

The attached minutes are subject to correction and approval

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 2, 2007, at 6:00 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. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the County Board of Commissioners Regular meeting held on Tuesday, September 18, 2007 be approved.

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND AWARDS

Chairperson Corkin read the following Resolution honoring Stephen J. Holmgren on his retirement:

*MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION
HONORING STEPHEN J. HOLMGREN
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, Stephen J. Holmgren was hired on May 3, 1982 as an Emergency Dispatcher with the Marquette County Central Dispatch System located at the Michigan State Police Negaunee Post; and

WHEREAS, Steve is well respected by not only his co-workers, but the hundreds of Emergency Responders whose very lives depended upon Steve providing the correct information; and

WHEREAS, in Steve's 25 years as a Dispatcher, Steve has handled thousands of calls reporting horrific traffic crashes, dangerous domestic violence incidents, drunk drivers, missing persons, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Steve's calm, effective demeanor provided assurance to both the callers and responders to help ensure coordinated and efficient response to incidents; and

WHEREAS, Steve's presence will be missed in the Dispatch Center and in the community; and

WHEREAS, Stephen J. Holmgren will retire on September 30, 2007 with 25 years of service to Marquette County;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners gratefully expresses its appreciation to Stephen J. Holmgren for his excellent service to Marquette County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, on behalf of all County Citizens, the Marquette County Board wishes Steve a long, healthy, and happy retirement.

*Proclaimed this 2nd day of October, 2007
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners*

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

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It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period September 22, 2007 through September 28, 2007 the amount of \$49,499.02 and bi-weekly payroll for the period ending September 22, 2007 in the amount of \$586,823.88 be approved.

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

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. 34th Annual Ski Induction Breakfast Held on September 22, 2007.
- b. A Thank You from Upper Peninsula Area Agency on Aging regarding the 39th Annual U.P. Senior Citizens' Convention and Expo.
- c. Communication from Jim Sodergren regarding Kennecott – Start the Mine!

ACTION ITEMS

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

10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the License Agreement between the County of Marquette and the K.I. Sawyer Heritage Air Museum, Inc.

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to send a letter of support for a Congressional request to place Sawyer International Airport's WAAS System as a high priority.

10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to send a letter of support to retain CUPPAD funding.

10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to direct Steve Powers, County Administrator, to keep those County offices open on a short term basis if a shutdown of State government does occur.

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

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Struck reported on the EMS Conference held in Marquette this past weekend. He thanked Administrator Powers and Chairperson Corkin for their attendance.

Chairperson Corkin commended Comm. Struck for all his work preparing for the EMS Conference. It was an excellent program and well attended.

Comm. Heikkila suggested a letter be sent to the Governor regarding the reduction to Payments In Lieu of Taxes with the State continuing to purchase land without the financial ability to pay its bills.

Comm. Wallace reported that the Health Department has received the flu vaccine supply and is planning immunization clinics throughout the County during the month of October and early November. Citizens interested should contact the Health Department.

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Comm. Pellow announced that she attended the MCTA Meeting last evening. She is concerned with some changes discussed by the Marquette County Road Commission.

Connie Branam, County Clerk, announced her plan to open an office at the Ishpeming Service Center beginning in January. The office will be open every Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Any service done in Marquette can be done in Ishpeming, with the exception of genealogy. She is not requesting any additional Staff or an increase in the budget. She requested the County Board support her plan, and direct Steve Powers, County Administrator, to proceed. She also explained that she discussed the plan with Anne Giroux, County Treasurer, who has agreed to open an office in January on Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. as well. Connie explained that the County Clerk and County Treasurer will share office space and any equipment to save costs.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that Connie's plan to open an Ishpeming office is certainly consistent with the County Board's policy when the decision was made to purchase the former Credit Union Building. He further explained that it will be necessary to purchase a few PC's, and make a few minor changes, but the costs can easily be accommodated within current budgets.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board direct Steve Powers, County Administrator, Larry Gould, Facilities Manager, and Brent Nault, Data Processing Manager, to proceed with plans to open the office in Ishpeming beginning January, 2008.

Commissioners commended Connie on her initiative. They stated that Connie's plan to provide service to the westend makes perfect sense and continues in the direction the County Board planned. The Board was very pleased and happy to see the services extended to the Service Center.

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk