The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, July 1, 2003, at 7:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 W. Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.


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

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 17, 2003 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Virginia Killough, 1710 Harbor View Drive, Marquette, addressed the County Board once again regarding issues concerning Pathways and consumers involved in self-determination. Ms. Killough is concerned that the Pathways Board is still not discussing these issues. She explained the Development Disability Council Grant was rescinded. This region lost $340,000 to support self-determination. The final draft Policy on Self-Determination was issued in May, the final plan should be adopted in July. Last week the Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards held a conference on self-determination. The Consumer Advisory Committee asked to attend. Pathways didn’t send consumers nor did any of the Pathways Board Members attend.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board send a letter to the Pathways Board requesting a meeting between the Pathways Board, County Commission Members, and any interested party along with Administrative Staff to discuss these issues.

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period June 20, 2003 through June 26, 2003 in the amount of $248,654.28 and bi-weekly payroll for the period ending July 6, 2003 in the amount of $582,364.59 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following addition: 11a) Board Support for FEMA Denial.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following informational items 9a, 9b, and 9c be accepted and placed on file:


b. Communication from Department of Treasury regarding County Equalized Valuations by the State Tax Commission.

c. Memo from Rick Aho, Director, Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority, regarding its Budget.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS CONTINUED

9d) The County Board considered a thank you letter from MAC regarding Health Insurance Costs. Jackie Boxer, Commission on Aging Director, was present and explained to the County Board that one year ago they contracted with MAC to officer prescription drug coverage reductions to seniors in Marquette County through the Benefit Control Program. Over 400 people have applied for the prescription drug card to save dollars for prescription drugs. 36 Counties in Michigan have contracted with MAC to do this. The first year there was over $8,000 in savings and as of the third year over $20,000 in savings. She also explained the Commission on Aging has other discount cards available to seniors in Marquette County.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the thank you letter from MAC regarding health insurance costs be placed on file.

ACTION ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Items 10a, 10b, 10c, 10d, 10e, 10g, and 10h be approved as follows:
10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation that the County Board send a letter to our Legislators asking them to amend the applicable statute to include finished lumber within the definition of a perishable product, and ask the Road Commission to work with Wells Township for permission to use the road and request the Marquette County Road Commission to keep their restrictions in line with neighboring counties.

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the renewal of the Contract with the City of Marquette for Assessing Services and renewal of the Letter of Understanding with A. Dwight Sunday, Equalization Director, regarding Assessing Services with the City of Marquette.

10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation that the County Board refer the communication regarding Rest Area Commercialization to MAC for their consideration.

10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to support Mackinac County’s efforts to retire the Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw in St. Ignace where her beauty and history can be shared by its residents and visitors, resolution as follows:

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION REGARDING COAST GUARD CUTTER MACKINAW

WHEREAS The Marquette County Board of Commissioners recognizes the past fifty-nine years of dedicated service the United States Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw has given to the Mackinac County area; and

WHEREAS it is recognized that the primary mission of the Mackinaw as an ice-breaker in the winter months has proven her vital importance in providing assistance with the transportation of commerce throughout the U.S.; and

WHEREAS this great ship has traveled throughout the Great Lakes saving lives, and providing a safe passageway for its travelers; and

WHEREAS the Marquette County Board of Commissioners would like to see the Mackinaw retire in St. Ignace where her beauty and history can be shared by its residents and its visitors; and

WHEREAS the Mackinaw County Board of Commissioners is committed financially to preserve the Mackinaw; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of its citizens support Mackinac County in their request for the opportunity to provide a home for the United States Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw.

Adopted this 1st day of July, 2003

Gerald O. Carkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement between the Chocolay Township Fire Department and Marquette County Rescue Unit 131.

10g) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to direct Civil Counsel to draft letters to property owners regarding the movement of caving ground fences.

10h) Committee of the Whole Recommendation that the County Board use the previous appointment process whereby the deadline for applications for boards and commissions shall be submitted one week prior to appointment.

ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED

10f) It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and carried on a roll call vote 6 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Joseph) that the County Board approve the roof repairs on hangars 423 and 424 as recommended by Hal Pawley, SIABC Director.

10i) The County Board considered a resolution supporting UPCAP’s 211 application for the Upper Peninsula. Jacki Boxer, Commission on Aging Director, was present and explained that 211 is a national initiative to make health and human services more accessible to individuals through a single phone number. 211 call centers are in place or are presently being developed throughout the State of Michigan. The 211 State Office has indicated a desire to designate a 211 call center for the Upper Peninsula. Ms. Boxer explained the Commission on Aging receives calls every day from seniors in trouble. If 211 Call Centers are in place seniors can call there. The developmental and operational funding for 211 will come from private sources and will not infringe on 911 or County government funding. UPCAP Services, Inc. is in the
process of submitting a 211 application for the Upper Peninsula. The UPCAP Board of Directors represented by County Commissioners from each of the 15 U.P. Counties support UPCAP’s 211 Application.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board support UPCAP’s 211 Application for the Upper Peninsula.

LATE ADDITIONS

11a) The County Board considered support for the FEMA denial. On June 30, 2003 Marquette City Mayor Jerry Irby convened a meeting of City, County, and State Officials to discuss the Federal Emergency Management Association’s denial of Governor Granholm’s federal major disaster declaration request. “The State of Michigan will be appealing FEMA’s decision” according to Matt Johnson, Aide to Governor Granholm. FEMA allows appeals within 30 days of the denial letter. The denial letter was sent June 27, 2003. The City and County will provide information and assistance to the State in an effort to change the decision.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board show support of Governor Granholm’s appeal of the FEMA decision to deny disaster aid to Marquette County and three other counties in the Upper Peninsula.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that assistance for small businesses may be available through the Federal Small Business Association. The Small Business Association Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program can help small businesses meet financial obligations and relief from economic injury caused by a disaster. The County is gathering information from businesses impacted by the flood. If five or more businesses are interested in participating in the loan program, the Small Business Administration will review need, financial condition, and eligibility for individual businesses. Businesses in Marquette County may be eligible because of the State’s Disaster Declaration.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, July 1, 2003, 7:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan 49855

1. CALL TO ORDER - SALUTE TO THE FLAG - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
   REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JUNE 17, 2003
3. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
4. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
5. REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS.
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.
8. PRIVileged COMMENT:
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   a. Letter from Edward B. Rebman, McCartney & Company, regarding Annual Accounting for the
      Marquette County 911 Service District. (Audit Available in Commissioners Room).
   b. Communication from Department of Treasury regarding County Equalized Valuations by the
      State Tax Commission.
   c. Memo from Rick Aho, Director, Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority,
      regarding its Budget.
   d. Thank you Letter from MAC regarding Health Insurance Costs.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
    a. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Send a Letter to Our Legislators with a Request
       to Include Lumber as a Perishable Product.
    b. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve Renewal of the Contract with the City of
       Marquette for Assessing Services and Renewal of the Letter of Understanding with A. Dwight
       Sunday, Equalization Director.
    c. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Refer the Matter of Rest Area Commercialization
       to MAC for Consideration.
    d. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Support Mackinac County’s Efforts to Retire the
       Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw in St. Ignace.
    e. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the Mutual Aid Agreement Between the
       Chocolay Township Fire Department and Marquette County’s Rescue Unit 131.
    f. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve Roof Repairs on Hangars 423 and 434 at
       Sawyer.
    g. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Draft Letters to Caving Ground Property Owners.
    h. Committee of the Whole Recommendation regarding the Appointment Process to County
       Boards and Commissions.
    i. Resolution Supporting UPCAP’s 2-1-1 Application for the Upper Peninsula.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
    a. 
    b. 
    c. 
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.