problems. Statistics now say there are ten-times more people driving under the influence of drugs than under the influence of alcohol. Our highways, schools, and our communities are greatly affected. Along with the cut of the Byrne Grant, the President announced giving hundreds of millions of dollars to other countries such as Afghanistan to assist them to fight the war on heroin production in their country. These American dollars should be spent to keep our streets safe before other countries. It is known worldwide the sale of illegal drugs helps to support terrorism. The U.S. is their best customer.

WHEREAS, The UPSET Team and all other drug teams around Michigan and the country, need the support of local government and communities to help keep this Federal Grant in place to protect the future of our children and our communities. Local hospitals and treatment centers have told us they have seen a doubling in drug related patients in the past year. The UPSET team alone has seen a 60% increase in arrests in 2004. UPSET has also put on over 50 educational programs to schools, civic groups, law enforcement and others in 2004, and more requests are expected in 2005 due to increased problems.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners support the UPSET Team and other Narcotics Teams in their efforts to keep the Federal Byrne Grant in place to help protect our communities and the future of our children.

Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2005  
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

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10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Caretaker Agreement and following Budget Amendment:

**See Attached Budget Amendments (under separate document)**

The Chairperson declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted this 3rd day of May, 2005.

10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the First Quarter Budget Amendments as follows:

**See Attached Budget Amendments (under separate document)**

The Chairperson declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted this 3rd day of May, 2005.

10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to authorize the filing of an Application for Leave to Appeal to the Supreme Court.

**ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED**

10c) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Delphi Automotive Lease Renewal and Budget Amendment. Alan Thompson, Delphi, distributed materials showing the financial impact and the financial risks for Delphi. He also thanked the County Board for the opportunity to renew the lease.

Commissioners engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the proposed Delphi Lease. Comm. Pellow questioned the 2% commission being charged to the County. For this reason she cannot support the lease.

Comm. Joseph questioned why there was no increase to Marquette County with the lease renewal.

Comm. Heikkila stated it is hard to cut Marquette County revenues in half. He questioned a 10-year lease renewal.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and carried on a roll call vote 6 Ayes (Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin) to 3 Nays (Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, and Comm. Pellow) that the County Board authorize Staff to submit a response to EQUIS Corp. agreeing to the renewal terms as presented for the Delphi Automotive Lease Renewal.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following budget amendment be approved:

**See Attached Budget Amendments (under separate document)**

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

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

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained a letter was sent to the DEQ regarding the Draft Rules on Sulfide Mining.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Struck and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board send a follow-up letter regarding the concerns not addressed by the Work Group.

Harley Andrews, Chief Civil Counsel, updated Commissioners regarding the Telkite Agreement. He expects it to be finalized within the next week.

Comm. Wallace requested that the Humane Society issue and the District Court issue be placed on the next Committee of the Whole agenda.

Comm. Pellow questioned whether the public forum on Sulfide Mining has been finalized.

Comm. Joseph questioned whether the Strategic Planning Session has been finalized. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that the Strategic Planning Session will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 P.M., place to be determined.

Chairperson Corkin announced he will be attending the U.P. County Commissioners meeting on Friday in Brimley, Michigan. He also announced the Marquette County Township's Association Spring Banquet, Friday, May 6, 2005 at Up Front in Marquette.

There being no further business to become before the County Board the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie M. Branam  
Marquette County Clerk