
**REGULAR MEETING – TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 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 May 21, 2019 as presented. Second by Comm. Nordeen. Motion adopted (6-0)

3. PROCLAMATION, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

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

- **Matt Wiese, Prosecuting Attorney**, updated the board with current crime statistics; in the first 151 days of the year there has been 267 felony cases have been filed and 475 misdemeanors cases. Of the Felony cases 135 were drug cases ~ of those 72 Methamphetamines felony files. 167 OWUI; 26 criminal sexual assault felony cases; 70 domestic violence cases; 9 jury trials; my office has been very busy! The good news is Marquette County streets are safe! Bad news is the violent crimes in familiar settings & drugs are still an issue.

No other public comment to come before the board – this portion of the meeting was closed.

6. REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:

Board action: Comm. Derocha moved to approve of the total expenditures for the period May 17, 2019 through May 30, 2019 which was \$358,738.29; (this amount does not include check payable to Alger-Delta Electric); and Bi-weekly payroll for the period ending May 18, 2019 which was \$666,144.80; and Electronic Payments for the period totaled \$19,601.99. Second by Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (6-0)

Board action: Comm. Derocha moved to approve check #191619, dated 5/24/19, \$1,563.90 ~ Payable to Alger-Delta Co-Op Electric. Second by Comm. Nordeen. Motion adopted (5-0) Abstention: Comm. Alholm

7. PUBLIC HEARING: None

8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:

a. 2018 Audit Review by Anderson Tackman & Company, PLC

Michael A. Grentz, CPA, was present to explain the findings to the board and answer questions. The following information was part of the audit report:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Marquette, Michigan (the County), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. We did not audit the financial statement Marquette County Medical Care Facility, which is an enterprise fund and 18 percent, 16 percent, and 76 percent, respectively, of the assets, net position, and revenues of the business-type activities. We did not audit the financial statement Marquette County Road Commission, which is

an enterprise fund and 98 percent, 99 percent, and 97 percent, respectively, of the assets, net position, and revenues of the business-type activities.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of Marquette County Medical Care Facility, which represent 18 percent, 16 percent, and 76 percent, respectively, of the assets, net position, and revenues of the business-type activities. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Marquette County Medical Care Facility, is based solely on the report of the other auditors. We did not audit the financial statements of the Marquette County Road Commission, which represent 98 percent, 99 percent, and 97 percent, respectively, of the assets, net position, and revenues of the aggregate discretely presented component units. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Marquette County Road Commission, is based solely on the report of the other auditors. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audit contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. The financial statements of the Marquette County Medical Care Facility were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County, as of December 31, 2018, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Change in Accounting Principle

As described in Note 25 to the financial statements, in 2018, the County adopted new accounting guidance, GASBS No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this manner.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison, and the Pension and OPEB schedules as listed on the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of

financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We and other auditors have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquires of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquires, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements. The other supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The other supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America by us and other auditors. In our opinion, based on our audit, the procedures performed as described above, and the report of the other audits, the other supplementary information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 24, 2019, on our consideration of the County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provision of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Board action: Comm. Derocha moved to accept the 2018 Audit Review by Anderson Tackman & Company, PLC as presented and thanked Mike for his report. Second by Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (6-0)

b. Sheriff Monthly Update

Road Patrol

- 320 Calls for service; 24 Traffic Accidents; Arrests-37 people ~ 4 Retail Fraud/Larceny; 7 Assaults, 5 Drug Cases; 2 Criminal Sexual Conduct investigations; 2 Resist & Obstruct Officer; 3 breaking & entering; 176 Citations written (several for speeding in construction zone by Walmart)

Search & Rescue / Special Ops / 131

- Training:
 - Search and Rescue ATV, compass, boater, life tracker, and autism safety trainings were held.
- Calls for Service/Assistance:
 - Lost Hiker at Hogsback Mtn.
 - Roll over Personal injury accident in Skandia Twp. & Negaunee Twp.
 - Structure Fires (2 in Forsyth) and (1 in Michigamme)
 - Lost Kayaker – Ishpeming City
 - Personal Injury Accident in Wells Twp.

