

Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, September 15, 2009, 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. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Chairperson. Corkin. Absent and Excused: Comm. Arsenault. **(Chairperson Corkin noted that Comm. Arsenault is in Mt. Pleasant receiving an award from Michigan Works).*

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 voice vote that the minutes of the County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting held on September 1, 2009 be approved. **(Comm. Cihak was absent at the September 1, 2009 meeting. He questioned when answers would be available regarding Action Item 10h) Questions to Civil Counsel regarding the 8-24-09 Memorandum to Pepin).*

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following Late Additions: 11a) Permit for Water Meter Installation; and 11b) IGT Authorizing Resolution.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. None was forthcoming.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period August 27, 2009 through September 10, 2009 in the amount of \$1,717,010.39, and Bi-Weekly Payroll for the period ending September 5, 2009 in the amount of \$632,389.72, be approved.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

- a. Approval of Request for Renaissance Zone Time Extension – Frontier, Inc.
**(Comm. Joseph had questions regarding the Renaissance Zone Extension. Chairperson Corkin announced that Frontier, Inc. is good news for Marquette County).*
- b. Open House and Compartment Review – Gwinn Forest Management Unit.
- c. Michigan Public Service Commission Consumer Forum – Thursday, September 24, 2009.
**(Chairperson Corkin announced that the Forum will be held at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall – Commission Chambers Marquette, Michigan).*
- d. Marquette County Road Commission Informational Meeting on FY-2010 Budget and Projections for FY-2011 and 2012.
**(A brief discussion regarding the Road Commission Budget and Road Issues followed).*

ACTION ITEMS

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

10a) The County Board considered a Grant in Lieu of Building Fee Waiver. Pursuant to County Policy 229, Requests from Local Governments and Grants in Lieu of Building Fee Waiver Requests, the Gwinn-Sawyer Area Chamber of Commerce is requesting a grant in lieu of a building code fee for the installation of a bus shelter. The request complies with policy. The shelter will serve a social welfare need (public transportation). The grant will allow completion of the project (Americans with Disabilities signage and seating). The \$232 will be taken from general fund contingency. Comm. Struck provided an explanation of the project. A brief discussion followed.

It was moved by Comm. Struck, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County board approve the Grant in Lieu of Building Fee Waiver to the Gwinn-Sawyer Area Chamber of Commerce.

10b) The County Board considered UPCAP Homemaker Funding for FY 2010. On August 14, 2009 UPCAP's Executive Committee met and allocated \$60,759 to Marquette County for Homemaker Services. This is 4.5% less than the amount of funding received as the initial allocation for the current year. Funds will be provided to each senior center based on Marquette County's funding formula: Forsyth - \$8,813; Ishpeming - \$18,508; Marquette - \$25,020; and Negaunee - \$8,418. Approximately 150 seniors throughout Marquette County will receive a total of 3,920 units of Homemaker Services during FY 2010 (October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010) using a reimbursement rate of \$15.50 per unit.

It was moved by Comm. Heikkila, seconded by Comm. Wallace and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board authorize the Board Chair to sign agreements with UPCAP and Senior Centers to provide Homemaker Services to senior citizens in Marquette County for FY 2010.

10c) The County Board considered Submittal of USDOT Grant Application. In 2004, Airport Staff submitted a grant application to the USDOT for a Small Community Air Service Development Grant. This grant provided the funding to secure non-stop service from Marquette to Minneapolis – St. Paul. For FY 2009, Airport staff submitted an additional Small Community grant on Friday, August 28, 2009 to request the following: 1) Funding for the marketing and advertising of air service with our current airline partners; and 2) Funds to complete an Air Service Study to review current service points, yet the Air Service Study will have a primary focus to quantify potential passenger demand between the Western Two-Thirds of the Upper Peninsula, for the possibility of obtaining future service between Marquette and Lansing.

In previous Fiscal Years, approximately \$20,000,000 was budgeted for this program, and for FY 2010 no funding has been requested by the Administration for this program. For FY 2009, only \$8,000,000 has been programmed for allocation to no more than 40 airports nationwide, and to no more than 4 awards from any one State.

This project, if realized, would be funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation. Sawyer's application requests \$200,000 for advertising and marketing; and \$50,000 for the Air Service Study. To help provide support for the application, Marquette County submitted funding support at \$50,000. If Marquette County's application is approved, our local match of funding could be derived by the funds that would have been budgeted during the County's Fiscal Year for FY's 2010 and 2011.

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It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Struck, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the USDOT Grant Application.

10d) The County Board considered appointment to the Central Dispatch Policy Board. The Marquette County Firefighter's Association is recommending that John Koshorek replace Dan Everson as their representative on the Central Dispatch Policy Board. Dan is soon retiring. The term ends 12-31-2009, however Joe VanOosterhout, Central Dispatch Manager, recommends the Board make the appointment to replace Dan Everson for the remainder of the term.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board appoint John Koshorek to replace Dan Everson as the Firefighter's Association Representative on the Central Dispatch Policy Board for the unexpired term ending 12-31-2009.

ACTION ITEMS CONT'D.

10d) The County Board considered a request from Comm. Heikkila to discuss the Rules of Order of the Board of Commissioners. Comm. Heikkila wished to point out *Section VI-1. Debate Procedure*. It reads as follows: *In debate, members shall confine their remarks to the merits of the pending questions. Members shall address all remarks through the Chair and not to one another directly. Members shall always be referred to by their official titles.*

No action was forthcoming.

LATE ADDITIONS

11a) The County Board considered a Permit for Water Meter Installation. Comm. Pellow suggested the following motion: *that a blanket permit be issued to the plumber (K&K Industries) installing water meters in Richmond Township, that no fee be attached, that a letter be sent to the plumber stating he will not be liable for any fee, that a request be made to the DEQ and Bureau of Construction Codes to provide guidance on the possible duplication of regulatory and permitting requirements for municipal water systems including an Attorney General opinion if necessary, that this request be drafted by both County personnel and Richmond Township's attorney and that by obtaining this permit Richmond Township does not concede to the possible requirement of this permit but to the contrary Richmond Township believes they are exempt under the Residential Codes Section 105.2.3 Furthermore that the Board follow the Administrator's recommendations #4 & 5 from his memo dated 9-14-09.*

Comm. Wallace suggested the motion be divided into two separate motions.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that: a blanket permit be used to the plumber (K&K Industries) installing water meters in Richmond Township, that no fee be attached, and that a letter be sent to the plumber stating he will not be liable for any fee.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that: a request be made to the DEQ and the Bureau of Construction Codes to provide guidance on the possible duplication of regulatory and permitting requirements for municipal water systems, including an attorney general opinion if necessary, that this request be drafted by both County personnel and Richmond Township's attorney, and that by obtaining this permit Richmond Township does not concede to the possible requirement of this permit, but to the contrary Richmond Township believes they are exempt under the Residential Codes Section 105.2.3; furthermore that the Board follow the Administrator's Recommendations #4 & #5 from his memo dated 9-14-09. #4 and #5 from the Administrator's 9-14-09 memo is as follows:

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4. Marquette County Building Codes will develop a fee schedule specific to municipal water projects to be applied if the state agencies determine the Michigan Construction Code applies. The fee schedule will include inspection efficiencies gained from cooperation with the municipality, engineer, and contractor and from the regulatory approval, oversight and review provided by the DEQ and the United States Department of Agriculture’s Rural Development Agency. The fee schedule will be provided to local governments for purposes of project specifications, funding, and budgeting.
5. Board of Commissioners reconsiders Richmond Township fee after guidance is received from the state of Michigan and municipal water project fee schedule is recommended by staff.

Comm. Pellow thanked Steve Powers, County Administrator, for his efforts regarding this issue.

11b) The County Board considered an IGT Authorizing Resolution for the Medical Care Access Coalition. Comm. Wallace explained the resolution in relation to the Health Department.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following IGT Authorizing Resolution be adopted:

IGT AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Marquette County is committed to supporting programs that provide access to appropriate health care services for low-income residents of all fifteen Upper Peninsula Counties;

WHEREAS, the Federal government has approved Michigan’s Medicaid State Plan Amendment TN No. 05-13, effective June 1, 2006, which creates an “Indigent Care Agreements Pool” for hospitals qualifying for Medicaid Disproportionate Share (“DSH”) payments to receive DSH payments under the Indigent Care Agreements Pool so long as: (a) the hospital has an Indigent Care Agreement with a local health care entity, such as Medical Care Access Coalition; and (b) the Indigent Care Agreement stipulates that direct or indirect health care services be provided to low-income patients with special needs who are not covered under other public or private health care programs;

WHEREAS, Medical Care Access Coalition purposes include promoting, organizing, managing and administering programs to create a system for providing or arranging and paying for health care services in a cost effective manner for persons unable to pay for such health care services;

WHEREAS, Medical Care Access Coalition has entered into an Indigent Care Agreement with Portage Health, Grandview Hospital, Bell Hospital, Marquette General Health System, and Chippewa War Memorial Hospital, requiring Medical Care Access Coalition to directly or indirectly operate a program of arranging and paying for health care to low-income individuals with special needs who are not covered under other public or private health care programs and who are unable to pay for such services;

WHEREAS, both the Federal government and the State of Michigan participate in the financing of the Indigent Care Agreements Pool, with the Federal government matching the State’s portion pursuant to the Federal medical assistance percentage formula;

WHEREAS, certain intergovernmental transfers of public funds from Marquette County may be made to the State of Michigan to be used as the State’s share in claiming the Federal match.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes intergovernmental transfers in an amount of \$339,408.80 annually to the State of Michigan for the purpose of participating in the financing of the non-federal share of DSH payments made under the Indigent Care Agreements Pool to Portage Health, Grandview Hospital, Bell Hospital, Marquette General Health System, and Chippewa War Memorial Hospital, so long as Medical Care Access Coalition maintains a current Indigent Care Agreement with Keweenaw Memorial Medical Center, Portage Health, Grandview Hospital, Bell Hospital, Marquette General Health System, and Chippewa War Memorial Hospital.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be effective commencing on October 1, 2009, and ending September 30, 2010.

Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Bill Luetzow, Richmond Township Supervisor, thanked Comm. Pellow and Steve Powers for their efforts with this project. Mr. Luetzow explained that the final water test has been done and the project is moving forward. There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve Powers, County Administrator, introduced Darren Widder, Graduate Student, NMU Public Administration Program. He will be spending time with Mr. Powers this semester learning how to become a local government manager. Comm. Heikkila announced that Darren Widder has a very good teacher! Chairperson Corkin welcomed Mr. Widder to Marquette County.

Chairperson Corkin announced that there will be a EDC Meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at NMU. Chairperson Corkin, Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Bergdahl, and Comm. Joseph will be attending.

Chairperson Corkin also announced that the Road Commission is proceeding with legal work on the issue concerning public access to the Salmon Trout River.

Comm. Cihak commended the Administrator and Staff for the Updates provided to Commissioners. Comm. Cihak highlighted two issues included in the update: 1) Sawyer International Airport announcement regarding the automated parking payment system; and 2) announcement of a national law enforcement group offering to donate a plane to the Upper Peninsula Sheriffs. Sheriff Lovelace is meeting with colleagues to discuss the matter.

Scott Erbisch, Sawyer Operations Manager, updated Commissioners regarding the automated parking payment system. On October 1, 2009 the automated parking payment system will be put into effect. The system will be a nice convenience for the community.

Comm. Pellow announced that she attended the Marquette Wastewater Open House. She stated that the citizens in Marquette County are now blessed with a very top notch facility. The facility provides an environmentally sound wastewater system. The system provides for Chocolay Township, Marquette Township and Marquette City.

Comm. Wallace reported on the Pre-Pandemic Flu Preparation. An informational packet was distributed outlining the federal funding available. He also discussed the vaccines, vaccination sites, and vaccine distribution.

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk