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**REGULAR MEETING – MAY 19, 2026 – 6:00 P.M. – COMMISSIONERS ROOM 231, HENRY A. SKEWIS ANNEX, MARQUETTE, MI 49855.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON DEROCHA AT 6:00 P.M.**

▪ **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call - Present:** Comm. Numinen, Comm. Benzie, Comm. LaLonde, Comm. Alholm, & Comm. Nordeen, Chairperson Derocha

**Absent & Excused:** None

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

**Board action:** Comm. Nordeen moved to approve the agenda with the removal of Action Item 10d. Lobbyist Contract Renewal – K.I. Sawyer Economic Development Quadrant. Second by Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (6-0)

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

**Board action:** Comm. Numinen moved to approve the Regular Meeting minutes held on May 5, 2026. Second by Comm. Alholm. Abstain: Chairperson Derocha. Motion adopted (5-0)

**4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND AWARDS**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- **John Gumar, Marquette City** commented on Commissioner attendance at the board meetings.
- **Jeanne Sekely, LOWV** was present to introduce herself to the Commissioners.
- **Margaret Brumm, Marquette**, explained the cigarette butt recycling program & its importance to the Commissioners.
- **Jeremy Johnson, Ishpeming City** spoke about a lodging tax and how it could benefit Marquette County.
- **Lynn Durant, Marquette Township** was present via Zoom to inform the Commissioners that a final draft will be approved tomorrow of the Materials Management plan.

**6. REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:**

**Board action:** Comm. Benzie moved to approve the total expenditures paid via check & EFT transfers for the period May 1, 2026 through May 14, 2026 were \$1,509,173.27 (this does not include the check payable to Alger-Delta Co-Op Electric) electronic payments for the period ending May 14, 2026 were \$3,124,991.14; and biweekly payroll for the period ending May 9, 2026 was \$913,264.55. Second by Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (6-0)

**Board action:** Comm. LaLonde moved to approve check #238775, dated 5/8/2026, for \$364.55 & check #238909, dated 5/15/2026 for \$73.54 ~ payable to Alger-Delta Co-Op Electric. Second by Comm. Benzie. Abstain: Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (5-0)

**7. PUBLIC HEARING:**

- **Brownfield Plan of Property Located at 216 W. Division Street, Ishpeming by Jackie Solomon, Brownfield Director**

**\*Board Action:** Comm LaLonde moved to suspend the meeting and open the public hearing at approximately 6:22 p.m. Second by Comm. Benzie. Motion adopted (6-0)

- **Margaret Brumm** inquired if there was a waiting list, and stated that she would like to see Marquette County residents prioritized.
- **Comm. LaLonde** is in favor of this project.

*With no further public comment, this portion of the hearing was closed.*

**\*Board Action:** Comm. Benzie moved to close the Brownfield Plan of Property Located at 216 W. Division Street, Ishpeming at approximately 6:28 p.m. Second by Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (6-0)

**8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:**

- a. **Pathways Community Mental Health Authority: 2025 Review, Matt Maskart, Pathways CEO,** was present to walk through this report with the Commissioners. Report on file.

**9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

- a. **FY 2027 Budget Proposal – Rural & Frontier Caucus, Matt Maskart, Pathways CEO** was present to explain the proposal centers on a straightforward objective: ensuring that rural communities are treated consistently, thoughtfully, and proactively in state policy decisions that affect access to behavior health services. Currently, varying definitions of “rural” across MDHHS programs create instability for providers and counties. These inconsistencies can impact funding eligibility, disrupt service planning, and ultimately affect access to care. In addition, rural stakeholders are often engaged late in the policymaking process, limiting the ability to address practical challenges before implementation.

The proposed boilerplate addresses these issues in three ways. It establishes a single, consistent definition of rural, partially rural, and frontier areas across all department programs. It reinforces the need to account for the realities of rural service delivery, including workforce shortages and geographic barriers. It also creates a formal Rural Consultation Caucus to ensure rural perspectives are incorporated before major policy decisions are finalized. The Rural Caucus is actively engaging regional healthcare leaders across rural Michigan, alongside Boards such as this one, to build broad support for this initiative. With that collective backing, the intent is to present a unified voice to the Michigan Legislature that compels action and advances inclusion of this language in the FY2027 state budget.

Approval from this Board signals alignment with this coordinated effort and positions this organization as part of a broader coalition advocating for fair, consistent, and effective rural health policy.

**Board Action:** Comm. Numinen moved to adopt a resolution to support the Caucus and ratify it at the next meeting, and direct Civil Counsel to draft the actual resolution for action at the next meeting. Second by Comm. Benzie. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Comm Numinen, Comm. Benzie, Comm. LaLonde, Comm. Nordeen, Comm. Alholm, Chairperson Derocha. Nays: None. Motion adopted (6-0)

**Board Action:** Comm Alholm moved to accept the FY 2027 Budget Proposal – Rural & Frontier Caucus, as presented and put on file. Second by Comm. LaLonde. Motion adopted (6-0)

**10. ACTION ITEMS**

- a. **Brownfield Plan Adoption, Jackie Solomon, Brownfield Director**

**MARQUETTE COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
RESOLUTION APPROVING A BROWNFIELD PLAN  
BY THE COUNTY OF MARQUETTE  
PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
THE PROVISIONS OF ACT 381 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS  
OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN OF 1996, AS AMENDED**

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners, pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, being Act 381 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1996, as amended (the “Act”), have formally resolved to participate in the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA) of Marquette County (the “Authority”) and have designated that all related activities shall proceed through the BRA; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, pursuant to and in accordance with Sections 13 and 14 of the Act, has reviewed, adopted and recommended for approval by the Marquette County Board of Commissioners, the

Brownfield plan (the "Plan") attached hereto, to be carried out within the City of Ishpeming, relating to the redevelopment project on the property located at 216 West Division, Ishpeming, Michigan, (the "Site"), as more particularly described and shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2 contained within the attached Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners have reviewed the Plan, and have been provided a reasonable opportunity to express their views and recommendations regarding the Plan and in accordance with Section 14 of the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners have noticed and held a public hearing in accordance with Section 14 (Subsections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) of the Act, and

WHEREAS, the Ishpeming City Council has passed a resolution of concurrence supporting adoption of the Plan;

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners have made the following determinations and findings:

- A. The Plan constitutes a public purpose under the Act;
- B. The Plan meets all of the requirements for a Brownfield plan set forth in Section 13 of the Act;
- C. The proposed method of financing the costs of the eligible activities, as described in the Plan, was feasible and the Authority has the ability to arrange the financing;
- D. The costs of the eligible activities proposed in the Plan are reasonable and necessary to carry out the purposes of the Act; and
- E. The amount of captured taxable value estimated to result from the adoption of the Plan is reasonable; and

WHEREAS, as a result of its review of the Plan and upon consideration of the views and recommendations of the Taxing Jurisdictions, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners concur with approval of the Plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. **Plan Approved.** Pursuant to the authority vested in the Marquette County Board of Commissioners, by the Act, the Plan is hereby approved in the form attached to this Resolution.
2. **Severability.** Should any section, clause or phrase of this Resolution be declared by the courts to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this Resolution as a whole nor any part thereof other than the part so declared to be invalid.
3. **Repeals.** All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with any of the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed.

**Board action:** Comm. Nordeen moved to approve the Resolution Approving A Brownfield Plan By The County Of Marquette Pursuant To And In Accordance With The Provisions Of Act 381 Of The Public Acts Of The State Of Michigan Of 1996, As Amended. Second by Comm. LaLonde. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Comm. Nordeen, Comm. LaLonde, Comm. Numinen, Comm Benzie, Comm. Alholm, Chairperson Derocha. Nays: none. Motion adopted (6-0)

**b. Negaunee Service Center Parking Lot Reconstruction, Aaron Karlstrom, Facilities Manager,** was present to explain that the Negaunee Service Center parking lot is approximately 44,500 square feet in size. Over the years, the lot has undergone numerous patching and repair efforts in the most deteriorated areas. However, the existing pavement surface has exceeded its useful life and now requires full replacement.

The selected design consultant will evaluate and address excess stormwater ponding along the west side of the lot and recommend the most appropriate reconstruction approach for the site. The consultant will also prepare bid documents and assist County staff throughout the bidding and construction process.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised in accordance with the Marquette County Purchasing Policy, and four proposals were received.

Funding for this project will be provided through the CDC Infrastructure Grant.

<b>Consultant</b>	<b>Cost</b>
U.P. Engineers and Architects, Inc.	\$12,750.00
Benech	\$19,530.00
Wickwire, P.C.	\$15,000.00
Gourdie-Fraser, Inc.	\$47,200.00

**Board Action:** Comm. Benzie moved to award the professional services contract to U.P. Engineers and Architects, Inc. as the lowest responsive and responsible proposer, for the sum of up to \$12,750.00. Second by Comm. LaLonde. Motion adopted (6-0)

**c. 2026 Projects Roll Forward Amendments**

**Kami Fassbender, CFO,** provided a memo to explain the following:

#1 General Fund - The first budget amendment of 2026 is being requested to roll forward to the 2026 budget, previously approved "ARPA" projects including the remaining balance allocated to Substance Screening and the remaining appropriation for Homelessness support (\$212,684). These funds were included in the 2025 budget, and the Board previously approved extending the projects to FY 2026.

#2 Health Department & #3 Opioid Settlement Fund - The second and third budget amendment of 2026 is being requested to roll forward to the 2025 budget, previously approved on July 1, 2025 to disburse the unallocated \$30,000 of 2025 budgeted opioid settlement funds to the Health Department, to be awarded to successful mini-grant applicants. There were no grant applications in FY 2025. The first round of grant requests was just reviewed in April 2026.

