

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – TUESDAY, MAY 17, 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 Cihak, Commissioner Quayle, Commissioner Heikkila, Commissioner Corkin, Commissioner Joseph, Commissioner Arsenault, Commissioner Pellow, Commissioner Nordeen and Chairperson Bergdahl. Absent: None.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON May 3, 2011.

Board Action: Commissioner Corkin moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the County Board of Commissioners held on May 3, 2011. Second by Commissioner Nordeen. Motion adopted.

3. PROCLAMATION, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.

Vice-Chairperson Cihak read the following Resolution Honoring Thomas A. Heslip on his Retirement.

*MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION
HONORING SERVICE OF THOMAS A. HESLIP
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, Tom Heslip was hired as Bailiff for Marquette County’s 25th Judicial Circuit Court on August 2, 1999, and has served as the Circuit Judges’ first line of defense with daily responsibilities of courthouse security, weapons screening, and alarm protocols; and

WHEREAS, as Bailiff in the Circuit Court, Tom has had the complex task of overall courtroom management, providing security for officers of the court, jury, employees, participants and spectators. His communication skills have been essential during adversarial confrontations, both in and outside of the courtroom. Tom has also been a key team member of the court staff in managing our law library’s transition from books to on-line resources and improving courtroom technology, resulting in improved service to the public and reduced court operating costs; and

Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval

WHEREAS, Marquette County thanks Tom for his dedication to protecting the rights and well-being of others in the day-to-day operations of the Circuit Court.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board of Commissioners gratefully expresses its appreciation to Thomas A. Heslip for over 11 years of dedicated service to Marquette County; and

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

*Charles Bergdahl, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners*

Thomas L. Solka, Chief Circuit Court Judge, accepted the Resolution on behalf of Mr. Heslip. Judge Solka commended and thanked Mr. Heslip on behalf of all Marquette County Court Staff.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Board Action: Commissioner Arsenault moved to approve the Agenda with the following Late Additions: Item 11a) Discussion regarding the MERS Letter; and Item 11b) Retiree Health Care. Second by Commissioner Cihak. Motion adopted.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chairperson Bergdahl opened the meeting for public comment.

- Therese Scram, Marquette, spoke regarding apportionment.
- Judge Girard, spoke regarding 10c) Discussion re: Ishpeming Service Center.
- Carol Pelkola, Marquette, spoke regarding apportionment.
- Bill Luetzow, Richmond Township Supervisor, and representative for the Township Association; Roger Zappa, Attorney representing Marquette Township; Jean Howe, Michigamme Township Clerk; Mike VanStraten, Negaunee; and Jane Nordeen, Forsyth Township Treasurer; all spoke in support of an appeal of the apportionment plan.
- Gary Walker, Prosecutor, requested to speak to Item 10b) Discussion re: Civil Counsel.

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

6. REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS.

Board Action: Commissioner Pellow moved to approve Claims and Accounts for the period May 6, 2011 through May 12, 2011, in the amount of \$346,496.91; and Electronic Payment for the Period Totaling \$18,980.59. Second by Commissioner Corkin. Motion adopted.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS. None.

8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT. None.

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS. None.

Note: Due to the interest of those present, it was the consensus of the Board to consider Action Item 10d) first. The discussion re: Legal Advice concerning Redistricting.

10. ACTION ITEMS.

d. Discussion re: Legal Advice concerning Redistricting.

Commissioner Nordeen explained that Kendricks, Bordeau, Adamini, Chilman & Greenlee, P.C., have been contacted regarding the viability of an appeal, but has not received a response. Discussion followed. Gary Walker, Prosecutor, participated in the discussion.

Board Action: After discussion and debate, Commissioner Pellow moved to request the Apportionment Commission to reconsider the adopted apportionment plan, if statute allows; and to proceed with the appeal process or dec action. Second by Quayle. Motion adopted.

a. Discussion re: the "W".

Commissioner Quayle read a statement regarding the "W", including two options for County Board consideration. (A complete copy of Commissioner Quayle's statement is available in the office of the County Clerk).

Board Action: After discussion and debate, Commissioner Nordeen moved that the County Board contract with Community HandUP in the amount of \$75,000.00 to provide a program to stem delinquency in Southern Marquette County; if Community HandUP is unable to acquire the Building, the contract is null and void. Second by Commissioner Quayle. A roll call vote was recorded. Ayes: Commissioner Cihak, Commissioner Quayle, Commissioner Arsenault, Commissioner Pellow and Commissioner Nordeen. Nays: Commissioner Heikkila, Commissioner Corkin, Commissioner Joseph and Commissioner Bergdahl. Motion adopted 5 Ayes to 4 Nays.

Chairperson Bergdahl declared a five minute recess.

Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval

b. Discussion re: Civil Counsel.

Commissioners engaged in discussion regarding the hiring of outside counsel to represent the County Board as Civil Counsel. Gary Walker, Prosecutor, participated in the discussion.

Board Action: After discussion, Commissioner Cihak moved to direct staff to research whether comparable counties use outside counsel or the prosecutor's office to represent their county boards; that staff check with MAC regarding the statutory obligation of the prosecutor's office; and further that the information be available at the next budget session. Second by Commissioner Pellow. Motion adopted.

c. Discussion re: Ishpeming Service Center.

Commissioner Nordeen requested discussion regarding the elimination of the Ishpeming Service Center. MCL Chapter 600 Revised Judicature Act of 1961; Revised Judicature Act of 1961; & Chapter 81 District Court: Establishment; Districts, was distributed. Discussion followed.

Board Action: After discussion, Commissioner Pellow moved to direct Staff to look at the Ishpeming Service Center and the Youth Home to make sure it makes financial sense; and that the information be available for another budget session to be held at the first Committee of the Whole meeting in July. Second by Commissioner Quayle. Motion adopted.

Note: Due to the length of this meeting, Commissioner consensus was to move Late Addition 11a) Discussion regarding a letter from Attorney Hart, and Late Addition 11b) Retiree Health Care, to the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for May 24, 2011.

11. LATE ADDITIONS. None.**12. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

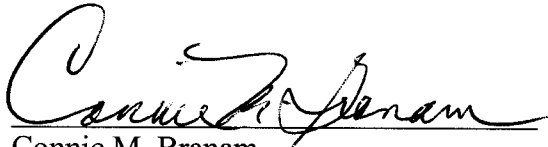
Chairperson Bergdahl opened the meeting for public comment. None was forthcoming.

13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- **Board Action:** Commissioner Nordeen moved to direct Staff to obtain the 2010 budgets from all fourteen U.P. Counties, along with the salaries of all elected officials. Second by Commissioner Pellow. Motion adopted.
- Commissioner Quayle requested a closed session at the May 24th Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss a grievance.
- Commissioner Heikkila spoke regarding Aging Advisory Services. He requested a letter be sent to the State Office of Services to the Aging regarding Marquette County dollars.

16. ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.



Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk

Charles Bergdahl, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

Minutes Proposed for Approval on June 7, 2011.