The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 16, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


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

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Trudell and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the April 2, 1996 Regular Board Meeting be approved.

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

Chairperson Corkin proclaimed May, 1996 as Mental Health Month in Marquette County as follows:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, millions of Americans - including children - may experience a mental disorder at some point during their lives and may suffer devastating consequences as a result;

WHEREAS, Americans recognize that comprehensive and accessible mental healthcare services in their communities can effectively treat many disorders;

WHEREAS, Marquette County has made a commitment to community-based systems of mental healthcare for all residents;

WHEREAS, the guiding principles of community mental healthcare have always been comprehensiveness, cost-efficiency, effective management, high quality and consumer-responsive services, and those principles are now being adopted by private and public healthcare payors;

WHEREAS, state, local and federal governments continue to struggle with ways to ensure all Americans who need physical and behavioral healthcare services can receive the help they need;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson, do hereby proclaim May 1996 as MENTAL HEALTH MONTH in Marquette County. As the Chairperson of the Marquette County Board of Commissioners, I also call upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Marquette County to recommit our community to its original vision for community mental healthcare through education, volunteerism and understanding.

Adopted this 16th day of April, 1996
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

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LATE ADDITIONS

11a) Chairperson Corkin gave an update on the Lumber Mill Project to be located at K.I. Sawyer. David Holli of Ishpeming, plans to construct a $25 million lumber processing mill at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base. Last Thursday the Base Conversion Authority passed a resolution requesting that the Air Force and the State of Michigan take action so the project can proceed. The Lumber Mill will provide 80-100 jobs, plus there is great potential for spin off jobs in the forest industry bringing in the raw materials.

Chairperson Corkin contended that we need a couple of anchor businesses at K.I. Sawyer and Marquette County cannot afford to lose a $25 million project funded by private dollars.

On Friday, the U.S. Air Force Undersecretary Rodney Coleman signed a Record of Decision and a 20 year lease with the Base Conversion Authority for 54 acres, so the Lumber Mill Project can proceed. Chairperson Corkin requested a motion from the County Board urging the Michigan Jobs Commission to also sign the lease and allow the Lumber Mill Project to proceed. Negotiations on the Restoration Agreement have been continuing for 18 months but the County cannot wait for the restoration negotiations to be complete. The County needs these jobs, which are new jobs, not just jobs moving from one part of the County, as soon as possible.

Comm. Joseph pointed out that most of the development at K.I. Sawyer will come from the local community. If we can get one or two cornerstone businesses out there, then feed off of them, it will be a good start.

It was moved by Comm. Minelli, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board send a letter to the Michigan Jobs Commission, with copies to our State Legislators, encouraging them to sign the long term lease and honor their commitments so that the Lumber Mill Project can proceed at K.I. Sawyer.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ron Koshorek, Interim Administrator, reported on the $750,000 Northern Initiatives Administrative Education Training Investment Fund. The ten member board of which Administrator Aloia was a member, to date has committed $489,000 in funds for projects to Northern Michigan University, Bay De Noc Community College, Gogebic Community College, and Lake Superior State University. The remaining funds are currently being considered for two more projects.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried on a roll call vote 10 Ayes (Comm. Seppanen, Angeli, Arsenault, Bergdahl, Braamse, Joseph, Minelli, Rapport, Trudell and Corking) to 0 Nays that the County Board go into closed session to discuss pending litigation: Carlson v. Marquette County, and Labor Negotiations: Marquette County Health Department AFSCME Group.

Chairperson Corkin declared a brief recess to clear commission chambers at 7:38 p.m.

CLOSSED SESSION

The County Board came back into open session at 8:47 p.m.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Braamse and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board reaffirm its position that it will not negotiate with the Health Department Union but rather they must negotiate through the Health Department negotiating team, and further that the County Board has set the parameters for the Health Department Administration to negotiate within and has faith in their ability to negotiate a fair contract.

The County Board considered two requests from Randall M. Johnson, M.D., Director of the Marquette County Health Department regarding Non-Union Managerial Employees. First, he requested that the four employees currently receiving a deferred compensation payment of $125 per month in lieu of health insurance be allowed to continue to do so. This would save the Health Department over $10,000 a year in insurance premiums because the Health Department is pool rated and has less than 100 employees.
It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board allow the Health Department Non-Union Staff to continue to be allowed the opt out of $125 per month in lieu of health insurance.

Dr. Johnson’s second request: That non-union employees be allowed to continue under the same health care plan rather than adhere to the plan recently approved for other non-union County employees otherwise there will be three separate health plans at the Health Department. Based upon Health Department rates the continuation of present benefit level results in an insurance premium of $30 less per month than the newly adopted County plan because the Health Department is in a smaller pool.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Braamse unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board concur with Dr. Johnson’s request and allow the managerial non-union staff at the Health Department to continue under their present health care plan.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, April 16, 1996 at 7:00 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 OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON APRIL 2, 1996.
4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
   a. Resolution Proclaiming May 1996 as Mental Health Month in Marquette County.
5. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.
8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:
   a. Orrin Bailey, Six County Employment Alliance, to Give a Brief Report regarding what Michigan Works! Job Force has Done Recently in Marquette County.
   b. David Thayer, Director, Commission on Aging, to Speak regarding the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation $25,000 Grant Program.
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   a. Information Alert 96-3 regarding Transportation Funding Issues.
   c. Communication commending the Data Processing Department for their Effort and Support in Preparation for County Equalization.
   d. Communication regarding a Suggestion that the Postal Service Use K.I. Sawyer Air Facility as a Regional Postal Distribution Center.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
    a. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding and the Amended Agreement between the County of Marquette and State of Michigan Department of Agriculture.
    b. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the Airport Facility Lease Agreement.
    c. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the Request for a Half-time Court Clerk in the County Clerk’s Office.
    d. Committee of the Whole Recommendation for Appraisal Assistance for Powell Township.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
    a. 
    b. 
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. CLOSED SESSION:
    b. Discussion of Marquette County Health Department Contract Negotiations.
14. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
15. ADJOURNMENT.
Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. James Sodergren, Marquette County Treasurer, read the following statement announcing his candidacy:

I filed my affidavit to run for Marquette County Treasurer on Jan. 23, 1996. The recent change in Pension plans requiring a 2% co-pay caused me to review my decision to seek another term. My analysis showed that there will be a small monetary gain in seeking another term. More importantly are the challenges that lie ahead for County Treasurers and Marquette County in particular.

I have decided that I want to participate in meeting those challenges and have decided to run for another term. One deciding factor in my decision to run was a picture in the news media of Bob Dole in his swimming suit. Bob and I are about the same age and I think I look better in my swim suit. If he has guts enough to run for President, then I certainly have enough confidence in myself to run for Treasurer of Marquette County.

"I have a dream." This Swede has a dream. I believe the people of this County will rise up and seek equity in local taxes and demand that everybody pays their fair share including the Mining companies. My early announcement as a candidate for County Treasurer was intended to give those folks with opposing views an opportunity to file for the County Treasurer's office before May 14. I would also hope that those folks who feel that the taxes on iron ore not be raised to not vote for me. In closing I want to advise that any donations to support my candidacy for Marquette County Treasurer will be returned or donated to a non profit organization. This includes the Democratic party. I don't think I have to worry about the Republican party making a contribution.

Thank you.

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Jim Cihak, Lakeshore Boulevard, City of Marquette. Mr. Cihak is saddened by Joe Maino's decision not to run. He has worked with Sheriff Maino for the past 16 years and pointed out that Sheriff Maino and his staff are one of the most professional and honorable organizations he has ever worked with. Sheriff Maino has done a good job for the citizens of Marquette County and he will be missed.

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

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following late addition: Item 11a) The Sawyer Mill Project.

PRIVILEGED COMMENT

 Orrin Bailey, Chief Executive Officer, Michigan Works! The Job Force. He provided a brief report relative to what has been accomplished recently in Marquette County. They have served 1,200 individuals and placed approximately 100 of them in jobs averaging wages of $8.00 per hour. This includes displaced employees from the closure of K.I. Sawyer.

Mr. Bailey further reported that two bills are being considered in the Federal House and Senate to create Regional Industrial Boards to plan for work force development. The administration of the State of Michigan already has such a structure in place. The funding for the work force development will come from federal and state sources combined for a single point of entry for such agencies as DSS, MESC, MERS, Education, Economic Development, and Chambers of Commerce. The Work Force Development Board make up requirements for membership used to be driven by the Jobs Training Partnership Act which provided for mostly private members.