Jail: For month of May, 166 people booked (52 were females);

Currently: 17 Federal Inmates; 75 un-sentenced misdemeanors; 16 sentenced; 115 un-sentenced Felony's, 62 sentenced ~ 1-inmate vs inmate assault; 1 case of smuggling drugs into the Jail; 1 suicide attempt

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- a. **Notice of Hearing – Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation**
- b. **Wexford County Resolution Opposing slashing federal funding for the Great Lakes Restoration**
- c. **DEQ – Pending Applications Report**
- d. **Community Corrections Advisory Board – Resignation**
- e. **Treasurer Annual Report of Balance in Land Sale Proceeds Accounts**

Board action: Comm. Nordeen moved to accept informational items a – e for filing. Second by Comm. Adamini. Motion adopted (6-0)

Board action: Comm. Nordeen requested to have action item 10f & 10e be moved to the top of the action items for this evening. Second by Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (6-0)

10. ACTION ITEMS:

f. Ratification of Magistrate Appointment

Whereas, Felicia A. Savola will be appointed by the 96th District Court as Magistrate of the court effective upon approval of said appointment by the County Board of Commissioners; and,

Whereas, MCL 600.8501 provides that a magistrate appointment “shall be subject to approval by the County Board of Commissioners”; and,

Whereas, the judges of the 96th District Court have requested approval of the aforesaid appointment; and,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the appointment of Felicia A. Savola as Magistrate of the 96th District Court is hereby approved effective this date.

Board action: Comm. Adamini moved to appoint Felicia A. Savola as the 96th District Court Magistrate effective immediately. Second by Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (6-0)

*Judge Kangas introduced Felicia Savola to the Board.

e. County Option to Purchase Property for Land Bank Authority (LBA)

Anne Giroux, Treasurer, was present to explain the following: *the Treasurer foreclosed on 28 properties on April 2, 2019. Of those properties, the LBA has an interest in acquiring 3. The LBA, which will fund the acquisition of these properties, can acquire property per:*

MCL 211.78m (1) “. . .the county in which that property is located may purchase that property under this section by payment to the foreclosing governmental unit of the minimum bid.” The foreclosing governmental unit is the County Treasurer. The minimum bid is the delinquent taxes and penalties owing and is due the delinquent tax fund.

The LBA is requesting that the County Board of Commissioners exercise its option under MCL 211.78m to purchase 3 tax foreclosed properties for a total minimum bid amount of \$15,250.60, and transfer these properties to the LBA. Further information on the 3 parcels is as follows:

1 residential structure in Ely Township this structure is a mobile home that has been condemned by the Health Department for septic system issues. The LBA intends to demolish the structure.

1 residential structure in Republic Township this structure is a mobile home that is in terrible condition and is located directly across the street from the school. The LBA intends to demolish the structure.

1 residential structure in the City of Ishpeming this structure is a smaller home on a half lot that is blighted. Blight funding has already been secured through Hardest Hit funds that were awarded in 2018. The LBA is already working with the adjoining property owner on a sale.

Board action: Comm. Alholm moved to exercise county option under MCL 211.78m to purchase 3 parcels as identified above for a total minimum bid amount of \$15,250.60, and transfer these properties to the LBA, with funding for the purchase provided by the LBA. Second by Comm. Nordeen. Motion adopted (6-0)

a. SEMCO Pipeline Reroute

Thyra Karlstrom, Planner, was present to explain the following: SEMCO is requesting an easement for a reroute of the Marquette Connector Pipeline Project in the county forest. The request is due to a large rock obstruction. The total length of the reroute is 1,307.79 feet, or 1.34 acres of temporary work space and 1.31 acres of permanent easement. SEMCO's proposal uses the same fee structure agreed upon for the original temporary easement, permanent easement, and timber consideration. This area is in Public Act 217 lands, so the permanent easement fee will be paid to the State of Michigan. See Exhibit A.

Easement Calculation:

Temporary Work Space Linear distance - 1,307.79 feet x \$1.50/linear foot = \$1,962

Permanent Easement Linear distance - 1,307.79 feet x \$3.00/linear foot = \$3,923*

** paid to the State of Michigan due to PA 217*

Timber Consideration:

Temporary Workspace - 1.34 acres x \$1,355 x .5 = \$908

Permanent Easement - 1.31 acres x \$1,355 = \$1,776

Total Compensation - \$8,570

Total Compensation for the Pipeline reroute paid to Marquette County- \$4,647

Board action: Comm. Adamini moved to approve the proposed reroute and accepting a payment of \$4,647, and request a partial release of the permanent easement to Marquette County by SEMCO upon completion of the Marquette Connector Pipeline Project. Second by Comm. Nordeen. Motion adopted (6-0)

b. Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Plans & Policies Needed for Compliance & Resolution

Thyra Karlstrom, Planner, was present to discuss the following a monitoring review of revolving loan fund (RLF) projects, it was found that many communities had not prepared nor submitted plans and policies as required by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to Northern Initiatives (NI) or the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC).

Northern Initiatives has contracted with the CUPPAD Regional Commission to assist communities with the development and eventual adoption by the governing body of the required plans and policies. The cost to develop the policies and plans have been covered by administrative RLF fees, so there is no cost to the community.

There are 11 plans and policies that are generally required of CDBG recipients:

- Citizen Participation Plan
- Section 3 Policy Plan
- Community Profile
- Fair Housing Plan
- Fair Housing Policy
- Section 504 Self Evaluation
- Section 504 Grievance Procedure
- Non-Discrimination on Basis of Handicap
- Excessive Force Policy
- Procurement Policy**
- Fair Housing Complaint Process**
- Residential Anti Displacement and Relocation Plan**

Based on information from Northern Initiatives, it appears that Marquette County needs to submit the following plans and policies: Fair Housing Plan, Section 504 Grievance Procedure, and Citizen Participation Plan.

RESOLUTION:
SUPPORT FOR THE ADOPTION OF REVOLVING LOAN FUND COMPLIANCE PLANS AND POLICIES

WHEREAS, Northern Initiatives has contracted with CUPPAD Regional Commission to assist communities with the development with compliance plans and policies for revolving loan fund (RLF) projects for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and

WHEREAS, there are eleven plans and policies that are generally required of CDBG recipients, and

WHEREAS, Marquette County needs to adopt and submit the proposed Fair Housing Plan, Section 504 Grievance Procedure, and Citizen Participation Plan to achieve compliance with the CDBG program, so

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Marquette Board of Commissioners supports the adoption of the Marquette County Fair Housing Plan, Section 504 Grievance Procedure, Citizen Participation Plan.

Board action: Comm. Alholm moved to approve the resolution in support of adopting the Fair Housing Plan, Section 504 Grievance Procedure, and Citizen Participation Plan. Second by Comm. Adamini. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Comm. Alholm, Comm. DePetro, Comm. Derocha, Comm. Adamini, Comm. Nordeen and Chairperson Corkin. Nays: None. Motion adopted.

c. Sugarloaf Mt. Natural Area, Parking Lot Expansion Plan

Thyra Karlstrom, Planner, Sugarloaf Mountain Natural Area is experiencing an increased number of visitors. In 2018, there were 47,620 visitors. It is now common to see overflow parking along County Rd 550 creating an unsafe situation. Staff have witnessed vehicles parked along guardrails and partially in the travel lanes. Parking along County Rd 550 is dangerous as vehicles, including heavy trucks, travel at high rates of speed with limited site distance in the area. Visitors are not necessarily aware of the safety concern as they exit their vehicles and prepare for a hike.

2019 Capital funds are allocated to survey and design the expansion of parking at Sugarloaf. Sanders & Czapski Associates have prepared an estimate for this work. Deliverables include drawings, design narrative and analysis of how the design meets the goals of the project, and construction costs. A breakdown of fees follows:

Master Plan Fee for Service:	\$2,600
Master Plan Expenses:	\$250
Topographic Survey:	\$2,200
Soil Borings:	\$2,500
Total Fee:	\$7,550

Sanders & Czapski Associates is under contract with the County as our Prime Professional for the current Sugarloaf Mt. Natural Area Enhancement Project (interpretive trail signage, picnic areas, waste and recycling collection system and webcam at the summit to be completed this year). As such, staff recommends amending the Professional Services Contract with Sanders & Czapski to expedite this work and capitalize on services already being provided.

Board action: Comm. DePetro moved to amend the 3/7/2018 Professional Services Contract with Sanders & Czapski Associates to include the survey and design of parking at Sugarloaf Mt. Natural Area. Second by Comm. Adamini. Motion adopted (6-0)

d. Michigamme Land Conservancy Tax Tribunal Case

Comm. Derocha explained the following: Michigamme Township, with the legal assistance of Jack VanCoevering of Foster & Swift Law Firm, has challenged a Tax Tribunal matter brought forth by the Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy. The Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy has been attempting to designate its

property as a land conservancy. The property in question is comprised of 10 parcels (635.47 acres) encompassing much of Indian Lake. Michigamme Township disagrees that the land meets the definition of what would allow it to become a conservancy. If the land is approved to be a designated land conservancy, the Ad Valorem property tax would be eliminated.

On April 30th, 2019, the Tax Tribunal ruled in favor of Michigamme Township. However, the Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy does retain the right of appeal.

