

The attached minutes are subject to correction and approval

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 17, 2006, 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. Pellow, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin. Absent and excused: Comm. Bergdahl.

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 October 3, 2006 be approved.

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

Chairperson Corkin read the following resolution declaring November 2006 as Alzheimer’s Disease Month:

Marquette County
Hereby Issues this Executive Declaration
In Observance of
November 2006
As

ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE MONTH

WHEREAS, Alzheimer’s disease is a progressive, degenerative disorder that attacks the brain and results in impaired memory, thinking and behavior, ultimately leaving its victims totally incapable of caring for themselves; and

WHEREAS, the eighth leading cause of death in adults, Alzheimer’s disease claims more than 100,000 lives annually, affecting males and females, ethnic and socioeconomic groups equally; and

WHEREAS, currently, there are over 4 million adults in the United States with Alzheimer’s disease, including nearly 180,000 people in Michigan alone; and

WHEREAS, many encouraging drug treatments have been introduced which significantly delay the onset of disease symptoms, improving the quality of life for those afflicted and reducing the strain on caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Marquette County in the State of Michigan is pleased to join with the Alzheimer’s Association Michigan State Council in observing a month to address the need for information and assistance in dealing with and eventually eradicating this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, Marquette County does hereby declare the month of November 2006 as ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE MONTH in Michigan.

Adopted this 17th day of October, 2006
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

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Leann Robinson, 911 W. College Avenue, Marquette, addressed Commissioners regarding appointments to the Aging Services Advisory Committee.

Renee Leow, Marquette County Conservation District, was present to invite all Commissioners to attend their 51st Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday, November 8, 2006 at Up Front & Company. She also thanked the County Board for the continued support of the County Conservation District.

Waino Liuha, 416 Croix Street, Negaunee, was present and requested the County Board support him for appointment to the Aging Services Advisory Committee. He also stated he appreciates the way the County Board has been addressing the aging issues in Marquette County.

Earl Yelle, Sands Township Supervisor, on behalf of the Marquette County Township Supervisors Association, addressed Commissioners regarding the lack of road patrol in Marquette County.

Pete Mackin, 203 Hotel Place, Marquette, spoke regarding County road systems in the Upper Peninsula.

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

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period October 7, 2006 through October 13, 2006 in the amount of \$159,325.05 and Bi-Weekly Payroll for the period ending October 7, 2006 in the amount of \$300,344.43 be approved. (Note: Expenditure check No. 77494 in the amount of \$122.36 made payable to Bergdahl's was deducted due to Comm. Bergdahl's absence.

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

PRIVILEGED COMMENT

8a) Gary Johnson, Republic Township Supervisor, was present to address the County Board regarding a water level issue in Republic Township. Mr. Johnson explained that Cleveland Cliffs is marketing the mine property which includes the Republic Dam. He stated that some residents have expressed concerns about leaving their water levels to the whim of a new owner. Mr. Johnson explained that his intention is to gather as much information as possible and hold a public meeting for the residents of Republic Township. He explained that as many as 70 landowners could be affected.

Jim Kippola, Manager of Planning, was also present and distributed information for the process of establishing a legal lake level. He explained that this function is regulated under Michigan law, specifically parts 307 and 315 of PA 451 of 1994. There are other avenues also available.

Mr. Johnson thanked the County Board and will keep them updated regarding this issue.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

There were no informational items.

ACTION ITEMS

10a) The County Board considered 2-year appointments to the Aging Services Advisory Committee. Commissioner consensus was to include all applicants not appointed from the other categories to be considered for appointment in the At Large Category.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Cihak and unanimously carried by voice vote that Lou Chappell, Marquette, be appointed to the Business and Financial Management Category and Bruce Heikkila to the County Commissioner Ex Officio Member category.

The following individuals were appointed to the respective categories by roll call balloting:

1Professional from the Field of Geriatrics

Mary Jane Tremethick, Negaunee

1Social Services Professional

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Waino Liuha, Negaunee

4 Persons with a Demonstrated Awareness, Concern, and Interest in Improving Services to the Aging

- Angelo Bosio, Ishpeming
- Lois Hamel, Michigamme
- Edith Prosen, Marquette
- Christie Salo, Negaunee

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that he is gathering information for the Aging Services Advisory Committee. He and Sue Vercoe can provide the information to the Committee of the Whole or to Comm. Heikkila as the Ex Officio Member. The information will help the Committee get off to a good start. Mr. Powers believes the first meeting should be in early November. The Committee should take on the charge that was given to them by the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioners thanked all candidates who applied to the Aging Services Advisory Committee. There were many interested and qualified applicants and it was a very difficult decision.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Leann Robinson, 911 College Avenue, Marquette, expressed her disappointment regarding the votes Mr. Irby received on the Aging Services Advisory Committee.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Wallace responded to Ms. Robinson's comments.

Comm. Struck announced he will be absent from next week's meeting to attend an Emergency Services Seminar in Mt. Pleasant.

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:05 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk