

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 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. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Chairperson Corkin. Absent and Excused: Comm. Pellow.

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting held on March 2, 2010 be approved.

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

Chairperson Corkin read the following resolution Honoring Gary L. Dalton on his Retirement:

*RESOLUTION
HONORING SERVICE OF GARY L. DALTON
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, Gary L. Dalton was hired on June 19, 1978 as a Child Care Worker at the Marquette County Youth Home. He was later promoted to Senior Child Care Worker and finally to the position of Juvenile Probation Officer in the Juvenile Services Office of Probate Court on January 28, 1985. He retired from the County on February 17, 2006 and was rehired as a Juvenile Probation Officer on March 27, 2006. He was appointed as County Juvenile Officer and has served in that capacity since January 1, 1998. Only one probation officer in each county is designated as the County Juvenile Officer; and

WHEREAS, as a Child Care Worker and Senior Child Care Worker, Gary was responsible for the custodial care and supervision of youth at the Marquette County Youth Home, helping to ensure their safety and well being at all times. He served as an empathetic listener on topics such as family problems, court hearings, homework and general interpersonal relationships; and

WHEREAS, Gary has served as a Juvenile Probation Officer in Marquette County for over 25 years, supervising and counseling juvenile probationers, clients and their parents to try to modify or eliminate behavioral problems. He has assisted the court in determining the most appropriate disposition of juvenile cases with regards to the juvenile's needs and safety to the community. He also provided committed and effective leadership by example for the rest of the Juvenile Court staff, and

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WHEREAS, Marquette County recognizes and thanks Gary for being a positive role model and for his many years of experience and commitment in dealing with delinquent or emotionally troubled youths and their families in Marquette County.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners gratefully expresses its appreciation to Gary Dalton for over 31 years of excellent service to Marquette County; and

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

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, 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 Marquette County's role in suicide prevention for children.

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period March 5, 2010 through March 11, 2010 in the amount of \$188,727.50, and Bi-Weekly Payroll for the period ending March 6, 2010 in the amount of \$670,848.11, be approved.

PRIVILEGED COMMENT

8a) Chairperson Corkin read the following accomplishments of Det./Lt. Stephen B. Kangas. Det./Lt. Kangas is recognized as Marquette County Law Enforcement Officer of the Year:

Det./Lt. Kangas has conducted many investigations as a detective with the Sheriff's Office. His most notable investigation in 2008 is the arrest and investigation of an individual for a series of breaking and entry cases at the Huron Mountain Club. Lt. Kangas' initiative with this investigation has resulted in the suspect being charged with several felony charges.

In 2009 Lt. Kangas solved a series of breaking and entry cases in which a person was entering residences with the intent of stealing prescription medications from the owners His persistence in this case solved countless breaking and entry cases throughout Marquette County and resulted in a confession and conviction of the perpetrator.

On May 20, 2009, Lt. Kangas who resides in the 581 area detected the Black River Falls Fire. Due to his quick actions Lt. Kangas began to coordinate evacuation procedures of residents in that area. Due to his actions there were no injuries or loss of life and residents were evacuated in a timely manner.

In July of 2009, a Russian IL-78 cargo jet landed at Sawyer International Airport. Lt. Kangas worked numerous hours in leading an investigation involving local, federal, and state agencies. The crew aboard the Russian IL-78 cargo jet consisted of nine crewmembers in which five were administratively arrested as overstays thru U.S. Customs.

Lt. Kangas' leadership and ability to "think outside the box", and willingness to take charge has made him an outstanding and respected law enforcement officer within Marquette County.

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Sheriff Lovelace stated that he is very thankful for the quality of employee Det./Lt. Kangas is. Det./Lt. Kangas began his employment with the Sheriff's Dept. in the Marine Division and worked his way up to the position of Detective Lieutenant. Det./Lt. Kangas has worked for the Marquette County Sheriff's Department for thirteen years. He is a fine role model for the other deputies within the Sheriff's Dept.

Det./Lt. Kangas thanked the County Board of Commissioners for this honor.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

- 9a) Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth Bureau of Construction Codes, Notice of Public Hearing.
- 9b) A Thank you from the DNR regarding Kennecott's Woodland Road Project.

ACTION ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Items 10a), 10b), 10c), 10)e, 10)f, and 10)g be approved as follows:

10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the New Fixed Food Service Fees as proposed by Fred Benzie, Health Officer.

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Support the Michigan Natural Resources Grant Application for Little Trout Lake Park Phase I and designate the Board Chair to sign the following Resolution committing up to \$59,500 or 25% of the matching funds for the project. Funding will come from the Forestry Funding:

***LITTLE TROUT LAKE PARK PHASE I
RESOLUTION***

WHEREAS, the County of Marquette has adopted an amendment to the 2008-2013 Recreation Plan which recognizes various county recreation needs and specifically prioritizes improvements at Little Trout Lake Park.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is currently offering financial assistance for such projects through its recreation grant program to help defray costs of the Little Trout Lake Park Phase I.

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Planning Commission opened its regular meeting of March 3, 2010, to accept public comment regarding Little Trout Lake Park Phase I. All members of the public that were present spoke in favor of the grant application for improvements to Little Trout Lake Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners hereby applies for assistance from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Grants Program and intends to undertake the Little Trout Lake Park Phase I and provide local matching funds of 25% or \$59,500 if a grant is offered.

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10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to authorize the Amendment to Marquette County’s Agreement with the Lake Superior Community Partnership (LSCP) to provide up to \$20,000 for the Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority (IOHRA). Funding will come from the Forestry Fund.

10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to amend the Airport Advisory Committee Bylaws to add a second County Board member, modify the existing MDOT member designation from “One representative of the MDOT” to “One representative of Highway Transportation”, and further that Comm. Jim Cihak be appointed as the second County Board member.

10f) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to support the application of the Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center (UGLFHC) to receive Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alike designation.

10g) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to adopt the following resolution in support of Ontonagon County in their effort to encourage Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation to fully disclose necessary financial information to interested parties, and that the Mill be sold as quickly as possible so as to enable the County of Ontonagon to maintain its economic viability and the services it provides to its citizens:

**RESOLUTION OF
SUPPORT FOR ONTONAGON COUNTY
RE: SMURFIT-STONE**

WHEREAS, Ontonagon County is undergoing an economic crisis due to the closure of the Smurfit-Stone Paper Mill in Ontonagon Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation has filed for relief under the Chapter Eleven of the United States Bankruptcy Code; and

WHEREAS, the County of Ontonagon desires to have the Mill sold and utilized as quickly as possible; and

WHEREAS, Smurfit-Stone has not been forthcoming with necessary financial information which would allow a potential purchaser to formulate a purchase offer.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners fully supports the County of Ontonagon, together with its citizens, in their effort to encourage Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation to fully disclose necessary financial information to interested parties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mill be sold as quickly as possible so as to enable the County of Ontonagon to maintain its economic viability and the services it provides to its citizens.

ACTION ITEMS CON’T.

10d) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole recommendation to direct Staff to proceed with hiring an engineer to prepare a formalized cost estimate and bid specifications for a single or double restroom in the secure area of the terminal. Comm. Wallace questioned the range of bid specifications and whether using another engineering firm, other than Mead and Hunt, would disqualify the County from receiving Passenger Facility Funds for the Terminal Bathroom Project.

Scott Erbisch, Sawyer Operations Manager, stated that if another engineering firm is utilized the engineering costs would not be reimbursable. Engineering will include design, bid preparation, some site inspection, and as-constructed drawing. Mr. Erbisch recommends that rather than forgo any potential reimbursement of funds, the County contract with Mead and Hunt for the engineering services.

It was moved by Comm. Struck, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board direct staff to proceed with hiring an engineer to prepare a formalized cost estimate and bid specifications for a single or double restroom in the secure area of the terminal.

10h) It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Struck, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board reappoint Don Curto of Marquette, and Rudy Kempainen of Ishpeming, to the Pathways (Community Mental Health) Board, for three year terms expiring March 31, 2013.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Jim Gallant, Skandia, spoke regarding Marquette County's role in prevention of suicide in teenagers.

Comm. Wallace responded to Jim Gallant. He stated that even though funding is scarce there are organizations within our community to help children. He gave an example of the work of Judy Wattson Olson, Great Lakes Youth Cooperative (building personal assets among kids). He also stated that Jim Gallant's organization (project parenting time) is an organization of one (himself).

Comm. Struck also responded to Jim Gallant. He stated there are many groups and organizations available to address various issues of children, such as Great Start Collaborative. The problem being that there is never enough funding available. Comm. Struck stated that if Jim Gallant is so committed to helping children, he should start by trying to find out where he can be most productive.

Comm. Cihak stated the allegations made by Jim Gallant are very serious. Jim Gallant has never presented documentation to support his allegations. He also stated that applying for a position on a board or commission from the podium is not proper procedure. An application must be filed prior to the deadline.

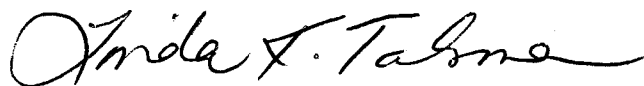
There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Corkin announced that Kennecott is planning to move forward unless an injunction is filed. He also announced that the Annual CCI Breakfast Meeting will be held on March 17, 2010 at 7:30 a.m.

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Linda K. Talsma
Deputy County Clerk