The total tax due on these parcels (without penalties) for 2017 is \$21,587.07 and \$22,595.25 for 2018. Based on millages, Marquette County received 15.628% of the 2017 taxes paid in Michigamme Township. In this specific case, the County would have received \$3,373.68. Marquette County will receive 15.6755% of the 2018 taxes paid in Michigamme Township, or \$3,541.92.

Michigamme is seeking financial assistance from Marquette County to help defray legal expenses. The total legal bills from Foster and Swift associated with this case is \$31,652.58, 15.6755% of the total cost of these legal fees is \$4,961.70.

Board action: Comm. Derocha moved to authorize staff to proceed with a payment to Michigamme Township in the amount of \$4961.70 (15.6755% of the total legal bill). Second by Comm. Adamini. Motion adopted (6-0)

g. Resolution Funding the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

WHEREAS, The Great Lakes are a critical resource for our nation, supporting the economy and a way of life in Michigan and the other seven states within the Great Lakes region. The Great Lakes hold 20 percent of the world's surface freshwater and 90 percent of the United States' surface freshwater. This globally significant freshwater resource provides drinking water for more than 30 million people and directly supports 1.5 million jobs, generating \$62 billion in wages; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) provides essential funding to restore and protect the Great Lakes. This funding has supported long overdue efforts to clean up toxic pollution, reduce runoff from cities and farms, combat invasive species, and restore fish and wildlife habitat. Since 2010, the federal government has partnered with public and private entities and invested more than \$2 billion in over 2,900 projects throughout the region. Over its first six years, the GLR has provided more than \$425 million for more than 500 projects in Michigan alone. The Brookings Institution has estimated that every dollar invested in the Great Lakes produces two dollars in long-term economic benefits; and

WHEREAS, GLRI projects are making a significant difference. They have restored more than 150,000 acres of fish and wildlife habitat; opened up fish access to more than 3,400 miles of rivers; helped implement conservation programs on more than 1 million acres of farmland; and accelerated the cleanup of toxic hotspots. In Michigan, GLRI funding has been instrumental in removing contaminated sediments from Muskegon Lake, the River Raisin, and the St. Mary's River; in restoring habitat along the St. Clair River, Cass River, Boardman River, and the Keweenaw Peninsula; and in the delisting of White Lake In Muskegon County and Deer Lake in the Upper Peninsula as areas of concern; and

WHEREAS, While a significant investment, past GLRI funding represents only a small portion of the amount needed to restore and protect the Great Lakes. Toxic algal blooms, beach closings, fish consumption advisories, and the presence of contaminated sediments continue to limit the recreational and commercial use of the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, any cuts to GLRI funding would jeopardize the momentum from over a decade of unprecedented regional cooperation. Draft federal budgets have proposed a 97 percent reduction in GLRI funding. These cuts would be a short-sighted, short-term cost-saving measure with long-term implications. Restoration efforts will only become more expensive and more difficult if they are not addressed in the coming years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners opposes slashing federal funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation as well as the other 82 Michigan counties.

Board action: Comm. Nordeen moved to adopt the resolution funding the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Second by Comm. Derocha. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Comm. Nordeen, Comm. Alholm, Comm. DePetro, Comm. Derocha, Comm. Adamini and Chairperson Corkin. Nays: None. Motion adopted.

11. LATE ADDITIONS: None

12. PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Chairperson Corkin** attended the Ribbon Cutting for the Public Defense Attorney Office in Marquette; it was well attended and nice to see for the indigent defense cases in Marquette County.
 - **Also**, attended the retirement for Mark Slown the Ishpeming City Manager, he will be missed and did great things for Ishpeming City.
 - **Also**, announced that U.P. Commissioners will be meeting June 6th & 7th.
 - **Also**, the City of Marquette has offered their letter of support in the Spaceport coming to Sawyer. The County welcomes all Townships and Cities to join in that effort of support.
- **Comm. DePetro** congratulated U.P. Health Systems management and staff on moving into their new hospital, located at 850 West Baraga Avenue, phone: 906-449-3000. Also, thanked the entire EMS throughout the U.P. and Lower Peninsula who traveled to Marquette to assist local Police officers on traffic control; and volunteers working Sunday morning transporting over 100 patients from the old hospital to the new hospital location.
 - **Also**, commended Mike for an excellent audit report!
- **Comm. Adamini** stated the new hospital is a very nice facility and the rooms are excellent!

14. CLOSED SESSION

15. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:11 p.m.

Linda K. Talsma
Marquette County Clerk

Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners