

Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 2, 2008, at 6:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 W. Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace and Chairperson Corkin. Absent and Excused: Comm. Bergdahl and Comm. Cihak.

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by a voice vote that the minutes of the County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting held on August 20, 2008 be approved.

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

Chairperson Corkin read the following resolution declaring September 21-27, 2008 Michigan NonProfit Week:

*MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 21-27, 2008  
MICHIGAN NONPROFIT WEEK*

*WHEREAS, the 47,000 nonprofit organizations throughout Michigan, including 31,000 charitable organizations, contribute significantly to the State's economy and to the high quality of life for all our citizens; and*

*WHEREAS, the Michigan nonprofit sector is a strong economic force, as the fifth largest industry in terms of employment in the State and generate more than \$68 billion in total economic activity; and*

*WHEREAS, Michigan nonprofits' 315,000 staff and 1 million volunteers are dedicated to upholding the highest standards of community service, working or donating their time and effort to make a difference in the lives of others; and*

*WHEREAS, these organizations are committed to serving the educational, cultural, civic, health, religious, human service, recreational, philanthropic, environmental, ethnic, and other diverse needs of Michigan's people; and*

*WHEREAS, charitable organizations are supported and enhanced by the work of the Michigan Nonprofit Association, Council of Michigan Foundations, and the Michigan Community Service Commission; and*

*WHEREAS, the 2008 observance of "Michigan Nonprofit Week" provides a unique opportunity for all citizens of the State to join together in celebration of the many contributions made by nonprofit organizations to our continued well-being;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners do hereby declare September 21-27, 2008 as Michigan Nonprofit Week throughout the State and encourage all citizens of this State to recognize the positive impact nonprofit organizations have on the quality of life for all in our County.*

*Adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2008  
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners*

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

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Jim Gallant, Skandia, spoke regarding Pathways.

Earl Yelle, Sands Township Supervisor, spoke in opposition to Action Item 10d) Committee of Whole Recommendation to approve the Revised Type II Water Supply Fee Schedule.

John Olson, Michigamme Township Supervisor, also spoke in opposition to the Type II Water Supply Fee Schedule. Mr. Olson stated that the County Board should take the State to task on funding their mandates.

Henry DeGroot, Wells Township Supervisor, also spoke in opposition to the Type II Water Supply Fee Schedule. He stated that on behalf of Wells Township he urges the County Board to vote No against these fee increases.

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

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period August 22, 2008 through August 28, 2008 in the amount of \$76,375.12, and Bi-Weekly Payroll for the period ending August 23, 2008 in the amount of \$609,108.65, be approved.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following Informational Items be accepted and placed on file:

- 9a) Invitation to attend Bell Hospital Grand Opening Gala.
- 9b) Traffic Control Order Regulating Vehicle Speed Limit on State Trunk Line Highway M-28 in the City of Ishpeming.
- 9c) Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) Closeout of Grant HRF-2003-0743.
- 9d) Thank You from the Marquette County Community Corrections Advisory Board for Support of the New Detention Facility in Beaver Grove.
- 9e) Tips for Preventing Prescription Drug Abuse.
- 9f) Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority Board of Trustees.

**ACTION ITEMS**

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

10a) Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve the Friend of the Court (FOC) Contract for the period October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009, contingent upon legal review by Civil Counsel.

10b) Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve the Family Support Contract for the period October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009, contingent upon legal review by Civil Counsel.

10c) Committee of the Whole recommendation to adopt Revised Policy 415-Use of Marquette County Buildings, Land, and Facilities.

**ACTION ITEMS CON'T**

10d) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Revised Type II Water Supply Fee Schedule as follows: 2008 – Charge all supplies regardless of size, a flat fee of \$100 for managing their water supply data; 2009 and all Successive Years – Continue to charge a \$100 data management and compliance monitoring fee for all Type II Water Supplies; and begin to charge once every 5 years, the survey costs for all water supplies using a time based fee; Conduct an evaluation of the success or failure of this fee proposal after the first year or in 2010.

Chairperson Corkin stated that the Health Department has revenue problems due to the State not paying for their mandated services. The problems start in Lansing. There is approximately 1.25 Million dollars in mandated services. Chairperson Corkin is willing to cover the Health Department's shortfall in the amount of \$5,300, from contingency for 1 year, if the Board so wishes.

Comm. Pellow explained that there is only three ways to pay for the Shortfall. State funding, County funding, or fees per user. Comm. Pellow further explained that the Health Department could layoff employees, which the County Board does not wish to do. She supports funding the Health Department shortfall for this year, then look at it again in 2010. The County Board needs to fight the State. The state not providing funding keeps getting worse.

Comm. Struck explained that Mr. Benzie appeared before the Board months ago. The County Board requested he revise the fee schedule. He has done that, however the fees will affect small businesses in outlying areas, which they can't afford. Comm. Struck will vote no on this issue, but there is still no solution.

Comm. Arsenault stated that this is typical of the State. He explained it as "Shift and Shaft". The State shifts the responsibility to the County, and then shafts us by not providing funding. He stated that the \$100 fee could be the straw that breaks the camels back. Businesses are running out of Michigan!

It was moved by Comm. Struck, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote the County Board approve \$5,300 from the contingency fund to fund the Health Department's Type II Water Supply Fee for one year.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board send a letter to the State of Michigan voicing displeasure with their nonfunding of mandates, and also a copy be sent to the U.P. County Commissioners, and the Michigan Association of Counties.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Jim Gallant, Skandia, spoke regarding Pathways.

Earl Yelle, Sands Township Supervisor, commended the County Board for their action regarding the Type II Water Supply Fees. He also explained that he has taken the State to task many times, and has never lost. He volunteered to help the County Board in any way he can.

John Olson, Michigamme Township Supervisor, also thanked the County Board for their action regarding the Type II Water Supply Fees. He also wants to be part of the solution. He will help in any way he can.

Henry DeGroot, Wells Township Supervisor, thanked the County Board for their action regarding the Type II Water Supply Fees. He has experience with writing letters to State Officials.

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

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**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Keith Kaspari, Airport Manager, was present and requested a Letter of Support and Resolution for American Airlines. The Resolution and Letter of Support is for approval of the application for antitrust immunity filed by American Airlines, British Airways, Iberia, Finnair, and Royal Jordanian Airlines. Mr. Kaspari explained that approval of this application by the U.S. Department of Transportation would enable these five oneworld alliance airlines that operate transatlantic service to partner together to deliver highly competitive flight schedules, airfares, and service levels - in addition to being able to compete on an equal footing with Star and SkyTeam alliances - alliances which currently enjoy broad antitrust immunity for the operation of transatlantic flights.

In addition, he requests that the County Board support and approve the request by American, British Airways, and Iberia Airlines to establish a Joint Business Agreement (JBA) to conduct airline operations between North America and Europe. He believes that the Joint Business Agreement would create a more efficient and comprehensive transatlantic network for customers of the above airlines. This action is also anticipated to have a positive impact on air travel by offering customers more service, scheduling and pricing options, and will help to ensure that customers continue to benefit from having three competitive airline alliances.

Furthermore, Mr. Kaspari believes that the Joint Business Agreement will provide additional travel destinations for airline passengers throughout the County of Marquette as well as the Greater Upper Peninsula. The JBA also allows Marquette County and Michigan's Upper Peninsula to serve as a preferred destination for foreign-based business and leisure passengers traveling on the oneworld network of airlines that includes nearly 9,000 combined daily departures to 663 destinations in 134 countries.

It was moved by Comm. Struck, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the following Resolution and Letter of Support by the Marquette County Board of Commissioners to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, affirming their support for a Joint Business Agreement between American Airlines, British Airways, and Iberia Airlines:

*RESOLUTION*

*A RESOLUTION BY THE MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AFFIRMING THEIR SUPPORT FOR A JOINT BUSINESS AGREEMENT BETWEEN AMERICAN AIRLINES, BRITISH AIRWAYS AND IBERIA AIRLINES.*

*BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Marquette County, Michigan:*

*WHEREAS, American Airlines filed an application for antitrust immunity to the U.S. Department of Transportation, for the intent to enter into a Joint Business Agreement (JBA) with British Airways and Iberia Airlines; and,*

*WHEREAS, a Joint Business Agreement, along with existing oneworld partners Finnair and Royal Jordanian Airlines, provides an enhanced network of major airlines for the benefit of U.S. domestic and foreign-based passenger travel; and,*

*WHEREAS, Marquette County and Sawyer International Airport is a proud partner with American Airlines Regional Affiliate - American Eagle Airlines, with Regional Jet service to Green Bay and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Chicago's O'Hare International Airport; and,*

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*WHEREAS, a Joint Business Agreement allows additional travel destinations for airline passengers throughout the County of Marquette as well as the Greater Upper Peninsula, and allows Marquette County and Michigan's Upper Peninsula to serve as a preferred destination for foreign-based business and leisure passengers traveling on the oneworld network of airlines that includes nearly 9,000 combined daily departures to 663 destinations in 134 countries; and,*

*WHEREAS, a Joint Business Agreement would allow these five oneworld alliance airlines to network together to compete on an increasingly competitive and a more level playing field with other airline alliances such as those airlines associated with the SkyTeam and Star Alliance networks; and,*

*WHEREAS, this resolution of support continues to showcase a level of partnership and cooperation between American Airlines, American Eagle Airlines and the County of Marquette and the greater community of airports while operating in an increasingly difficult fiscal period.*

*Section I. Mr. Gerald O. Corkin, serving as Chairman of the Marquette County Board of Commissioners, is hereby authorized to execute this Resolution of Support to recommend that the Joint Business Agreement (JBA) be approved by the office of the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation.*

*Section II. That Ms. Connie M. Branam, serving as the Clerk of Marquette County, is hereby authorized to attest to the execution of said Resolution and is directed to make it known to the appropriate public officials.*

*Adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2008  
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners*

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Comm. Wallace explained that the County does provide maintenance of effort funding in the amount of \$500,000 each year to the Health Department. He explained that the Health Department has not changed their fees in over ten years.

Comm. Struck was pleased that three Township Supervisors were present and offered to help the County Board in taking the State to task.

Chairperson Corkin announced a Special Meeting of the County Board of Commissioners Committee of the Whole scheduled for Thursday, September 18, 2008, 3:30 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, to discuss Legislative Issues.

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Connie M. Branam  
Marquette County Clerk