#4 Parks - The fourth amendment of 2026 is being requested to roll forward multiple approved projects in the Parks fund that were not completed at 12/31/25 (\$79,886.62, including bath house improvements, road and parking lot improvements and Perkins park fence).

#5 Airport Fund - The fifth amendment of 2026 is being requested to roll forward the approved passenger boarding bridge project in the Airport fund that was not completed at 12/31/25 (\$48,221 downpayment was made in FY 2025. The project is estimated to be completed in early 2026.)

#6 Sewer Fund - The sixth amendment of 2026 is being requested to roll forward the approved KI Sawyer Wastewater department aeration building repair project in the Sewer fund that was not completed at 12/31/25 (\$776,500 cfwd; approved on 11/5/2025, total project cost \$856,300)

#7 - General Fund

- Board Of Commissioners – Adds funds for professional/contractual legal services with Peter H McCallion per agreement dated February 9, 2026. (\$30,000)
- Misc & Contingency – Transfer of the remaining FY 2025 Public Safety Line item funds to Rescue Safety Reserves for the future purchase of air packs. (\$75,266)
- Elected Officials Compensation – Add funds for the increase in elected officials compensation as approved by the Board on October 14, 2025.
- Human Resources & Risk Management – Increase in Self Insured Retention due to required contribution to reserves per MMRMA member financial responsibilities policy effective 4/1/2013 (\$305,500).
- Employee Benefits – Reduction in Teladoc fees due to the program no longer being offered (+\$18,000), and adding funds for cafeteria plan administration fees effective January 1, 2026 (\$1,500)
- Appropriations – Accounts for an increase in Transfer to Landbank per Administrative Services Agreement

dated May 6, 2025 (\$10,000); and an increase in CUPPAD membership fees (\$450).

#8 – Community Corrections - Accounts for the FY 2026 grant budget changes as approved by the MDOC Office of Community Corrections in October 2025 (\$6,629).

#9 – Land Bank Authority - Accounts for an increase in Transfer In from General Fund and Transfer Out per Administrative Services Agreement dated May 6, 2025 (\$0)

#10 – Remonumentation - Accounts for the FY 2026 grant budget changes as approved by the State of Michigan in October 2025 (+\$8,637).

#11 – Public Defender - Accounts for the FY 2026 grant budget changes as approved by MIDC in October 2025 (\$147,158).

#12 – Search & Rescue - Accounts for the increase in insurance costs, a purchase of a snowmobile as approved on January 6, 2026; and a transfer in from General fund for the air packs (\$88,727).

#13 Aging Services - Reallocation of personnel costs due to 85/15 position split funded by AmeriCorps grant (\$0).

#14 Parks Fund - Adds fund for Michigan Arts and Culture Council Grant and related expenses for the purchase and installation of percussive sculptures and artistic pavement markings at Little Trout Lake Park (\$20,000).

#15 Airport Fund - Adds budget for the purchase of refueler trucks as approved on March 3, 2026, and a 104 Building boiler replacement as approved on May 5, 2026 (\$863,881).

#16 Techonology Fund - Adds budget for IT services contract with Karhu Cyber and conversion to Microsoft 365+, funded by Tech Fund reserves (\$376,200).

**Board Action:** Comm. Nordeen moved to approve the Budget Amendments as presented by the Finance Manager as stated above. Second by Comm. Alholm. Motion adopted (5-0)

**11. LATE ADDITIONS**

**12. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- **Margaret Brumm, Marquette**, informed the board that she will continue to come to the meetings until they hire her on to run the cigarette butt recycling program.

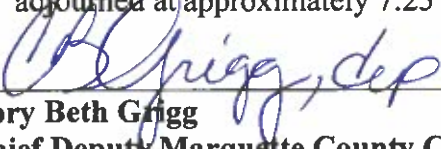
*With no further public comment to come before the board, this portion of the meeting is closed.*

**13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **Comm. Numinen** stated that in the recent past, some of the commissioners have experienced health problems which attributed to missing meetings. Also, they all attend several committee meetings around the county. He is also planning “pop-up” meetings around the community titled “Conversations with Your Commissioner, District 1”, for anybody who would like to have a face-to-face conversation with him.
- **Comm. Benzie** appreciates the public comments and wants to hear from the community.
- **Comm. LaLonde** is planning on setting up “coffee hours” with Duane DuRay around the community for the public. More on that to follow.
- **Comm. Nordeen** expressed his condolences on the passing of former County Commissioner, Steve Adamini.
- **Chairperson Derocha** thanked everyone who showed up for public comment, and explained there are time constraints that apply.

**14. CLOSED SESSION**

**15. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m.

  
Cory Beth Grigg  
Chief Deputy Marquette County Clerk

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Joseph Derocha, Chairperson  
Marquette County Board of Commissioners