

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 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. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting held on November 1, 2005 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Cynthia Pryor, Big Bay, addressed the Board regarding sulfide mining. She provided Commissioners with a letter regarding contamination issues at the Flambeau Mine.

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

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period November 4, 2005 through November 10, 2005 in the amount of \$635,839.65 and bi-weekly payroll for the period ending November 5, 2005 in the amount of \$311,624.21 be approved.

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

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

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

- a. Letter from Michigan Department of Natural Resources regarding Draft Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Plan.
- b. Letter from National Association of Town Watch regarding Marquette County's Selection as a National Award Winner.
- c. Kennecott Minerals Eagle Project – Community Advisory Group Meeting Agenda.
- d. News Article regarding Marquette County's inclusion in the 100 Best Communities for Young People.  
*Chairperson Corkin stated that this is very significant for Marquette County as only three counties in Michigan were recognized. This recognition says a lot for the people that live here and the volunteer efforts of hundreds of local groups.*

**ACTION ITEMS**

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

- 10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Authorize the Fiscal Year 2006 IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Contracts.

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Adopt the Amended Disposal of Surplus Property Policy.

**ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED:**

10c) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Increase Board of Road Commissioners Salaries. Comm. Wallace questioned the authority to compensate the Road Commission Board while other County Boards do not receive such compensation. Steve Powers, County Administrator, stated that compensation is authorized by statute but set by the Board. Comm. Arsenault stated that compensation for other boards comes from the general fund while Road Commission Board compensation comes from Road Commission funds.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and carried by voice vote 6 Ayes (Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin) to 3 Nays (Comm. Cihak, Comm. Pellow, and Comm. Wallace) that the County Board approve the Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Increase Board of Road Commissioners Salaries as follows:

Chair – \$2,600 per year; Vice-Chair - \$2,300 per year; and Member - \$2,000 per year.

\$30 would be paid for each meeting in Marquette County; \$60 for each meeting outside of Marquette County. Mileage and meals would be reimbursed according to Road Commission policy.

10d) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Sell 4-plexes at Sawyer. Commissioners felt that while SLP Development stepped in and bought housing at Sawyer when no one else was interested, a higher price should be negotiated for the housing or the bid process should be used.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace and seconded by Comm. Struck to approve the Committee of the Whole Recommendation to sell the two 4-plexes to SLP Development for the total price of \$32,258. Upon a voice vote, motion failed 4 Ayes (Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin) to 4 Nays (Comm. Cihak, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Heikkila, and Comm. Pellow) and 1 Abstention (Comm. Arsenault).

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and carried on a voice vote 7 Ayes (Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin) to 1 Naye (Comm. Struck) and 1 Abstention (Comm. Arsenault) to put the 2 remaining 4-plexes at Sawyer for sale on bids.

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

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

Comm. Wallace had questions regarding an item on the County Administrator's Update regarding a land/lease issue in Negaunee Township. County Administrator Steve Powers stated that further information would be provided on this issue on a future agenda.

Chairperson Corkin requested that County Administrator Steve Powers be excused from the rest of the meeting due to a previous commitment. Mr. Powers left the meeting at approximately 6:55 p.m.

**PRIVILEGED COMMENT**

Michelle Halley, Big Bay, an attorney for the National Wildlife Federation, addressed the Board regarding sulfide mining. Ms. Halley addressed several non-ferrous metallic mining rules which are proposed for Michigan. She would like the Board to send a letter to the DEQ regarding these rules. Following Ms.

Halley's presentation, Commissioners directed Civil Counsel Harley Andrews to look into the information provided by Ms. Halley and report back to the Board at a future meeting.

There being no further business to become before the County Board the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie A. Skytta  
Marquette County Deputy Clerk