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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2011 – 6:00 P.M. – ROOM 231, HENRY A. SKEWIS ANNEX, MARQUETTE, MI 49855**

**1. CALL TO ORDER – SALUTE TO THE FLAG – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

- Call to Order by Chair at 6:00 p.m. – Room 231 Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette.
- Roll Call: Present: Commissioner Arsenault, Commissioner Cihak, Commissioner Corkin, Commissioner Joseph, Commissioner Nordeen, Commissioner Pellow, Commissioner Quayle and Chairperson Bergdahl. Absent: Commissioner Heikkila.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 1, 2011 AND THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON MARCH 4, 2011.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Corkin moved to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2011 Meeting of the County Board of Commissioners and the County Board of Commissioners Special Meeting held on March 4, 2011. Second by Commissioner Nordeen. Motion adopted.

**3. PROCLAMATION, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.**

Vice Chairperson Cihak read the following Resolution Honoring Service of Clinton S. Collick on his Retirement:

*RESOLUTION  
HONORING SERVICE OF CLINTON S. COLLICK  
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, Clinton S. Collick began his career with the Marquette County Sheriff's Office as a part-time Deputy Sheriff on September 23, 1991. On August 1, 1993, he was hired full-time as a Deputy Corrections Officer. In this assignment, he has been responsible for the safety and security of inmates, staff and the general public while ensuring operational compliance of the jail in accordance with the Michigan Department of Corrections; and*

*WHEREAS, Deputy Collick has been an asset to the Marquette County Sheriff's Office and has been recognized numerous times during his career for his dedication and excellent work ethic. Clint's effectiveness in dealing with inmates and his ability to work with and relate well with others has been a great benefit to the corrections staff and administration and has been an integral part of the success of the Marquette County Community Corrections Detention Center. Clint's dependability and initiative set an example for others to follow; and*

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*WHEREAS, Despite the challenges of working in the field of corrections, Clint always maintained a mature perspective and good sense of humor which we will all miss; and*

*WHEREAS, that the Marquette County Sheriff's Department thanks Clint for being a superior employee.*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board of Commissioners gratefully expresses its appreciation to Clinton S. Collick for over 17 years of dedicated service to Marquette County; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board, on behalf of all County Citizens, wishes Clint and his wife Susan a long, healthy, and happy retirement.*

*Proclaimed this 15th day of March, 2011  
Charles Bergdahl, Chairperson*

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Arsenault moved to approve the Agenda with the following change: Move Item 14) Public Comment and Item 15) Commissioners Comments, Staff Comments and Announcements prior to Item 12) Closed Sessions. Second by Commissioner Pellow. Motion adopted.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Chairperson Bergdahl opened the meeting for public comment.

- Lisa Johnson, Community Hand UP, requested to speak to Item 10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation regarding the Sawyer Fitness/Community Center.
- Eeva Miller spoke in support of the Sawyer Fitness/Community Center.
- Michael McNeal spoke in support of the Sawyer Fitness/Community Center.

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

**6. REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Arsenault moved to approve Claims and Accounts for the period March 4, 2011 through March 10 2011, in the amount of \$208,914.82; and BiWeekly Payroll for the period ending March 5, 2011 in the amount of \$701,424.47. Second by Commissioner Joseph. Motion adopted.

**7. PUBLIC HEARINGS. None.**

**8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT. None.**

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS. None.

10. ACTION ITEMS.

- a. **Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Support the Proposed Negaunee Township Land Acquisition Grant Application.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Corkin moved to approve the Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Support the Proposed Negaunee Township Land Acquisition Grant Application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Second by Commissioner Arsenault. Motion adopted.

- b. **Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Support the MNRTF Grant Application for Little Trout Lake Park Phase I & Adopt the Resolution.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Pellow moved to Support the MNRTF Grant Application for Little Trout Lake Park Phase I and designate the Board Chair to sign the following Resolution committing up to \$78,687 or 25% of the matching funds for the project. Second by Commissioner Nordeen. Motion adopted.

*LITTLE TROUT LAKE PARK  
RESOLUTION*

*WHEREAS, the County of Marquette has adopted an amendment to the 2008-2013 Marquette County 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 proposed development at Little Trout Lake Park;*

*WHEREAS, the Marquette County Planning Commission opened its regular meeting of March 2, 2011, to accept public comment regarding the proposed development grant application for Little Trout Lake Park;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED 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 development project being proposed and provide local matching funds of 25% or \$78,687 if a grant is offered.*

*Charles Bergdahl, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners*

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**c. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Request from Republic Township regarding TIFA District.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Pellow moved to approve the Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the request from Republic Township to allow them to use the captured increases on the annexation of parcels to the currently existing TIFA District. Second by Commissioner Arenault. Motion adopted.

*Note: Chairperson Bergdahl read a memo from Jacki Lykins, Deputy Equalization Director, explaining the resulting increase in revenue loss for Republic Township in 2011 for the various County millages: County Operating - \$1,842.60; County Transit - \$208.74; Aging - \$152.31; M.O.E. - \$191.43; Rescue - \$51.90. The total increase for 2011 in taxable value for the properties in question is \$348,067.*

**d. Committee of the Whole Recommendation regarding Sawyer Fitness/Community Center.**

The Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to direct Staff to meet with Forsyth Township, West Branch Township and Community Hand UP and report to the County Board the involvement the two Townships and Community Hand UP will have in the Sawyer Fitness/Community Center, and the involvement the two Townships and Community Hand UP are requesting of Marquette County.

Scott Erbisch, Sawyer Operations Manager, presented the following information as a result of the Committee of the Whole direction:

*At the March 8, 2011, Committee of the Whole meeting, staff was directed to meet with representatives of Forsyth Township, West Branch Township, and Community Hand Up. The purpose of the meetings was to verify, as best we could, the level of commitment from each township should the Fitness Center become operational, to verify the minimum asking price for the facility, and verify what role, if any, they feel the County should have in this process.*

*The following is a summary of my conversations.*

**WEST BRANCH TOWNSHIP**

*Jack Heidtman, Supervisor of West Branch Township*

- *The auction is still planned for late April or May of 2011. A firm date has not been established.*
- *The minimum asking price for the facility is \$85,000. West Branch Township will not accept offers for the building below \$85,000. They will require some form of security or bond should the building purchaser plan to salvage materials in the building. Contents, as explained in the bullet below, are not included in the purchase price for the building.*
- *The minimum asking price for the building contents such as exercise and office equipment is \$25,000.*

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- *Should the County determine that they would like to purchase the facility, West Branch Township would prefer that in exchange for the building, they be relieved of the IRP loan. However, they will review any formal offer for purchase of the building.*
- *West Branch still has recreational facilities at Sawyer. That being the sledding/ski hill. They plan to look into operating this facility once needed repairs are made to the warming shack.*
- *If West Branch Township was to delay the auction, they would need some form of financial reassurance from the County for such a delay. Specifics on what would be expected are yet to be determined.*
- *Upon review and approval of the Township Board, West Branch Township may consider leasing the facility to the County for at least a year. The monthly lease rate would be equal to the amount of the monthly IRP Loan Payment (\$1,510 monthly or \$18,120 annually). The lease rates could be applied to the purchase price should the County choose to purchase the property in the future.*

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**FORSYTH TOWNSHIP**

*Joe Minelli and Lynn Rodgers represented Forsyth Township.*

- *Forsyth Township states they support what Community Hand Up is trying to accomplish and will continue to monitor its ability to financially participate with the Fitness Center should it re-open.*
- *Forsyth Township does have several concerns that currently prohibit them from committing any recreational, library, or other funds to the Fitness Center.*
  - *Forsyth Township has, through its accountant, requested an opinion from the State of Michigan on whether or not it is allowable to donate funds to the Fitness Center or whether they would be permitted to contract recreational services. At the time of our meeting, Forsyth Township had not yet received a response.*
  - *Forsyth is also concerned about the potential cuts in revenue sharing and its overall impact to operations.*
  - *Forsyth Township also owns another recreational facility at Sawyer in the residential area. It is currently used by the Salvation Army. A lease for this facility is being drafted by their attorney. The Salvation Army has only paid \$1.00 per year to use the facility. Should there be roof or boiler expenses, Forsyth Township would be responsible for those repair costs. Also, should the Salvation Army cease operation at Sawyer, they will have a facility in which the township will have to determine whether or not it should operate the facility.*
- *Forsyth Township and Community Hand Up would prefer the County purchase the Fitness Center versus leasing. They feel the County's ownership is vital for the long-term viability of the building.*
- *Forsyth Township and Community Hand Up feel that strong consideration should be given to the development of a recreation authority specific to the Fitness Center. The development of an authority would not mean there is a financial commitment or that a millage will be sought. However, it does provide options that may not be available without the authority.*

**COMMUNITY HAND UP**

*Lisa Johnson, Community Hand Up*

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- *Forsyth Township and Community Hand Up would prefer the County purchase the Fitness Center versus leasing. They feel the County's ownership is vital for the long-term viability of the building.*
- *Forsyth Township and Community Hand Up feel that strong consideration should be given to the development of a recreation authority specific to the Fitness Center. The development of an authority would not mean there is a financial commitment or that a millage will be sought. However, it does provide options that may not be available without the authority.*
- *Community Hand Up advised that they will not be in a position to make lease payments until year five.*

Lisa Johnson, Community Hand Up, was present and spoke in response to the information provided. Commissioners suggested Ms. Johnson meet with Northern Initiatives for possible suggestions to make their proposal stronger.

**Board Action:** After discussion and debate, Commissioner Quayle moved that the County Board meet with the West Branch Township Board to explore all options after Ms. Johnson meets with Northern Initiatives. Second by Commissioner Nordeen. Motion adopted.

**Board Action:** Commissioner Quayle moved to accept the communication from Scott Erbsch, Sawyer Operations Manager, for file. Second by Commissioner Nordeen. Motion adopted.

e. **Committee of the Whole Recommendation regarding Labor Market Survey.**

**Board Action:** After discussion, Commissioner Nordeen moved to approve the Committee of the Whole Recommendation that Commissioners direct their labor market questions and concerns to Steve Powers, County Administrator, to help determine the Board's policy objectives. Second by Commissioner Pellow. Motion adopted.

f. **County Board Meeting DVD's.**

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained the following:

*There has been discussion about providing the six local libraries with DVD's of the county board meetings. Staff time required to burn the DVD's would be approximately one hour. The method of delivering the DVD's to the libraries has not been determined.*

*The County does not currently have the capability to provide a streaming video of board meetings on our website. The cost of the hardware required to provide a streaming video is \$3,000, with an ongoing annual fee of \$3,000 for a streaming video web hosting site.*

*According to the County Clerk, they've not received any requests from the libraries for access to copies of the county board meetings, and the requests from the public are infrequent.*

**Board Action:** After discussion, Commissioner Quayle moved that six copies of county board meeting DVD's, beginning January 1, 2011, be sent to the local libraries. Second by Commissioner Nordeen. Motion adopted.

**g. Appointment to Pathways (Community Mental Health) and Appointment to the Marquette County Jury Board.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Corkin moved to appoint Patricia Mayer and Linda Sherbinow to the Pathways (Community Mental Health) Board for three-year terms ending 3/31/2014. Second by Commissioner Cihak. Motion adopted.

**Board Action:** Commissioner Arsenault moved to appoint Carolyn McDonald to the Marquette County Jury Board for a six year term ending 4/30/2017. Second by Commissioner Pellow. Motion adopted.

**h. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to ratify the 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Central Dispatch as proposed.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Pellow moved to ratify the 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Central Dispatch as proposed. Second by Commissioner Arsenault. Motion adopted.

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT. None.**

**15. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

- Commissioner Quayle provided an explanation regarding the posting of the Sheriff's Department/Treasurer's Office positions. He also spoke regarding the recent retire/rehire position at the Sheriff's Department.

**Board Action:** Commissioner Quayle moved to direct Civil Counsel to research what would the County Board of Commissioners have to do to terminate the co-employer relationship with elected officials who do not follow county policy. Second by Commissioner Cihak. A roll call vote was recorded. Ayes: Commissioner Cihak, Commissioner Quayle, Commissioner Pellow, Commissioner Nordeen, Chairperson Bergdahl. Nays: Commissioner Corkin, Commissioner Joseph, Commissioner Arsenault. Motion adopted 5 Ayes to 3 Nays.

- Commissioner Corkin spoke regarding a letter received from Anne Wagner, MERS Chief Executive Officer, regarding compliance.
- Commissioner Nordeen responded to comments by Commissioner Corkin.

**12. CLOSED SESSION.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Corkin moved to go into Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) for Strategy and Negotiation Sessions Connected with the following Collective Bargaining Agreements:

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- Consideration of 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Airport Employees.
- Consideration of 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Sheriff's Department Deputies.
- Consideration of 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement- Courthouse Employees.
- Consideration of 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Senior Officers.
- Consideration of 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Health Dept. AFSCME.
- Consideration of 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Health Dept. Nurses.

Second by Commissioner Arsenault. A roll call vote was recorded: 8 Ayes (Commissioner Cihak, Commissioner Quayle, Commissioner Corkin, Commissioner Joseph, Commissioner Arsenault, Commissioner Pellow, Commissioner Nordeen and Chairperson Bergdahl) to 0 Nays.  
Motion adopted.

Chairperson Bergdahl declared a two minute recess to clear Commission Chambers.

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**CLOSED SESSION**

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The County Board came back into Open Session.

**Board Action:** Commissioner Corkin moved to ratify the 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Courthouse Employees and the 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Senior Officers.  
Second by Commissioner Pellow. Motion adopted.

**13. CLOSED SESSION.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Corkin moved to go into Closed Session Upon the Request of Steven Powers to Consider a Periodic Personnel Evaluation Pursuant to MCL 15.268(a).  
Second by Commissioner Nordeen. A roll call vote was recorded: 8 Ayes (Commissioner Cihak, Commissioner Quayle, Commissioner Corkin, Commissioner Joseph, Commissioner Arsenault, Commissioner Pellow, Commissioner Nordeen and Chairperson Bergdahl) to 0 Nays.  
Motion adopted.

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**CLOSED SESSION**

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The County Board came back into Open Session. No action was taken as a result of the Closed Session.

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**16. ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.



Connie M. Branam  
Marquette County Clerk

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Charles Bergdahl, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

Minutes Proposed for Approval on April 5, 2011.