Also, the Summer Youth Program is probably in its final year of funding, however, there will be a program again this year. Congress acted to cut 30% to 40% out of the budget.

Chairperson Corkin thanked Orrin Bailey for the update.
David Thayer, Director, Marquette County Commission on Aging, was present to announce that the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has approved a grant of $25,000 to the County of Marquette for 18 months support of its participation in the Foundation’s Faith in Action Program. The funds will provide a position on the Commission on Aging for a person to coordinate the Volunteers Program. These volunteers are needed for isolated seniors and the respite program. The person will identify, train and link volunteers to families in need.

Mr. Thayer added that no matter where a senior lives in Marquette County they can receive Commission on Aging services. He has developed Marquette County into four districts based on population and topography with a certain amount of dollars delegated to each district. The system has been created even though at times it may be underfunded.

Mr. Thayer further reported that he will be attending a meeting with the U.P. Area Agency on Aging requesting a waiver to exempt them from applying for grant funding that the Commission on Aging traditionally has applied for. If this waiver is not granted the Commission on Aging could lose potentially $100,000 which would greatly affect the operations of Marquette County’s Senior Centers.

Chairperson Corkin thanked Mr. Thayer for his report.

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

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Minelli, seconded by Comm. Braamse and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following informational items be accepted and placed on file:

a. Information Alert 96-3 regarding Transportation Funding Issues.
c. Communication commending the Data Processing Department for their Effort and Support in Preparation for County Equalization.
d. Communication regarding a Suggestion that the Postal Service Use K.I. Sawyer Air Facility as a Regional Postal Distribution Center.

ACTION ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried by voice vote that action items 10a, 10b, 10c, and 10d be approved as follows:

10a) A Committee of the Whole Recommendation that the County Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding and the Amended Agreement between the County of Marquette and the State of Michigan Department of Agriculture. The changes are necessary to extend the completion date of the soil survey to April 1, 1998 and to provide the County with digital soil maps.

10b) A Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Airport Facility Lease Agreement for space for the Soil Survey Group in occupying the Airport Passenger Terminal.

10c) A Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the request for a half-time Court Clerk position in the County Clerk’s Office, budget amendment as follows:
RESOLUTION AMENDING
Fiscal Year 1996 Amendment No.

WHEREAS, budgets were adopted by the County Board on October 10, 1995, to govern the receipts and expenditures of the various County funds for the next fiscal year of the County; and

WHEREAS, as a result of unanticipated changes in revenues and/or needed expenditures, it is necessary to modify the aforesaid budget; and

WHEREAS, such modification will still maintain a balanced budget between revenues and expenditures as required by P.A. 621 of 1978.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the aforesaid budget be hereby modified as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Expense Budget Acct.</th>
<th>Previous Budget Amt.</th>
<th>Amended Budget Amt.</th>
<th>Change + (-)</th>
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<td>General Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>County Clerk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salary - Regular</td>
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<td>Social Security</td>
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<td>Medicare Tax</td>
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<td>Hospitalization</td>
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<td>Workers Compensation</td>
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<td>Total Expense Changes</td>
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<td>187,926.00</td>
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<td>County Clerk</td>
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<td>Clerks Services</td>
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Motion was made by Comm. Seppanen, Seconded by Comm. Arsenault, to adopt the foregoing resolution. Upon roll call vote, the following vote was recorded:

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<tr>
<th>Aye</th>
<th>Nay</th>
<th>Aye</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L. Angeli</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>N. Joseph</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>P. Arsenault</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>J. Minelli</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Bergdahl</td>
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<td>K. Rapport</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>P. Braamse</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>G. Seppanen</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Corkin</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>C. Trudell</td>
<td>X</td>
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The Chairperson declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted this 16th day of April, 1996.

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10d) A Committee of the Whole Recommendation that the County Board concur with the recommendation from Ron Koshorek, Interim Administrator, and agree to participate financially in the appraisal of the Huron Mountain Club property in Powell Township, contingent upon the other taxing jurisdictions agreeing to share in the expenses.

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