

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2011 – 10:00 A.M. – ROOM 41, HENRY A. SKEWIS ANNEX, MARQUETTE, MI 49855**

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

- Call to Order by Chair at 10:00 a.m. – Room 41 Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette.
- Roll Call: Present: Commissioner Cihak, Commissioner Corkin, Commissioner Heikkila, Commissioner Joseph, Commissioner Nordeen, Commissioner Pellow, Commissioner Quayle and Chairperson Bergdahl.  
Absent: Commissioner Arsenault.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES. None.**

**3. PROCLAMATION, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS. None.**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Cihak moved to approve the Agenda with the following addition: Item 10a) Letter of Support regarding Michigan Works. Second by Commissioner Joseph. Motion adopted.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

**6. REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS. None.**

**7. PUBLIC HEARINGS. None.**

**8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT. None.**

**9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS. None.**

**10. ACTION ITEMS.**

- a. **Letter of Support regarding Michigan Works.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Corkin moved to send the following Letter of Support regarding Michigan Works to all State and Federal Representatives, and State Legislators. Second by Commissioner Joseph. Motion adopted.

Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval

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*Dear Senators Levin and Stabenow and Congressman Benishek:*

*Congress recently passed a continuing resolution in lieu of a federal budget for the period of*

*October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2011. The continuing resolution established a reduction of \$4 billion to the federal budget. As Congress continues to work on a resolution for the federal budget, many important items are being reviewed. We oppose severely reduced funding or the elimination of funding for the Workforce Investment Act at such a critical time when workers and businesses struggle to recover from one of the worst economic downturns in American history.*

*In Michigan, WIA is the core around which our entire one-stop system, the Michigan Works! Service Centers, are built. Without WIA dollars in the Central Upper Peninsula alone, Michigan Works! would not have placed over 3,000 people in jobs with an average wage of \$12.79 per hour and seen over 119,000 visits from local people to our Michigan Works! One Stop Centers over the last 18 months. This equates to a return on investment to our community of \$98,046,936. In fact, rescission or cuts to WIA would close the more than 100 service centers that provide vital services to more than three million Michigan citizens each year.*

*In Michigan, that would mean that when a constituent loses their job, we would have nowhere to send them for help. Not only would there be no Michigan Works! system to go into the companies to meet with workers about to be displaced, but there would be no service center for these individuals to receive help with resume writing and interview skills, no tuition dollars to help upgrade skills and move off of unemployment, and no one-stop connection to community partners to help ensure they don't lose their home, to help to families get the healthcare they need, or to help repair their credit after the financial crisis of job loss.*

*We recognize the enormous deficit-reduction challenge faced by Congress, but we also recognize that a growing economy where people leave unemployment and return to work is the best deficit reduction strategy. The Workforce Investment Act is an "investment" in the essential strategy of Returning America to Work and Growing the American Economy, and without it, millions of Michigan's hardest hit citizens will suffer. Please join our efforts to ensure our citizens have the opportunity to live independent lives and support continued funding for the Workforce Investment Act in the Senate.*

*Sincerely,*

*Charles Bergdahl, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners*

*cc: State Senator Casperson  
State Representative Lindberg  
State Representative Huuki*

**12. CLOSED SESSION.**

**Board Action:** Commissioner Pellow moved to go into Closed Session for Union Negotiation Update Regarding Health Department. Second by Commissioner Quayle. A roll call vote was recorded. Ayes: Commissioner Cihak, Commissioner Quayle, Commissioner Heikkila, Commissioner Corkin, Commissioner Joseph, Commissioner Pellow, Commissioner Nordeen and Chairperson Bergdahl. Nays: 0. Motion adopted 8 Ayes to 0 Nays.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The County Board came back into Open Session.

**Board Action:** Commissioner Pellow moved that as of March 14, 2011 direct Staff to begin planning for the implementation of furlough days and/or layoffs to adjust our staffing because of the health insurance cost. Second by Commissioner Quayle. A roll call vote was recorded. Ayes: Commissioner Quayle, Commissioner Cihak, Commissioner Heikkila, Commissioner Corkin, Commissioner Joseph, Commissioner Pellow, Commissioner Nordeen and Chairperson Bergdahl Nays: 0. Motion adopted 8 Ayes to 0 Nays.

**13. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

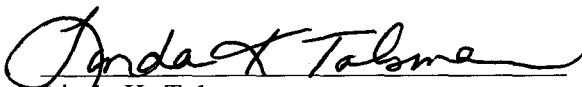
Chairperson Bergdahl opened the meeting for public comment. None was forthcoming.

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

None.

**15. ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:15 a.m.



Linda K. Talsma  
Deputy County Clerk

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Charles Bergdahl, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

Minutes Proposed for Approval on March 15, 2011.