The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Special Session on Tuesday, March 31, 1998 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Angeli, Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Rapport, Comm. Roberts, Comm. Seppanen, Comm. Tuominen, and Comm. Corkin. Absent: None.

A Salute to the Flag was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no minutes to approve.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Bob Larson, Republic, Dan Chartier, President, Chocolay Area Business Association, Gary Menhennick, Sherry McCarthy, employee of KBIC, John Davis, Joe Gibbs, Owner, Chocolay Downs, Joe Blake, and Don Britton, all spoke in favor of the Marquette Ojibwa Casino and its contributions to the Marquette County economy by providing jobs, entertainment, and increasing local tourist traffic.

Jud Johnston and Lois Sherbinow, Chocolay Township residents living near the Casino, spoke in opposition to the Casino in its present location.

Arlene Hill, Chocolay Township Clerk, explained that Chocolay Township is not objecting to operation of the Casino, but to the location of the Casino in a residential area. She requested the County Board wait until after the Chocolay Township public hearing to take any action.

Rich Rossway stated that this is a simple issue. The bottom line is that the KBIC needs the support of the County now.

Ivan Fende, Chocolay Township Supervisor, also expressed opposition to the location of the Casino in a residential area. He supports moving the Casino anywhere else in Marquette County.

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

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the addition of item 10b) UPSET Subcontract with State Police.

There were no informational items to approve.

ACTION ITEMS

10a) The County Board considered support of the KBIC Casino Resolution. Chairperson Corkin read a resolution supporting the ongoing operation of the Marquette Ojibwa Casino and the continued efforts of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community to work with the local community in developing a long range plan for the casino.

Comm. Seppanen requested the County Board wait until after the Chocolay Township public hearing to take any action so that the citizens of Chocolay Township have a chance to voice their opinion on the KBIC casino and its location. He supports the casino but the concerns of the township board and the local residents need to be addressed.

After a lengthy discussion, it was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and carried on a roll call vote 6 Ayes (Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Rapport, Comm. Roberts, Comm. Seppanen and Comm. Tuominen) to 4 Nays (Comm. Angeli, Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Corkin and Comm. Joseph) to table the KBIC Casino Resolution until the April 21, 1998 County Board meeting, which will be after the Chocolay Township public hearing.



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10b) The County Board considered the UPSET Subcontract with the State Police. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that the Department of State Police has provided the 1998 subcontract for the Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team for October 1997 to September 30, 1998. State Police have requested that the contract be considered before April 3rd. The subcontract has been reviewed by Civil Counsel. Additionally the Sheriff's Department has provided a proposed 1997/98 Interagency agreement and the assurances and program narrative included from the Anti-drug Abuse Act Law Enforcement Grant Application approved by the Board of Commissioners in 1990. The subcontract provides $26,943 to the County for half of the expenses of the Sheriff's deputy assigned to UPSET. The 1998 County budget includes $25,455. Mr. Powers recommends the County Board approve the subcontract to allow the County to receive reimbursement for the costs which have already been approved as part of the 1998 County budget and six months of costs that have already been expended.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the UPSET Subcontract with the State Police.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Roberts reported he was in Lansing at the Taxation Meeting and has information in the Commissioners Office.

Comm. Rapport announced that there is a meeting of the Sesquicentennial Committee on April 7, 1998 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 115 of the Courthouse Complex.

Chairperson Corkin announced that the Marquette County Townships Association Annual Meeting is on Saturday, April 4, 1998 at NMU at urged Commissioners to attend.

There being no further business to come before the County Board the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie M. Branam

Connie M. Branam
Deputy County Clerk



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**MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
**Special Meeting, Tuesday, March 31, 1998 at 6:00 p.m.**
**Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex**
**Marquette, Michigan 49855**

1. ROLL CALL.
2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: None.
4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
5. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.
8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
10. ACTION ITEMS:
    a. Support of the KBIC Casino Resolution.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.

10b. UPSET Subcontract w/ State Police.

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