
REGULAR MEETING – TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2019 – 6:00 P.M. – COMMISSIONERS ROOM 231, HENRY A. SKEWIS ANNEX, MARQUETTE, MI 49855.

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

Call to Order by Chairperson Gerald O. Corkin at 6:00 p.m. – Room 231 Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette. Salute to the Flag followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

- All Present: Comm. DePetro, Comm. Derocha, Comm. Adamini, Comm. Nordeen, Comm. Alholm & Chairperson Corkin.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Board action: Comm. DePetro moved to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on July 2, 2019 as presented. Second by Comm. Nordeen. Motion adopted (6-0)

3. PROCLAMATION, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Board action: Comm. DePetro moved to adopt the agenda. Second by Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (6-0)

5. PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

- **Lee Johnson**, Negaunee Resident, spoke in opposition to the Marquette Medical Care Facility Millage Renewal on the August 2019 Ballot.
- **Jim Gallant**, Skandia, requested time to speak on Action Item 10d).

With no further public comment to come before the board, this portion of the meeting was closed.

6. REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:

Board action: Comm. Nordeen moved to approve of the total expenditures for the period June 28, 2019 through July 11, 2019 which was \$513,513.10 (this amount does not include check payable to Alger-Delta Co-Op Electric); Bi-Weekly payroll for the period ending June 29, 2019 which was \$684,181.33. Second by Comm. Adamini. Motion adopted (6-0)

Board action: Comm. Adamini moved to approve check #192757, dated 7/12/19, in the amount of \$1,703.54 ~ payable to Alger-Delta Co-Op Electric. Second by Comm. Nordeen. (5-0) ~ (Abstention on file for Comm. Alholm)

7. PUBLIC HEARING

8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:

a. Carlee Wasik, Falls Prevention Instructor/Coordinator, MSUE

Ms. Wasik was present to update the board on the following: the #1 cause of hip fractures is falls which are very preventative. MSUE has a 3-year grant through Community Living to increase the standard of living and sustainability; two programs funded through this grant will be --- ***A Matter of Balance & Tai Chi for Arthritis and Falls Prevention.***

**For more information and signing up for both these month long classes please contact Carlee Wasik at 906-315-2664.*

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

10. ACTION ITEMS:

a. Fetch GIS Recommendation

Jacki Lykins, Equalization Director, along with Cameron Fuess, GIS Specialist, were both present to explain the following: Marquette County Equalization Department is looking to contract with Amalgam LLC, who owns and operates FetchGIS. Fetch is an online platform designed to house and distributes property data using the GIS parcel layer as a framework. Fetch is also expandable to include Health Department and Road Commission data in the future. The contract for Marquette County to partner with Fetch will be \$7,500/year

and we expect to recuperate that expense through revenue generated by online map and data sales. The program is billed on an annual basis, and no long-term contract is required.

**Jacki Lykins thanked Cameron Fuess, GIS Specialist for all his hard work on this project.*

Board action: Comm. Derocha moved to approve the contract with Amalgam LLC in the amount not to exceed \$7,500/year. Second by Comm. Corkin. Motion adopted (6-0)

b. Commercial Demolition Fee Schedule

Paul Knox, Building Codes Manager, stated the following: after review of Marquette County Permit Fee Schedule, it has become apparent that commercial demolition fees should be addressed.

Currently Marquette County established a permit fee for the demolition of structures as required by Public Act 230. The \$95 fee for this permit covers the administrative portion of the permit however does not have allowances for actual inspection. Albeit this rate could be sustained for single family dwelling units, it would not cover incurred costs for larger commercial properties such as demolition of the Board of Light and Power Plant, Wisconsin Energy Plant or the old Marquette General Hospital. These larger more comprehensive commercial projects would require a plan review, and multiple inspections ranging from safeguards during construction, utility connections, pedestrian protection, and final grading to name a few.

Currently, the State of Michigan requires demolition permits as required by Public Act 230. The fee schedule currently applied by the state for the permit is a \$100 plan review and administrative base fee in addition to \$0.07 per square foot of demolition. On a 10,000 square foot demolition, the state rate would be \$800.

Board action: Comm. Nordeen moved to proceed with an addition to the Building Permit Fee Schedule for demolition of commercial structures at a rate of \$95 application fee in addition to \$0.01 per square foot. Second by Comm. Derocha. Motion adopted (6-0)

c. Electrical Fee Schedule Modification

Paul Knox, Building Code Manager, was present to explain the following: Due to the recent electrical code cycle update, some changes have been made regarding Part 8 of the electrical law. One specific change is the omission of a key exemption for telecommunication and information system wiring. The removal of the exemption now requires that permits be obtained for work of this type.

In addition to Part 8 changes, line items have been added to the permit application with associated fees for energy management systems not previously inspected as well as the administrative fee line item approved by the board in October of 2017.

The proposed electrical permit application with the associated fees can be reviewed; the fee amounts coincide with the current rates for the State of Michigan.

Board action: Comm. Alholm moved to approve the Electrical Fee Schedule Modification as specified above by the Building Code Manager. Second by Comm. Adamini. Motion adopted (6-0)

d. Community Health Worker Position

Jerry Messana, Health Officer – Marquette County Health Department, requested a Community Health Worker (CHW) position this is a person that serves as an advocate for individuals, assisting them with accessing resources such as transportation and helping to navigate complex systems such as health care.

Approximately 50% of patients seen at the Health Department's two school clinics and 98% of the Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) clients served by the Health Department are Upper Peninsula Health Plan (UPHP) clients. Clients served by UPHP can benefit from the services of a Community Health Worker.

Because the Health Department serves a large number of UPHP clients, UPHP approached the Health Department to enter into a contract to fully fund a CHW position. This will be a new position for the Health Department and will operate under the Community Health Division of the Department. Pending review of the contract, we are requesting adding this position to the Health Department.

Board action: Comm. DePetro moved to approve a Community Health Worker Position at the Marquette County Health Department. Second by Comm. Nordeen. Motion adopted (6-0)

e. Trial Court Funding Commission Interim Report – Resolution Recommendation

Linda Talsma, County Clerk, requested the County Board approve the following resolution:

TRIAL COURT FUNDING COMMISSION INTERIM REPORT

WHEREAS, the County Clerks in Michigan have a constitutional stake in the trial court funding question, but were excluded from participation in the Trial Court Funding Commission. The County Clerks have a unique relationship with the courts and *a perspective that should be heard when making recommendations for substantial changes.*

WHEREAS, the goal of Public Act 65 of 2017 was to create a Trial Court Funding Commission to “review and recommend changes to the trial court funding system in light of *People v. Cunningham*”.

WHEREAS, the vast majority of the Interim Report deals with the consolidation of all local court staff and operations under state control but does not solve the funding problems that *Cunningham* created (simply moving collections of fines and costs and payment of court salaries/benefits to the state does not mitigate the fact that we will still not be funded adequately).

WHEREAS, centralized control of our court process does not necessarily serve the best interest of the public. The County Clerks believe that local judges and citizens are better served by local custodial control. It has been proven to be a more responsive method of serving their needs.

WHEREAS, research of other state-funded court systems has shown that state funding creates a culture of complacency that tolerates delay. Accountability is removed from the local level and placed in the hands of bureaucrats in state government who are less connected to the people.

WHEREAS, we are concerned that transferring funding to state control would tether the judicial branch to the short term whims of the legislative and executive branches even more than they exist already. In the event of a lack of state funding (government shutdown) this process would also force the shutdown of the court system, resulting in constitutional violation of due process.

WHEREAS, it is critical to note that the finding of 46th Circuit Trial Court v. County of Crawford, 2006:143 states directly: “In order for the judicial branch to carry out its constitutional responsibilities as envisioned by the Constitution of 1963, art3, SS 2, the Judiciary cannot be totally beholden to legislative determinations regarding its budgets.”

WHEREAS, this Interim Report recommends altering the Michigan Constitution to provide that circuit court clerks are employed by the court and under the supervision of state government rather than the County Clerk.

WHEREAS, County Clerks serve a critical role in the judicial system. They are constitutionally mandated to ensure the integrity of the records and protecting the best interests of our citizens. Removing County Clerks from the picture would serve as substantial disruption to the purpose that we serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners are opposed to the Trial Court Funding Commission Interim Report dated April 8, 2019. We believe that it is imperative to maintain local control and accountability because that is how our constituents are best served. We strongly oppose this Interim Report and possible pending legislation and encourage the other 82 Michigan counties to join us.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senator Ed McBroom, Representative Sara Cambensy, the Michigan Association of Counties and the other 82 Michigan Counties.

Board action: Comm. Adamini moved to adopt the resolution opposing the trial court funding interim report as indicated above. Second by Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (6-0)

11. LATE ADDITIONS

12. PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

- **Jim Gallant**, Skandia, spoke concerning mental health assessment in Marquette County.

With no further public comment to come before the board, this portion of the meeting was closed.

13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Board action: Comm. Alholm moved to request staff send a thank you note to the committee members for all their hard work on this FBO. Second by Comm. Derocha. Motion adopted (6-0)

**Chairperson Corkin inquired about having a Special Meeting for Monday, July 22nd at 6:00 pm in the Commissioners Room 231 for the FBO Decision. All Commissioners were in favor of the Special Meeting. Clerk Talsma will send a notice and post the meeting.*

- **Comm. Nordeen** wished Comm. Derocha a Happy Birthday!

Board action: Comm. Derocha requested the Administrator find adequate storage space for Special Ops Search and Rescue as the current lease is expiring; Cost effective proposals to possibly include space that the County owns; then submit the proposal for the Boards approval. Second by Comm. Nordeen. Motion adopted (6-0)

- **Comm. DePetro** congratulated Jim Reeves on his retirement after 39 years of service at the Mining Journal. The public was well informed of everything occurring in our 15 U.P. Counties and beyond. Also, thanked Mr. Reeves for being involved with many community functions and the main supporter of the U.P. 200 that starts its race every February in front of the Mining Journal's Office. It has been a pleasure to have known Jim for the past 40 years as a publisher and a friend.
- **Comm. DePetro** also congratulated Michigan's 109th State Representative, Sara Cambensy, on getting her first House Bill Passed in Lansing with a vote of 107 to 1 Nay. Governor Whitmer signed this bill "Creating the Committee on Michigan's Mining Future".
- **Chairperson Corkin** stated the Board will be inviting Mr. Reeves to an upcoming meeting so the Board can honor him for his service to Marquette County.

14. CLOSED SESSION

15. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Linda K. Talsma
Marquette County Clerk

Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners